

April 1, 2020

Dear Parish Members of Christ on the Mountain,

April Fool's Day is here again. Today I would like to share with you my favorite morning offering prayers. It is always good for us to make a morning offering. This is an offering of self to God and asking that His will be done. Two of my favorite morning offering prayers come out of literature. One is called the third step prayer and the other is called the seventh step prayer.

The third step prayer:

God I offer myself to Thee, to build with me and to do with me as thou will. Relieve me of the bondage of self, that I may better do Thy will. Take away my difficulties, that victory over them may bear witness to those I would help of Thy power, Thy love and Thy way of life. May I do Thy will always. Amen.

The seventh step prayer:

My Creator I am now willing that you should have all of me, good and bad. I pray that you now remove from me every single defect of character which stands in the way of my usefulness to you and to others. Grant me strength as I go out from here to do your bidding. Amen.

These two prayers plus the Prayer of Abandon make up my morning offering. The Prayer of Abandon comes from Brother Charles De Foucauld:

Father, I Abandon myself into your hands; do with me what you will. Whatever you do I thank you. I am ready for all, I accept all. Let only your will be done in me and in all your creatures. I wish no more than this, O Lord. Into your hands I commend my soul. I offer it to you with all the love of my heart. I love you, Lord, and so need to give myself, to surrender myself into your hands without reserve, and with boundless confidence, for you are my Father. Amen.

Sometimes I will pray these prayers through out the day as a reminder to surrender my day to the Lord, I find these prayers useful in my pilgrimage, my spiritual journey with the Lord. Maybe they can be helpful to you also.

In his Spirit, In his Love,

Fr. David