

A REFLECTION

ON THE PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

ON THE FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS, OCTOBER 4TH, 2018

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace...

Where there is hatred, let me sow love...

When politics tempt me to hate the other side,
when my envy delights in the putting down of another,
when my thoughts walk the paths of anger's edge:
teach me to love as you have loved me...

Where there is injury, pardon...

When words cut sharp as knives,
when idle gossip tears apart,
when careless deeds wound deep:
**teach me to pardon and heal
as you have healed and pardoned me...**

Where there is despair, hope...

Teach me, Lord, to hope when I'm unsure of many things,
to trust when I want so much to give up,
to believe when I'm confused and lost in doubt,
**and teach me to share your truth and my hope in you
with those who struggle or have none...**



Where there is darkness, light...

Teach me, Lord, to trust in your light when I cannot find it,
to walk by your light when the shadows deepen,
to stand firm in your light when darkness threatens
and to share your light and its warmth with all who seek it...

Where there is sadness, joy...

Lighten my heart with the gifts of your Spirit,
touch all that aches with the peace of your presence,
lift my heart's burdens
**and free me to share the gift of your joy, the joy of your
grace...**

**O Divine Master... Help me find my peace in making peace with
others,
help me come to know your love in learning to love those I
know,
and let the needs of others' hearts help me learn what I most
need...**

**Teach me to give from my heart as your heart gives to me,
teach me to pardon others as freely as you forgive me
and deepen my faith that in your dying I rise to life, forever
with you...**

**With Brother Francis I offer this prayer, my God, this day
and all through the days ahead... Amen.**

