

**Ps. 103: 1-5, 8-14**

Bless Yahweh, my soul,  
from the depths of my being, bless his holy name;  
bless Yahweh, my soul,  
never forget all his acts of kindness.

He forgives all your offences, cures all your diseases,  
he redeems your life from the abyss,  
crows you with faithful love and tenderness;

he contents you with good things all your life,  
renews your youth like an eagle's.

Yahweh is tenderness and pity,  
slow to anger and rich in faithful love;

His indignation does not last forever,  
nor his resentment remain for all time;  
he does not treat us as our sins deserve,  
nor repay us as befits our offences.

As the height of heaven above earth,  
so strong is his faithful love for those who fear him.  
As the distance of east from west,  
so far from us does he put our faults.

As tenderly as a father treats his children,  
so Yahweh treats those who fear him;  
he knows of what we are made,  
he remembers that we are dust.

**All:** Glory to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.  
Amen.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reader:** (please read slowly)

<sup>2</sup> Then Yahweh answered me and said,  
'Write the vision down,  
inscribe it on tablets to be easily read.  
<sup>3</sup> For the vision is for its appointed time,  
it hastens towards its end and it will not lie;  
although it may take some time, wait for it,  
for come it certainly will before too long.  
Habakkuk 2:2-3 (NJB)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reader:** (please read slowly)

Do not be afraid that you seem few and uneducated. With confidence, simply proclaim penance, trusting in the Lord, who conquered the world. Because by the Spirit, [God] is speaking through and in you, encouraging everyone to be converted. *The Legend of Three Companions* 36

**3<sup>rd</sup> Reader:** (please read slowly)

People need an intellectual understanding of the significance of their community. Individual and communal spirituality are not enough. They need a clear reminder of the meaning and place of the community in today's world and in the history of salvation. It is important too to be reminded of the precise goals of the community, its call and its origins. In too many communities, the essentials are obscured in a thousand and one activities. Their members no longer know why they are together or to what they should be witnessing. They discuss the details but forget what brought them together.

Leaders of communities must continually announce the vision and remind members of the call of God; priests and spiritual guides must announce the vision and remind members of the call of God. Each member is called to announce the vision and remind the others of the call of God.

Day in and day out, we must remind each other with words of enthusiasm and of love. We forget so quickly and fall into the ways of the world, seeking security, shunning the Beatitudes, refusing to forgive enemies. Jean Vanier  
*Community and Growth*, rev. ed., p. 176-7.

**4<sup>th</sup> Reader:** (please read slowly)

The Church expects from the Secular Franciscan Order, one and only, a great service in the cause of the Kingdom of God in the world of today. The Church desires that your Order should be a model of organic, structural and charismatic unity on all levels, so as to present itself to the world as a community of love. Pope John Paul II---Message to the Secular Franciscan Order at the General Chapter on November 22, 2002

**\*\*\*\*Quiet Contemplative Time\*\*\*\***

Time for sharing particular words or ideas that touched you

**\*\*\*\*Intercessions\*\*\*\***

**Our Father...**

**All:** Abba, Father, you call us to yourself. May your Spirit guide us in following your Son in the footsteps of St. Francis. May we know joy as we follow the way you have marked out for us. Amen.



**Formation Visioning  
Workshop**

August 30 - September 1, 2018