

Eight Beatitudes for Those Working to Understand the Indigenous and Settler Relationship over the years and striving for Reconciliation and Change**

By Heidi Epp, Indigenous Pastoral Lay Leader and Ministry Education Program, 2023

Blessed are you who listen and acknowledge racism as a man-made evil, yet work toward abolishing its power: for you possess the ears of Christ.

Blessed are you who see and educate yourself as a means of seeing all humans as equal: for you possess the eyes of Christ.

Blessed are you who speak out to challenge the system in regards to equal health care for all: for you possess the mouth of Christ.

Blessed are you who touch others through words and deeds as we recognize what colonialism and Canadian institutions really meant for Canada: for you possess the hands of Christ.

Blessed are you who think prayerfully for change and reconciliation between all Indigenous and Settlers alike: for you possess the mind of Christ.

Blessed are you who show love to all, in turn bringing hope to all of God's people: for you possess the heart of Christ.

Blessed are you who walk together to build relationships and understanding between Indigenous and Settlers: for you possess the feet of Christ.

Blessed are you who persevere in your ministry working toward solidarity for all, for you possess the healing presence of Christ, and yours is the Kingdom of heaven.

**Adapted from 'Eight Beatitudes for Those who Minister to the Sick and Elderly' from Caring for the Sick and Elderly; A parish guide by Sr. Marie Roccapiore, MPF