



## CLOSING PRAYER:

### St. Hildegard - the Patron Saint of Creativity

Today, we reflect upon St. Hildegard, the Patron Saint of Creativity, who was a prolific composer and writer. O Lord, you were generous with your gifts of grace to Saint Hildegard. By following closely her example and teaching, may we pass from the darkness of this life into your marvellous light. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.

## CLOSING HYMN:

Lord make me an instrument,  
An instrument of worship,  
I lift up my hands to your name. } x2

I'll sing to you a love song,  
A love song of worship,  
I lift up my hands to your name. } x2

All glory and honour,  
To Jesus for ever,  
I lift up my hands to your name. } x2

# B&C Reflection

APRIL  
2022

SALT OF THE EARTH AND LIGHT OF THE WORLD: COMMUNION, PARTICIPATION AND MISSION



## INTRODUCTION:

In 2002, the United Nations (UN) established the need to honour World Creativity and Innovation Day celebrated on 21 April as a global day. This event is intended to raise the awareness for creativity and innovation that is important for problem solving. Creativity and innovation encourage exchange of thoughts and strengthens our capacity to generate new opportunities - new decisions - new actions - new outcomes for solving problems that we face. At the same time, creativity inspires people to create a decent life for all and make the world a better place to live.

**"Imagination is more important than knowledge. For knowledge is limited, whereas imagination embraces the entire world, stimulating progress, giving birth to evolution."**- Albert Einstein

## OPENING PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for the gift of creativity. We ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit for the proper and godly use of our skills and talents. May we seek God first in any decision or activity, that needs our creative ideas. May we never turn to pride and arrogance when God has blessed us with creativity. May we never abuse God's gifts of creativity in our lives, and use them only to honour Him and serve others. We ask these through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## OPENING HYMN:

### Come To Us Creative Spirit

Come to us, creative Spirit,  
in this holy house;  
ev'ry human talent hallow,  
hidden skills arouse,  
that within your earthly temple,  
wise and simple may rejoice.

Poet, painter, music-maker,  
all your treasures bring;  
craftsman, actor, graceful dancer,  
make your offering;  
join your hands in celebration:  
let creation shout and sing!

Word from God eternal springing,  
fill our minds, we pray;  
and in all artistic vision give integrity:  
may the flame within us burning  
kindle yearning day by day.

In all places and forever glory be  
expressed to the Son, with God the  
Father and the Spirit blest:  
in our worship and our living keep us  
striving for the best.

## DIALOGUE

### Reflecting on Creativity with Jesus Christ

As I was pondering over Kintsugi, the Japanese art of transforming broken ceramics into beautiful works of creativity and innovation, it reminded me of our Lord, Jesus Christ. When the broken pieces are fixed using a special lacquer made from gold, silver or platinum, the 'scars' on the pottery tells a story of a past, and the re-creativity on the pottery promises a future, and a new beginning.



I recognized and saw the hands of Jesus Christ in this art, where he creatively restores us from our fractures and woundedness. He transforms us into beautiful people who once were broken and shattered. Jesus, just like the gold, silver or platinum lacquer, joins up the once-shattered 'person' together, fixing the pieces of emotions and fragments of pain, making us more beautiful than before.

I analysed the marks that were left behind by the broken pottery and was drawn to the glaze of gold, silver and platinum that highlighted the 'scars' so beautifully as it was part of the creative design. I was joyed to understand how Jesus embraces our flaws and imperfections creatively, forming a renewed and resilient person in us, just like Kintsugi. I appreciate the process of repairing that has created a unique and extraordinary 'piece of art' within me. The beauty emitted by the sparkling lacquer that held the broken pieces of the ceramic together was simply remarkable. I saw it mirror the glorious providence of God holding our lives together when Jesus seals us with his Spirit.

Today, I learned that being creative is to find beauty in the places where God has healed and transformed creatively. I realised that I must allow Jesus to weave creatively into my fractured life and give Him the space to shape my life with obedience. I must discern and assess the gifts and talents that I have been blessed with, so that I can get the right direction in doing God's work. I marvel at how I am now turned from 'ordinary to extraordinary' with my cracks and brokenness that has created 'a new look and character' within me and that brings a renewed hope.

So, when I reflected on Pope Francis' words, **"There is no need to create another church, but to create a different church"**, I recognized and identified the need to be creative and to reframe my approaches in establishing a greater Christian community through the revitalized creativity and sparkling innovation.

### Share your thoughts with your BEC members.

- How can we appreciate the beauty of brokenness and restoration through this art of Kintsugi?
- Reflecting on how Jesus transforms our brokenness creatively, how can we do the same to others in our community?

## DISCERNMENT

### Philippians 4:8

*Source: Jerusalem Bible*

Finally, brothers, let your minds be filled with everything that is true, everything that is honourable, everything that is upright and pure, everything that we love and admire - with whatever is good and praiseworthy.

### PERSONAL REFLECTION:

- READ the text above aloud and LISTEN with openness.
- READ it silently by yourself until a word or phrase touches or strikes you.
- ASK: What is the Holy Spirit saying to me in my heart through the word or phrase?

### SHARE:

- SHARE in small groups (3- 4 persons) the word or phrase that touched you and what do you think the Lord is saying to you personally.

### DEEDS:

As we go through the challenges of gathering BEC members for our monthly gatherings during this pandemic, let us look at ways in reaching out this month especially in celebrating World Day of Creativity and Innovation.

We have often heard that insanity is doing the same thing, the same way, over and over, while expecting different results. So, for this month, we can apply a creative way of approaching the BEC Reflection Paper by being creative, for e.g., calling on the youth to organise our gathering and the entire gathering be led by them. Let us invite them for our core team meeting and plan the gathering creatively. We can also demonstrate our oneness in Christ with music and singing, allowing the word of God to dwell in us. Generate ideas that solve problems by brainstorming and note ideas that occur in turning things for the better. Let us also look at our community creativity and aspire to do things differently than usual.