

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.

MARCH CONTEMPLATION

Let us entrust everything to God who is a loving Father.

– St. Gaspar #1739

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: *(1 Thessalonians 2:6b-13)*

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Thessalonians

As apostles of Christ we could have been a burden to you, but we were gentle among you, like a mother caring for her little children. We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well, because you had become so dear to us. Surely you remember, brothers, our toil and hardship; we worked night and day in order not to be a burden to anyone while we preached the gospel of God to you. You are witnesses, and so is God, of how holy, righteous and blameless we were among you who believed. For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children, encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory. And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is at work in you who believe.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: (*Psalm 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5*)

R/. We are his people: the sheep of his flock.

Sing joyfully to the LORD, all you lands;
serve the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful song. ***R/.***

Know that the LORD is God; he made us, his we are; his people, the flock he tends. ***R/.***

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, his courts with praise; Give thanks to him; bless his name. ***R/.***

For he is good, the LORD, whose kindness endures forever, and his faithfulness, to all generations. ***R/.***

Glory Be...

Reflection: (*Catechism, 53*)

By natural reason man can know God with certainty, on the basis of his works. But there is another order of knowledge, which man cannot possibly arrive at by his own powers: the order of divine Revelation. Through an utterly free decision, God has revealed himself and given himself to man. This he does by revealing the mystery, his plan of loving goodness, formed from all eternity in Christ, for the benefit of all men. God has fully revealed this plan by sending us his beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

The divine plan of Revelation is realized simultaneously "by deeds and words which are intrinsically bound up with each other" and shed light on each another. It involves a specific divine pedagogy: God communicates himself to man gradually. He prepares him to welcome by stages the supernatural Revelation that is to culminate in the person and mission of the incarnate Word, Jesus Christ.

(Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2nd Edition, PART ONE: The Profession of Faith, SECTION ONE: "I Believe" - "We Believe", CHAPTER TWO: God Comes to Meet Man, 50; ARTICLE 1: The Revelation of God, I. God Reveals His "Plan of Loving Goodness.")

Seasonal Prayer: Prayer Before a Crucifix

Look down upon me, good and gentle Jesus, while before Your face I humbly kneel, and with burning soul pray and beseech You to fix deep in my heart lively sentiments of faith, hope, and charity, true contrition for my sins, and a firm purpose of amendment; while I contemplate with great love and tender pity Your five wounds, pondering over them within me, and calling to mind the words which, long ago, David the prophet spoke in Your own person concerning You, my Jesus: "*They have pierced My hands and My feet; they have numbered all My bones.*"

Silent Reflection

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.

Meditation: (*Gaudete et Exsultate, 15*)

Let the grace of your baptism bear fruit in a path of holiness. Let everything be open to God; turn to him in every situation. Do not be dismayed, for the power of the Holy Spirit enables you to do this, and holiness, in the end, is the fruit of the Holy Spirit in your life (cf. *Gal 5:22-23*). When you feel the temptation to dwell on your own weakness, raise your eyes to Christ crucified and say: "Lord, I am a poor sinner, but you can work the miracle of making me a little bit better." In the Church, holy yet made up of sinners, you will find everything you need to grow towards holiness. The Lord has bestowed on the Church the gifts of scripture, the sacraments, holy places, living communities, the witness of the saints and a multifaceted beauty that proceeds from God's love, "like a bride bedecked with jewels." (*Is 61:10*)

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 a Christian response to bioethical challenges:

We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action, we pray to the Lord. *R/.*

God of love, you have freed us from sin; grant us conversion of heart to always choose what is good and to reject violence and intolerance, 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.