

## GOD ANSWERS UNSPOKEN PRAYERS

As we come to the Eucharist this evening, let us bring to the Eucharist all the happenings of the day: the people we have met, the problems we have encountered, our hardships and successes. Let us place them at the table of the Lord.

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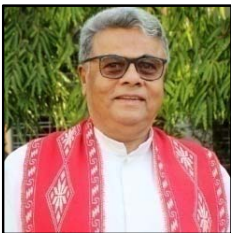
The Gospel speaks about Jesus who goes on the Sabbath to the synagogue to read the word of God and to pray with the community. We see this beautiful balance between moments of personal prayer, personal time that Jesus spent with his Father, and also the time he took to pray with the community – a balance between personal prayer and community worship.

Jesus comes to the synagogue to pray, and yet he notices a man with a withered hand. The Gospel does not say that the man asked for help, but Jesus senses his need, reaches out to him and cures him. Jesus answered a prayer that was not even made.

This is the goodness of God towards all of us. We sometimes express our need, but there are times when we don't express it. But God reaches out to us, and gives us what we need in our lives. Let us open ourselves to God's action.

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God our Father, in his goodness, answers our prayers, even if we have not expressed them. Let us, for a moment, in silence, be aware of our needs, because God reaches out to us in all that we need. We pray, Our Father...



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