

REFLECTION

February 1, 2026

4th Sunday Matthew 5.1-12

I am going to give a reflection on the verse that states, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." Here, Jesus is not referring to those who avoid conflict or keep silent. Shalom, according to the scriptures, is not the absence of noise or stress, but rather the presence of the right relationship with God, with one another, and within ourselves.

Peacemaking takes patience, humility, and a willingness to face discomfort for love's sake. Jesus himself is our example. He does not create peace by ignoring sin, injustice, or suffering. Instead, he confronts them with truth and mercy, ultimately laying down his life on the cross. Moreover, the peace that He provides is expensive, as it is the result of selfless love. In addition, peacemaking begins in the community. It comes when we choose forgiveness over resentment, listening over shouting, and understanding over winning an argument. Peace occurs when we refuse to let bitterness harden our hearts or pride prevent us from expressing, "I'm sorry." In the end, these seemingly small actions mirror God's own work of reconciliation.

May we have the courage to live as God's children, bringing His peace into a broken world and our own hearts.

