

Virtual Eucharistic Adoration

Create a prayerful setting for this special time with the Lord and access an on-line chapel.

May this time of prayer and adoration before the Blessed Sacrament be an opportunity to grow in awareness of the incomparable treasure which Christ entrusted to his Church.

JANUARY CONTEMPLATION

Let us do good work and let us become saints.

St. Gaspar #2557

Opening Prayer

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.

Silent Reflection

Let us keep silence before God – silent within ourselves – that our hearts and ears may be open.

Prayer Before Reading Scripture

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: *(Colossians 1:3-8)*

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Colossians

We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all the saints—the faith and love that spring from the hope that is stored up for you in heaven and that you have already heard about in the word of truth, the gospel that has come to you. All over the world this gospel is bearing fruit and growing, just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and understood God's grace in all its truth. You learned it from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf, and who also told us of your love in the Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: *(Psalm 119:29, 72, 89, 101, 104, 163)*

R/. Your word, O Lord, is a lamp for my feet.

Remove from me the way of falsehood and favor me with your law. ***R/.***

The law of your mouth is to me more precious than thousands of gold and silver pieces. ***R/.***

Your word, O LORD, endures forever; it is firm as the heavens. ***R/.***

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From every evil way I withhold my feet, that I may keep your words. *R/.*

Through your precepts I gain discernment; therefore, I hate every false way. *R/.*

Falsehood I hate and abhor; your law I love. *R/.*

Glory Be...

Reflection: (*Catechism*, 1965,1966)

The New Law or the Law of the Gospel is the perfection here on earth of the divine law, natural and revealed. It is the work of Christ and is expressed particularly in the Sermon on the Mount. It is also the work of the Holy Spirit and through him it becomes the interior law of charity: "I will establish a New Covenant with the house of Israel. . . . I will put my laws into their hands, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people."¹⁹

The New Law is the grace of the Holy Spirit given to the faithful through faith in Christ. It works through charity; it uses the Sermon on the Mount to teach us what must be done and makes use of the sacraments to give us the grace to do it.

¹⁹ Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2nd Edition, PART THREE - LIFE IN CHRIST, SECTION ONE: MAN'S VOCATION: LIFE IN THE SPIRIT, CHAPTER THREE: GOD'S SALVATION: LAW AND GRACE, ARTICLE 1: THE MORAL LAW, III. THE NEW LAW OR THE LAW OF THE GOSPEL.

Seasonal Prayer

Lord our God, we thank you for the wisdom we gain from your scriptures. Grant us the courage to open our hearts and our minds to neighbors of other Christian confessions and of other faiths; the grace to overcome barriers of indifference, prejudice or hate; and a vision of the last days, when Christians might walk together towards that final feast, when tears and dissension will be overcome through love. Amen.

Silent Reflection

Meditation: *Gaudete et Exsultate* 7,8

I like to contemplate the holiness present in the patience of God's people: in those parents who raise their children with immense love, in those men and women who work hard to support their families, in the sick, in elderly religious who never lose their smile. In their daily perseverance I see the holiness of the Church militant. Very often it is a holiness found in our next-door neighbors, those who, living in our midst, reflect God's presence.

Let us be spurred on by the signs of holiness that the Lord shows us through the humblest members of that people which "shares also in Christ's prophetic office, spreading abroad a living witness to him, especially by means of a life of faith and charity"⁵

⁵ *Lumen Gentium*, 12.

* This year the **Meditations** will be taken from *Gaudete et Exsultate*, the Apostolic Exhortation by Pope Francis that presents a spirituality of holiness in everyday life clearly based on Catholic Tradition.

"We are all called to be holy by living our lives with love and by bearing witness in everything we do, wherever we find ourselves." *Gaudete et Exsultate*, 14

Intentions

Let us pray together the Daily Offering with the intentions 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 Intention for true human fraternity:

We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family. we pray to the Lord. *R/.*

God of compassion, look with favor upon all who work and pray for the unity of divided Christian communities, 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/.*

The Blood of Christ is Life for all Our Needs

Eternal Father, we offer you the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ, poured out on the cross and offered daily on the altar:

- ✦ For the glory of your name, for the coming of your kingdom and for the salvation of all.
- ✦ For the propagation of faith, for Pope Francis, for bishops, priests, and religious and for the sanctification of all the people of God.
- ✦ For the conversion of sinners, for the loving acceptance of your Word, and for the union of all Christians.
- ✦ For civil authorities, for the strengthening of public morals, and for peace and justice among all nations.
- ✦ For the sanctification of our work and suffering, for the poor, sick and afflicted, and for all who rely on our prayers.
- ✦ For our own spiritual and temporal needs, for those of our relatives, benefactors, and also for those of our enemies.
- ✦ For those who are to die this day, for the souls in purgatory, and for our final union with Christ in Glory.

Our Father...

Silent Reflection

Closing Prayer: Precious Blood Prayer

All: Almighty and Eternal God, you have appointed your only begotten Son the Redeemer of the world and willed to be appeased by his Blood. Grant, we beg of you, that we may worthily adore this price of our salvation, and through its power be safeguarded from the evils of this present life, so that we may rejoice in its fruits forever in heaven. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen

Our Lady of the Most Precious Blood, pray for us.

St. Gaspar, pray for us, St. Maria De Mattias, pray for us,

St. Francis Xavier, pray for us.