

Your thoughts:

Shared Reflection:

What thought would you like to share with your colleagues?

(Fifth Reader)

A quotation from Blessed Edmund's Writings:

"Were we to know the merit and value of only going from one street to another to serve a neighbor for the love of God, we should prize it more than silver or gold."

(Leader)

Closing Prayer:

Creator God, we thank you for the life of Edmund Rice. He opened his heart to you present in those oppressed by poverty and injustice. May we follow his example of faith and generosity. Grant us the courage and compassion of Edmund as we seek to live lives of love and service. **Amen**



*A Reflection on
The Third Essential Element
of an Edmund Rice Christian Brother Education*



*Stand in Solidarity with those Marginalized by
Poverty and Injustice.*

(First Reader)

Introduction:

Blessed Edmund Rice was given the grace to respond to the call of Jesus by identifying with Christ in the poor. His example evoked a deep awareness of God's loving presence in all with whom he came in contact. He also awakened within them a consciousness of their dignity as children of God. He invited his followers to share the Gospel insight to reach out to the needy, especially the materially poor.

(Leader)

Opening Prayer:

Lord, from the earliest days of our traditions you called us to be aware of the needs of the orphan, the widow, and the alien in our midst. Help us to recognize those who are just beyond our daily view so that our school community can use its resources in fulfilling some of their needs. We pray this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

(Second Reader)

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke

“There was a rich man who dressed in purple garments and fine linen and dined sumptuously each day. And lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who would gladly have eaten his fill of the scraps that fell from the rich man’s table. Dogs even used to come and lick his sores. When the poor man died, he was carried away by angels to the bosom of Abraham.

The rich man also died and was buried, and from the netherworld, where he was in torment, he raised his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. And he cried out, ‘Father Abraham, have pity on me. Send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am suffering torment in these flames.’

Abraham replied, ‘My child, remember that you received what was good during your lifetime while Lazarus likewise received what was bad; but now he is comforted here, whereas you are tormented. Moreover, between us and you a great chasm is established to prevent anyone from crossing who might wish to go from our side to yours or from your side to ours.’

He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, send him to my father’s house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they too come to this place of torment.’

But Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets. Let them listen to them.’

He said, ‘Oh no, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’

Then Abraham said, ‘If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead.’”

(Third Reader)

The Essential Elements of an Edmund Rice Christian Brother Education calls educational ministry sites and those working in them to . . .

Stand in Solidarity with those Marginalized by Poverty and Injustice.

This is accomplished in our school when we ...

- promote policies and structures that reflect a climate of compassion for the poor and disadvantaged
- include education and advocacy for peace, justice, global awareness, and care for the Earth
- prepare students to work toward the creation of a just society
- encourage ministry experiences that work with and serve the poor and marginalized
- support mission areas at home and abroad
- establish tuition and scholarship policies that open educational opportunities to the poor and disadvantaged

(Fourth Reader)

Reflection:

Jesus provides our mission, it is the Mission of the Church -
Be aware of the needs of others.

How are we informed about the social needs around us?
How do we ensure an equitable distribution of scholarships?
How do we support our students in outreach ministries?
How do our written policies regarding our employees reflect our values?