

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.

AUGUST CONTEMPLATION

*This month may we listen to God calling us to be **Apostles**.*

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: *(Ephesians 4:11-16)*

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians

So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: *(Psalm 97:1-7)*

Response: The Lord is King, let the earth rejoice.

I will exalt you, my God and King, and praise your name forever and ever.

I will praise you every day; yes, I will praise you forever. **R/.**

Great is the Lord! He is most worthy of praise! No one can measure his greatness. **R/.**

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Let each generation tell its children of your mighty acts;
let them proclaim your power.

I will meditate on your majestic, glorious splendor and your wonderful miracles. *R/.*

Your awe-inspiring deeds will be on every tongue; I will proclaim your greatness.

Everyone will share the story of your wonderful goodness;
they will sing with joy about your righteousness. *R/.*

Glory Be...

Reflection from the Catechism: Christian Prayer

In their "one to one" encounters with God, the prophets draw light and strength for their mission. Their prayer is not flight from this unfaithful world, but rather attentiveness to the Word of God. At times their prayer is an argument or a complaint, but it is always an intercession that awaits and prepares for the intervention of the Savior God, the Lord of history. (CCC,2584)

Silent Reflection

Seasonal Prayer – Prayer for Missionaries

On August 15th we celebrate the founding of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood

Pray for God to raise up members of the community within the church to serve, and for God to call people in from far away if needed. Pray for discipleship to multiply the number of believers, because people are not just knowing Him but also making Him known.

Meditation: (*Apostolicam Actuositatem*)

The Church was founded for the purpose of spreading the kingdom of Christ throughout the earth for the glory of God the Father, to enable all men to share in His saving redemption,¹ and that through them the whole world might enter into a relationship with Christ. All activity of the Mystical Body directed to the attainment of this goal is called the apostolate, which the Church carries on in various ways through all her members. For the Christian vocation by its very nature is also a vocation to the apostolate...

In the Church there is a diversity of ministry but a oneness of mission. Christ conferred on the Apostles and their successors the duty of teaching, sanctifying, and ruling in His name and power. But the laity likewise share in the priestly, prophetic, and royal office of Christ and therefore have their own share in the mission of the whole people of God in the Church and in the world.² (Chapter I, "The Vocation of the Laity to the Apostolate," AA, #2)

¹ cf. John XXIII, *Humani Salutis*, pp. 7-10.

² cf. Second Vatican Council, *Dogmatic Constitution on the Nature of the Church*, pp. 39 ff.

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:

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

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For the Holy Father's Intention for Political Leaders

Let us pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and the common good, taking care of those who have lost their jobs and giving priority to the poor, we pray to the Lord. *R/.*

That the media may become a force to safeguard the common good, to uphold the truth, to protect individual human dignity and promote respect for the needs of the family, 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.