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Aspire not
to have more,
but to

BE more

OSCAR ROMERO



Caritas
AUSTRALIA



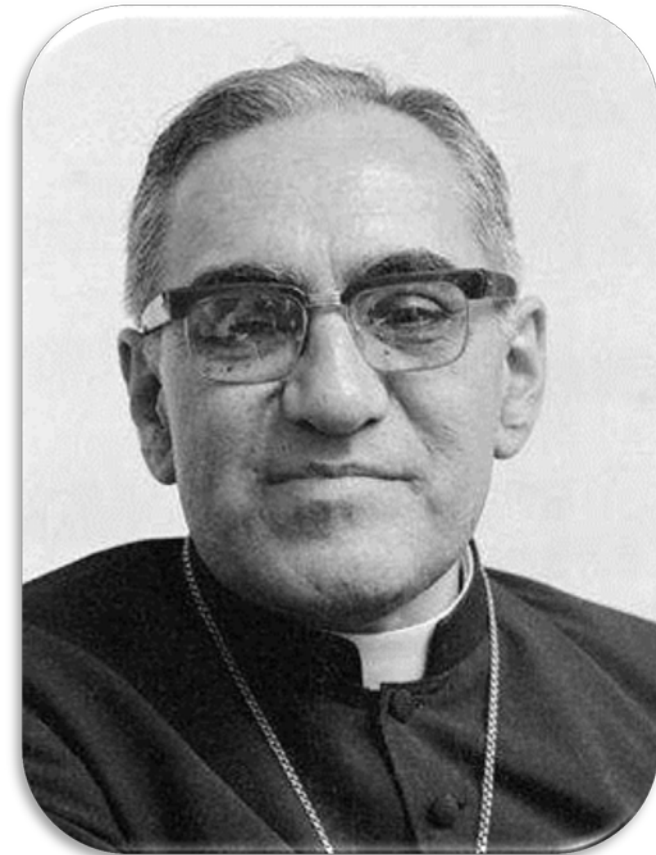
Oscar Romero

Oscar Romero, Archbishop of San Salvador in El Salvador, was assassinated on March 24, 1980, while celebrating Mass in a small chapel in a hospital.

He had always been close to his people and preached a prophetic gospel. He denounced the injustice in his country and supported the development of social organisations.

He became the voice of the Salvadoran people when repression had crushed all other channels of expression.

The following prayer was composed by Bishop Ken Untener of Saginaw, for a homily by Cardinal John Dearden at a celebration of departed priests in 1979. The words of the prayer are attributed to Romero, but they were never spoken by him.





Prayer of Oscar Romero

It helps, now and then,
to step back and take a long view.

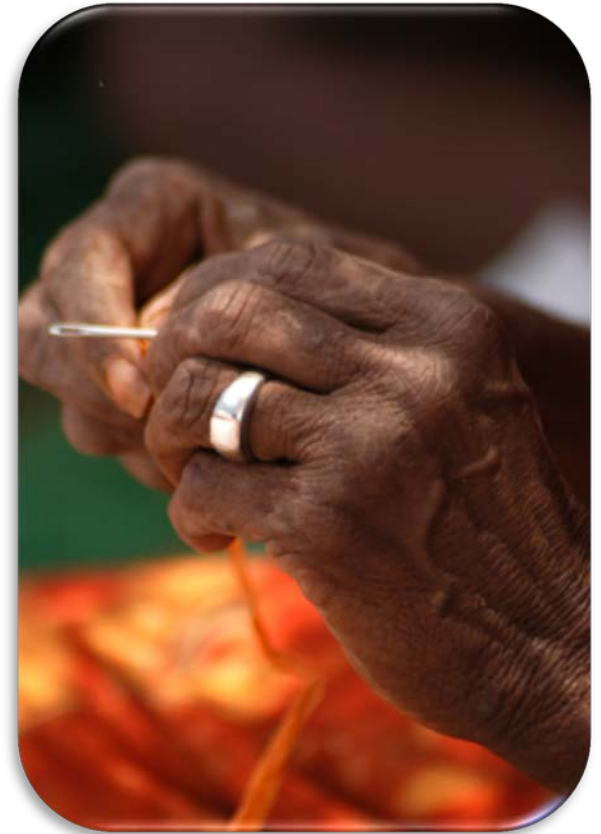


The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts,
it is even beyond our vision.





We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work.



Nothing we do is complete, which is a way of saying that the Kingdom always lies beyond us.





No statement says all that could be said.
No prayer fully expresses our faith.
No confession brings perfection.



No pastoral visit brings wholeness.

No program accomplishes the Church's mission.

No set of goals and objectives includes everything.





This is what we are about:

We plant the seeds that one day will grow.



We water seeds already planted,
knowing that they hold future promise.





We lay foundations
that will need further development.



We provide yeast
that produces far beyond our capabilities.





We cannot do everything,
and there is a sense of liberation in realising that.
This enables us to do something, and to do it very well.



It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning,
a step along the way, an opportunity for
the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest.





We may never see the end results,
but that is the difference
between the master builder and the worker.



We are workers, not master builders;
ministers, not messiahs.
We are prophets of a future not our own.





Archbishop Romero's life and teachings have inspired people all around the world.

He dared to speak out for others and for justice.

Romero inspires us to make a difference.

How will *you*
BE the difference?





be challenged

by poverty and injustice
take action

take a pebble and think of
how we are all connected.

Place it in your wallet.

Remember each
time you spend,
others have
nothing to spare.

Place it in your shoe.

Remember that you are on
a spiritual journey. Walking
the journey of justice is
often uncomfortable and
challenging.

Place it in your pocket.

Remember that
wherever you travel
you can be the
change in your world.

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