

## **Virtual Eucharistic Adoration**

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

Lord Jesus, in the Eucharist You make your dwelling among us  
and become our traveling companion  
so that they may be ever more open to listening and accepting your Word.  
We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

## **JANUARY CONTEMPLATION**

*This month may we listen to God calling us to be **God's People**.*

### **Opening Prayer**

May this time of prayer 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. Amen.

### ***Silent Reflection***

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

### **Prayer Before Reading Scripture**

Heavenly Father, thank you for the Scriptures that were written for our instruction. They reveal the depth and width of your great love and show us how to walk in a way that is pleasing to you. Amen.

### **Scripture Reading:** *(1 Peter 2:9-10)*

*A reading from the first letter of St. Peter*

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### ***Responsorial Psalm:*** *(Psalm 105:5-6, 7-8, 42-43)*

***Response: The Lord remembers his covenant forever.***

Remember the wonders he has performed, his miracles, and the rulings he has given,  
you children of his servant Abraham, you descendants of Jacob, his chosen ones. **R/.**

He is the Lord our God. His justice is seen throughout the land.

He always stands by his covenant—the commitment he made to a thousand generations. **R/.**

For he remembered his sacred promise to his servant Abraham.

So he brought his people out of Egypt with joy, his chosen ones with rejoicing. **R/.**

### **Glory Be...**

*January 2024*

## Reflection from the Catechism: Christian Prayer

God calls man first. Man may forget his Creator or hide far from his face; he may run after idols or accuse the deity of having abandoned him; yet the living and true God tirelessly calls each person to that mysterious encounter known as prayer. In prayer, the faithful God's initiative of love always comes first; our own first step is always a response. As God gradually reveals himself and reveals man to himself, prayer appears as a reciprocal call, a covenant drama. Through words and actions, this drama engages the heart. It unfolds throughout the whole history of salvation. (CCC,2567)

## 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:** (*Apostolicam Actuositatem*)

As sharers in the role of Christ as priest, prophet, and king, the laity have their work cut out for them in the life and activity of the Church. Their activity is so necessary within the Church communities that without it the apostolate of the pastors is often unable to achieve its full effectiveness. In the manner of the men and women who helped Paul in spreading the Gospel (cf. Acts 18:18, 26; Rom. 16:3) the laity with the right apostolic attitude supply what is lacking to their brethren and refresh the spirit of pastors and of the rest of the faithful (cf. 1 Cor. 16:17-18). Strengthened by active participation in the liturgical life of their community, they are eager to do their share of the apostolic works of that community. They bring to the Church people who perhaps are far removed from it, earnestly cooperate in presenting the word of God especially by means of catechetical instruction and offer their special skills to make the care of souls and the administration of the temporalities of the Church more efficient and effective. (Chapter III, "The Various Fields of the Apostolate, AA, #10)

## 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 The Gift of Diversity in the Church

Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church, we pray to the Lord. *R/.*

This year's Meditations are taken from *Apostolicam Actuositatem*, Pope Paul VI's *Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity*, November 18, 1965.

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/.*

That our country more fully embraces the culture of life, recognizing in each person the image of God Himself, 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.