

Join the Prayer on the installation ceremony of Bp. Joseph Abella

Date and Time: from 2PM on Sunday, May 17, 2020

※If this date and time is inconvenient for you, you are recommended to look for a convenient time to join the prayer.

1. Introduction

Take a few moments of silence, becoming aware of the presence of Jesus and the communion with the diocesan community. In silence, offer a prayer of thanksgiving and ask for forgiveness:

- Give thanks to the Lord for the journey of the Fukuoka Diocese, of which we have been part and that is going to start a new stage.
- Ask God for forgiveness for our sins in our journey as Christian community.

2. Opening Prayer

Our Father in Heaven,

Today is an important day for our diocese.

We welcome among us the new bishop sent to our diocese.

Due to the difficult situation the whole world is experiencing because of the pandemic, We cannot come together to celebrate his installation.

Some of our brothers and sisters are now welcoming the bishop at the cathedral.

On this occasion, we join them in their prayer with a deep sense of communion.

O Loving God,

Bless Bp. Joseph Abella as he starts his ministry as the bishop of Fukuoka.

Help us to journey together by supporting one another.

Give us wisdom and strength,

so that we can grow as a community which gives witness to the Good News.

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

3. Gospel Reading: Gospel of John Ch.21 verse 15-17

This Gospel passage will be read in the installation ceremony.

The bishop is called to be deeply rooted in Christ and always ready to serve the community.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus

said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep."

4. Closing Prayer

Renewing our willingness to journey together, we offer to the Lord our commitment to respond to the mission Jesus entrusted to the church. Let us pray:

- Our Father
- Hail Mary
- Glory Be

5. Prayer for the World Suffering from the New Coronavirus Pandemic

(Approved by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Japan, April 3, 2020)

O loving God,
Look kindly upon the world, now in great difficulty
Through the spread of the new coronavirus.

May necessary medical care be given to those who suffer from the disease.
Guide those who work toward ending the infection.
Protect all healthcare workers and all those who care for the sick.

Welcome the deceased into your eternal kingdom.
Fill them with everlasting peace.
May hands reach out to help everyone facing anxiety and confusion.

God, the source of hope,
Guide us in this crisis
That we may spare no sacrifice to prevent the spread of the infection,
That we may serve everyone in the world,

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Mary, source of hope and comfort,
Pray for us in this hardship.