**General Commission Communal Reflection No. 12**

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**Prayer of Gratitude**

**Introduction:** A grateful heart sees many blessings.

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart. (Psalm 138)

**Song**: **You Fill Up My Senses** by Daniel O’Donnell

**Reading 1:** 1 Thessalonians 1: 2-3

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God...your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Quiet Reflection**

**Reading 2:**  Pope Francis’ Homily, Marian Jubilee, October 9, 2016

The Mother of God, together with Joseph her spouse, knew what it was to live far from home. She too was a foreigner in Egypt, far from her relatives and friends. Yet her faith was able to overcome the difficulties. Let us cling to this simple faith of the Holy Mother of God; let us ask her that we may always come back to Jesus and express our thanks for the many benefits we have received from His mercy.

**Quiet Reflection**

**Reading 3:** St. Francis, Letter of Admonition and Exhortation (2LtF 61-62)

Let every creature in heaven, on earth, in the sea and in the depths give praise, glory, honor and blessing to Him Who suffered so much, Who has given and will give in the future every good, for He is our power and strength, Who alone is good, Who alone is almighty, Who alone is holy, worthy of praise and blessing through endless ages.

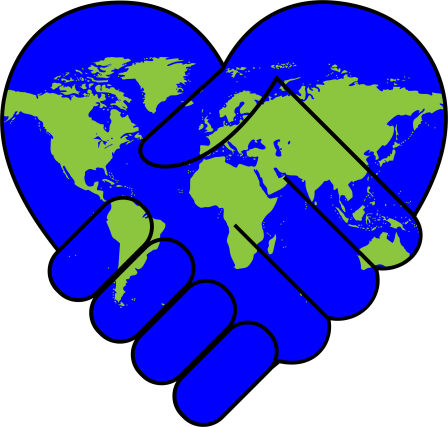
**Quiet Reflection for 10 Minutes**

**For Reflection:**

What message do these readings speak to me/us today?

Personally/communally what is stirring within and being called forth?

**Group Sharing**

**For whom or for what do we want to pray?**

**Closing Prayer:**

O most high God, your gifts of love are countless and your goodness infinite. We come before you with gratitude for your great kindness. Fill our hearts with genuine compassion so that we may freely share with others what we have so freely received. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.