



Prayer Poems

Poetic Reflections for Sundays and Feastsdays
by Sister Juliemarie McDonald, SND

[HOME](#) [ABOUT](#) [CONTACT](#)



Answering Antitheses

by SR. JULIEMARIE MCDONALD, SND on [08/14/2014](#)
in [ORDINARY TIME](#)

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time–Cycle A
August 17, 2014

“Let it be done for you as you wish.”
(Matthew 15:28a)

Answering Antitheses

The ways of humans are:

Friends–Foreigners,

Nation–Nations,

Jesus–Paul,

Israelites–Gentiles,

Justice–Injustice,

Obedience–Disobedience,

and the result: wars, wars, wars and disunity.

The ways of God are not like human ways.

In the mind of God, disobedience does not birth war, but mercy.

God’s way is to forgive, then give mercy, which begets peace and unity.

About Sr. Juliemarie McDonald, SND

Sister Juliemarie McDonald joined the Sisters of Notre Dame of Chardon, Ohio in 1951. She holds an MA in English Studies from John Carroll University MA in Scripture from St. Charles Seminary. After 32 years of teaching classes ranging from first grade to college level, she then became a researcher, campus minister, director of religious education and a pastoral minister in Mease Hospital in Dunedin, Florida. In her semi-retirement, Sister Juliemarie writes reflections and faith sharing sessions for the young sisters in formation in Africa, Philippines, Korea, India and the USA. Her spare time is spent as a crafter.



Recent Posts

[Fourth Sunday of Advent](#)

[Third Sunday of Advent – Cycle C](#)

[Second Sunday of Advent – Cycle C](#)

[First Sunday of Advent – Cycle C](#)

[Teachability](#)

Interesting Confrontation—Jesus and the Persistent Canaanite Woman

“Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David.” (Matthew 15:22b)

Silence, not a word from Jesus!

“Send her away,” plead the annoyed disciples. (Matthew 15: 23b)

Jesus answers this time. “I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel.” (Matthew 15: 24b)

But the persistent woman did him homage saying, “Lord, help me.” (Matthew 15: 25)

Unbelievably, Jesus answers with a slur, calling the woman dog!

Undaunted, the Canaanite responds, “Please Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters.” (Matthew 15: 27)

Indeed, she did please the Lord, for he said, “O woman, great is your faith!” (Matthew 15:28a)

At last, the woman hears the answer she had persistently pleaded for from Jesus,

“Let it be done for you as you wish.” (Matthew 15:28b)

For Reflection and Sharing:

1. What lessons do the readings of this week teach about unity and disunity?
2. Why do we have wars rather than peace in the world?
3. Whose foremost responsibility is it to create peaceful harmony?
4. Where should this harmony begin?
5. Which word or phrase touched your heart in your pondering?
6. What is your heart’s response?
7. What does this scripture sentence from Romans mean to you?

“For the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable.” (Romans 11:29)

Share this:



Tagged as: Annoyance, Answers, Antitheses, Disunity, Dog, Faith, Peace, Persistence, prejudice, Silence, Slurs, Unity

{ 0 comments... [add one now](#) }

About the Sisters of Notre Dame, Chardon, Ohio

The Sisters of Notre Dame of Chardon, Ohio, belong to an international congregation of more than two thousand apostolic women religious. We



are one in mind and one in heart for the transformation of the world in Christ. [Learn More](#)

SND Blogs

[Catholic Faith Corner](#)

[Catholic Web Solutions](#)

[Grace to Paint](#)

[In the Hands of the Potter](#)

[Living Justly](#)

[Prayer Poems](#)

[SND Express Blog](#)

[Sunflower Seeds](#)

[What's Happening](#)

Search

To search, type and hit enter

Leave a Comment

Name *

E-mail *

Website

Submit

SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME WITNESS DAILY TO
GOD'S GOODNESS AND PROVIDENT CARE.

Join us!
Contact our Vocation
Director today.



Copyright © 2012 The Sisters of Notre Dame, Chardon, Ohio | Design & Development by [Groupmind Media](#)