

SEPTEMBER CONTEMPLATION

*Remember, Lord, your Church, spread throughout the world
and bring her to the fullness of charity.
(Eucharistic Prayer II)*

Opening Hymn

Eucharistic Exposition

Leader:

May this time of prayer and adoration before the Blessed Sacrament be a precious opportunity to grow in awareness of the incomparable treasure which Christ has entrusted to his Church. May it encourage a more lively and fervent celebration of the Eucharist, leading to a Christian life transformed by love. May all of us rediscover the gift of the Eucharist as light and strength for our daily lives in the world in the exercise of our respective professions. We pray in Jesus' name.

All: Amen.

Silent Reflection

Let us keep silent within ourselves that our hearts and ears may be open.

Prayer Before Reading Scripture

Leader: *Let us pray.*

All: Jesus Christ, our Master, You are the Way and the Truth and the life. Grant that we may learn the sublime knowledge of Your charity in the Spirit of St. Paul the Apostle and of the Catholic Church. Send Your Holy Spirit to teach us and remind us of what You have preached. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Scripture Reading: *(Heb 5:1-6)*

Every high priest is selected from among men and is appointed to represent them in matters related to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He is able to deal gently with those who are ignorant and are going astray, since he himself is subject to weakness. This is why he has to offer sacrifices for his own sins, as well as for the sins of the people. No one takes this honor upon himself; he must be called by God, just as Aaron was. So Christ also did not take upon himself the glory of becoming a high priest. But God said to him, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father." And he says in another place, "You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek."

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm *(Psalm 86: 3-4, 5-6, 9-10)*

Response: All the nations shall worship you, O LORD!

Be merciful to me, O Lord, for I am calling on you constantly. **R/.**

Give me happiness, O Lord, for I give myself to you. **R/.**

O Lord, you are so good, so ready to forgive,
so full of unfailing love for all who ask for your help. **R/.**

Listen closely to my prayer, O LORD;
hear my urgent cry. *R/.*

I will call to you whenever I'm in trouble,
and you will answer me. *R/.*

All the nations you made will come and bow before you, Lord;
they will praise your holy name. *R/.*

For you are great and perform wonderful deeds.
You alone are God. *R/.*

Glory be to the Father...

Meditation: *Ecclesia de Eucharistia - Introduction, 8*

[The] varied scenario of celebrations of the Eucharist [is] a powerful experience of its universal and, so to speak, cosmic character. Yes, cosmic! Because even when it is celebrated on the humble altar of a country church, the Eucharist is always in some way celebrated *on the altar of the world*. It unites heaven and earth. It embraces and permeates all creation. The Son of God became man in order to restore all creation, in one supreme act of praise, to the One who made it from nothing. He, the Eternal High Priest who by the blood of his Cross entered the eternal sanctuary, thus gives back to the Creator and Father all creation redeemed. He does so through the priestly ministry of the Church, to the glory of the Most Holy Trinity. Truly this is the *mysterium fidei* which is accomplished in the Eucharist: the world which came forth from the hands of God the Creator now returns to him redeemed by Christ.

Silent Reflection

Reflection - *(Catechism, 768)*

So that she can fulfill her mission, the Holy Spirit "bestows upon [the Church] varied hierarchic and charismatic gifts, and in this way directs her." (*Jn 14:9*) "Henceforward the Church, endowed with the gifts of her founder and faithfully observing his precepts of charity, humility and self-denial, receives the mission of proclaiming and establishing among all peoples the Kingdom of Christ and of God, and she is on earth the seed and the beginning of that kingdom." (*Jn 4:9*)

Prayer to Celebrate Life

O God of all, we want to celebrate life! We cry out against all that kills life: hunger and violence, physical and verbal abuse, selfishness and injustice. We want to announce fullness of life: respect for the contribution of everyone, young and old... We want a world renewed. With the Lord of history help us make all things news. Amen.

Intentions

Let us pray together the Daily Offering with the intention of the Holy Father and our personal intentions:

R/. Lord, hear our prayer.

All:

Eternal Father, we offer you in union with Mary, Mother of the Redeemer of humankind, the Blood Jesus shed with love in his passion and every day is offered on the altar. In union with the Victim offered for the salvation of the world, we offer today's actions in expiation for our sins, for the conversion of sinners, for the souls in purgatory, for the needs of the holy Church, and especially:

For the Holy Father's **Universal Intention:** That young people in Africa may have access to education and work in their own countries, we pray. *R/.*

Our response will be: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

O God, you call the Church to be a sign of salvation and the light of the world, grant her courage and strength to announce your gospel of peace and justice with enthusiasm, we pray to the Lord. *R/.*

For teachers that they may inspire their students to pursue a life of holiness, we pray to the Lord. *R/.*

Lord, You have promised to be with your Church always, may the Holy Spirit inspire many more vocations to the priesthood and religious life, we pray to the Lord. *R/.*

For those who've asked the help of our prayers, for those who have no one to pray for them, and for the intentions we hold in the silence of our hearts, we pray to the Lord. *R/.*

Our Father...

Silent Reflection

Closing Prayer

Leader: *Let us pray:*

All: Lord Jesus, in the Eucharist You make your dwelling among us and become our traveling companion; sustain our Christian communities so that they may be ever more open to listening and accepting your Word. May they draw from the Eucharist a renewed commitment to spreading in society, by the proclamation of your Gospel, the signs and deeds of an attentive and active charity. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Benediction and Reposition

Closing Hymn