**Killaloe Catechists – Nenagh Session 4 – Prayers, Summary, some questions**

**Focusing Prayer**

Lord, as we prepare to begin our meeting, we recall your promise to be present when two or three are gathered in your name.

We know that without you here among us, and within each one of us, we will labour in vain.

*Response: Unite us, Lord, in your Spirit.*

We rejoice that we are blessed and called together to work in your name.

We pray that we will respond generously to this opportunity to serve you, and that we will grow in our Christian calling.

*Response: Unite us, Lord, in your Spirit.*

**Some points from this evening’s talk to stimulate questions**

* Overall objective of this evening - to see how the plan of the Mass plus God’s grace are for us to work with
* Our preparation for our holy task – it’s about our holiness
* However you treated the least member of my family, you treated me
* Do it my way???!!
* Elizabeth Barrett Browning – from *Aurora Leigh*

Earth’s crammed with heaven

And every common bush ablaze with God

But only he who sees take off his shoes

While the rest sit ‘round and pluck blackberries

* “Your faith has made you whole!”
* Morning offering, short prayers, clearing distraction in advance
* Go – this is your mission: share with others what you believe! We are players, not spectators
* Micah – “Deal justly – love tenderly – walk humbly with your God”
* Grace changes everything

**Questions we might consider (but you might have better ones!)**

1. What might we need to do to understand ourselves better as the People of God rather than just individuals? Could the way we celebrate Mass help?
2. Could we come to see that attending at Mass is not merely a listening and looking exercise, but a doing exercise?
3. In a spiritual sense, where do we go at the end of Mass and what are we supposed to do? (Jn 15:16, Rom 10:14-15, Eph 4:16, CCC 1331- 1332)
4. “What does the Lord require from you, only this: to act justly, to love tenderly and to walk humbly with your God.” In the approach to Christmas, how might the prophet Micah’s summary be put to practical effect in our faith community?

Closing Prayer

God our Father, in your loving providence

you have brought us together this evening

to find joy in communion with one another,

and to know you in our joy.

Fill us we pray with the Spirit of your Son.

Give us confidence as you call us to build up the Body of Christ.

Help us to see in our everyday lives the moments and opportunities for caring and confirming and reconciling.

Bless us with the patience to overcome frustration, and bless us with hope as we journey together.

We make this prayer with confidence and through the intercession of our Blessed Lady. Amen.