

PRAYING WITH MARY MACKILLOP

## DAY ONE

*Step out in faith  
and trust*



*The country of Sidon was experiencing a drought and consequently famine.*

On God's word the prophet Elijah goes to the town of Zarephath and there meets a widow who is gathering sticks. He says to her, 'Please bring a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' She responds hospitably, setting off to bring him some water. He then says, 'Please also bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' To provide this food was a challenge for her and she says, 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.'

She is assured by Elijah who says, 'Do not be afraid, go ahead and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and your son.'

She is called to trust the prophet's words. This she did and shared her family's meagre resources.

ADAPTED FROM 1 KINGS 17:7-16

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*A prophet is one who speaks the word of God.*

- Who are the prophets in your life?
- To what might God be calling you as you open your heart to listen?
- What has been your experience of depending on God?

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Believe the whisperings of God in your own heart.

MARY MACKILLOP 1868

God is good.

MARY MACKILLOP 1871

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May the blessings of Elijah encourage us.  
May the blessings of Mary MacKillop fire us,  
stretching our imaginations to see new possibilities.  
May the blessings of our God surround us always.  
Amen.

TAKEN FROM ACT LOVE WALK. PRAYING IN THE JOSEPHITE SPIRIT.

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# DAY ONE

## *Responsorial Psalm*



### *Cling to God*

As we prepare to celebrate the Feast Day of Mary MacKillop this year, we are aware of the many needs of our world, especially in this time of pandemic. We invite you to take some time to ponder the words of Mary below and allow them to speak to your heart.

I often love to think upon God's mysterious ways.

MARY MACKILLOP 1873

We should from our hearts thank God.

MARY MACKILLOP 1880

A certain sense of God's wonderful love strengthens me.

MARY MACKILLOP 1873

We are all in God's hands.

MARY MACKILLOP 1870

I cannot forget that there is a dear, good God watching over us.

MARY MACKILLOP (DATE UNKNOWN)

### *Reflecting on Mary's words*

- Is there one saying that touches you particularly?
- Which saying might encourage you?
- Which saying might give you hope?
- Which saying(s) would you like to carry with you?

### *During the Liturgy of the Word for the Solemnity of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop we pray Psalm 63*

Let us now pray this Psalm mindful that Mary is walking with us.

O Love, You are my Beloved, and I long for You, My soul thirsts for You;  
All that is within me thirsts, as in a dry and barren land with no water.

So I have called out to You in my heart, sensing your power and glory.  
Because your wondrous Love is Life in me, my lips will praise You.  
I would radiate your Love as long as I live, becoming a blessing to others in gratitude to You.

My soul feasts as with a magnificent banquet, and my mouth praises  
You with joyful lips, when I ponder on your kindness, and meditate on You throughout the night;  
For You have been my salvation, and in the shadows of your wings I sing for joy.

My soul clings to You, Your love upholds me.  
The fears that seem to separate me from You shall be transformed and disappear;  
As they are faced, each fear is diminished; They shall be gone as in a dream when I Awaken.

My soul shall rejoice in the Beloved. All who open their hearts to Love will live in peace and joy!

TAKEN FROM: PSALMS FOR PRAYING. AN INVITATION TO WHOLENESS BY NAN C. MERRILL. 2008.

*"May God bless you all and keep you in His Love."*

MARY MACKILLOP 1894