

Easter 5: Love One Another

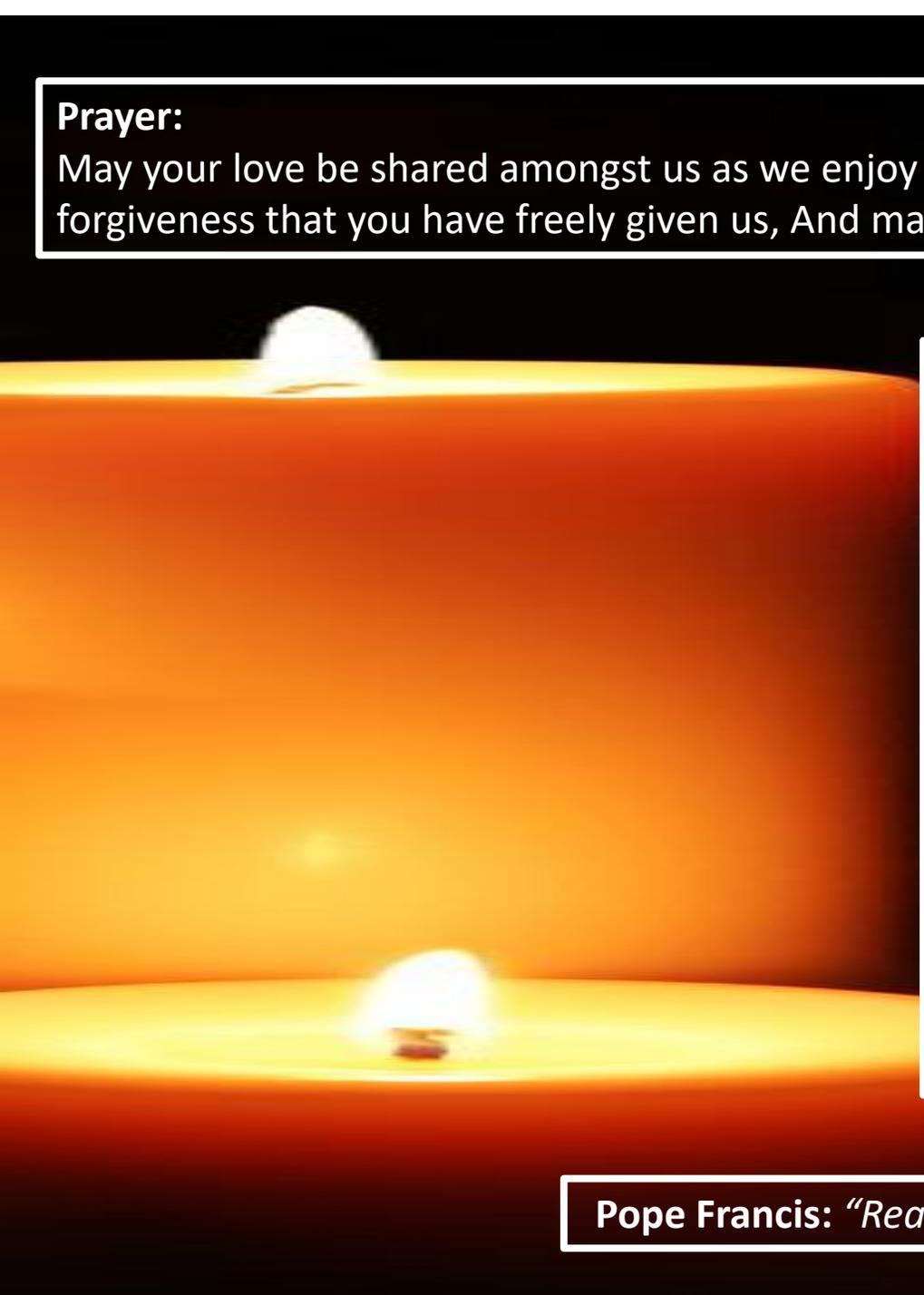
Many years ago, as I was being journeying to the church to get married that day, there was an interview on Radio 5 Live. A young journalist was asking a man who had been married for 70+ years what was the secret of a long and happy marriage was. The journalist asked him, 'Is it all about give and take?' The elderly gentleman corrected him and told him, 'It's all about give and give.'

Strangely enough, the wife wasn't asked this question. I wonder what her response might have been!

However, this message from the elderly gentleman surely does not only apply to marriage ... it applies to all of life. Jesus' instruction to us to 'love one another' doesn't come with any conditions. It is not about give and take. We are asked to have a genuine love for others ... all others. It is not enough to be just be nice or civil to some people (and Christ knows this can be hard enough some days!). It has to be love. That's the high standard set for us all.

[Mr Doust]





Prayer:

May your love be shared amongst us as we enjoy the gift of fellowship. May we remember to give out the grace and forgiveness that you have freely given us, And may we always give thanks for your sacrificial love. Amen.

Scripture:

When Judas was gone, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man receives his glory. And God receives glory through him. If God receives glory through him, then God will give glory to the Son through himself. And God will give him glory quickly.”

Jesus said, “My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me. And what I told the Jews, I tell you now: Where I am going you cannot come.

“I give you a new command: Love each other. You must love each other as I have loved you. All people will know that you are my followers if you love each other.”

Pope Francis: *“Real love is about loving and letting your self be loved. Let your self be loved.”*