

The Baraga Prayer Garden

Order of Blessing



Marquette Michigan

May, 2020

Bishop Frederic Baraga



Crest of Bishop Frederic Baraga

Greeting

Bishop: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. Blessed be God for ever.

All: Blessed be God for ever.

Sprinkling

Bishop: Brothers and sister in Christ, this is a day of rejoicing. For we have come together to offer the Baraga Prayer Garden to God.

We ask that he bless us with his grace and, by his power, bless this gift of water.

As it is sprinkled throughout this new garden, may it become a sign of our repentance, a reminder of our baptism and resurrection to new life, and an efficacious symbol of the cleansing of these grounds.

But first let us call to mind that we ourselves, who are bound here in faith and love, are the living shoots, brought forth from the one vine of Christ, set in the world, as a sign and witness of God's love for all.

God of mercy, you call every creature and plant to the light of life, and surround us with such great love that when we stray you continually lead us back to Christ our head. For you have established an inheritance of such mercy, that those sinners, who pass through water made sacred, die with Christ and rise restored as members of his body and heirs of his eternal covenant. Bless + this water; sanctify it. As it is sprinkled throughout this garden make it a sign of the saving waters of baptism, by which we are raised from the dirt and become one

in Christ, the temple of your Spirit. May all our benefactors, all here today, and all those who visit here in the days to come be united at last in the holy garden of your peace. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

All: Amen.

The Baraga Prayer Garden sprinkled.

Opening Prayer

Bishop: Almighty ever-living God,
pour out your grace upon this place
and extend the gift of your help
to all who call upon you directly
or through the intercession of your venerable servant, the
Apostle of the Great Lakes, Frederic Baraga.
We humbly ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
One God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

Reading

[Mark 4:26-29](#)

A reading of the Holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus said, "This is how it is with the kingdom of God; it is as if a man were to scatter seed on the land, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he knows not how. Of its own accord the land yields fruit, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the grain is ripe, the sower wields the sickle at once, for the harvest has come."

Intercessions

Bishop: With praise and thanksgiving, let us ask God, through whom all things are accomplished, to bless this new Baraga Prayer Garden.

The response is, “Hear us, O Lord.”

Minister: For the Church, that all who are baptized may renew their commitment to Christ, we pray to the Lord. **R.**

Minister: For our parishes, that God may continue to bless all our works, we pray to the Lord. **R.**

Minister: For those who, by their work and contributions, helped to build this garden, we pray to the Lord. **R.**

Minister: For those who will use this garden, that they may deepen their love of Christ and his venerable servant Frederic Baraga, we pray to the Lord. **R.**

Minister: For all those suffering the effects of Covid-19, like the watering of a garden, we ask that God pour his mercy and healing love upon them, we pray to the Lord. **R.**

Minister: For the faithful departed, that they may walk forever with Jesus’ in his garden, we pray to the Lord. **R.**

Bishop: Grant, we pray, O Lord, that your people may turn to you with all their heart, so that whatever they dare to ask in humble prayer, they may receive through your boundless mercy and love.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Bishop: At the Savior's command and formed by divine teaching we dare to say:

All: Our Father

Blessing and Dismissal

Bishop: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your Spirit.

Deacon: Bow down for the blessing.

Bishop: Loving God, the Spirit of Life hovered over the waters and began the great work of creation. Bless the waters of this earth. Let them fall again from the sky at the proper times so that our gardens and fields may yield abundantly, and all growing things may thrive.

You have called us to the honored task of being workers in your garden. Through the rain and the seeds planted here, bring us to a new awareness of your presence in and around us, as we joyfully live in the knowledge of eternal resurrection.

Plant seeds of love in our lives that will grow through the years, watered by the tears of pain and sacrifice that come our way. Your Son showed us the way. We now ask your guidance to follow it well. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

We ask you now to bless this Prayer Garden, those present here and those who will journey here with faith in their hearts, in the name of the Father +, the Son +, and the Holy Spirit +.

All: Amen.

Deacon: Go in the peace of Christ!

All: Thanks be to God!



Diocese of Marquette