

## **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.*

*"I advise you to put yourself in the hands of God.*

*And let us serve him with pure love, and let us work willingly for his glory."*

*(Bl. John Merlini, Letter 12)*

## **OCTOBER CONTEMPLATION**

Built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit. – *Ephesians 2:20-22*

### **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** (*Hebrews 11:2-6, 10-13*)

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles*

Many of the Jews and devout converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, who talked with them and urged them to continue in the grace of God. On the next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. When the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and talked abusively against what Paul was saying. Then Paul and Barnabas answered them boldly: "We had to speak the word of God to you first. Since you reject it and do not consider yourselves worthy of eternal life, we now turn to the Gentiles. For this is what the Lord has commanded us: " 'I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth'." When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and honored the word of the Lord; and all who were appointed for eternal life believed. The word of the Lord spread through the whole region.

The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Responsorial Psalm: (Psalm 33:12-15)

### *Response: Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.*

Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people he chose for his inheritance. *R/:*

From heaven the Lord looks down and sees all mankind;  
from his dwelling place he watches all who live on earth—  
he who forms the hearts of all, who considers everything they do. *R/:*

## Glory Be...

### Reflection from the Catechism: The Freedom of Faith

To be human, "man's response to God by faith must be free, and... therefore nobody is to be forced to embrace the faith against his will. the act of faith is of its very nature a free act."<sup>39</sup> "God calls men to serve him in spirit and in truth. Consequently they are bound to him in conscience, but not coerced. . . This fact received its fullest manifestation in Christ Jesus."<sup>40</sup> Indeed, Christ invited people to faith and conversion, but never coerced them. "For he bore witness to the truth but refused to use force to impose it on those who spoke against it. His kingdom... grows by the love with which Christ, lifted up on the cross, draws men to himself."<sup>41</sup> (CCC, 160) <sup>39</sup> *Dignitatis humane*, 10 <sup>40</sup> DH 11. <sup>41</sup> DH 11

### Prayer for October

Lord, pour out on us the spirit of understanding, truth, and peace. Help us to strive with all our hearts to know what is pleasing to you, and when we know your will make us determined to do it. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### *Silent Reflection*

### Meditation from the Nicene Creed

*"I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church."*

These are the four essential marks of the Church. The Church is **one** because her source is the one God, and her founder is the one Lord Jesus Christ, who prayed "that they may all be one" (John 17:21). The Church of Christ subsists in the Catholic Church, but the Church longs to heal the wounds of division between her and separated Christians. The Church, which is made up of sinners, is sanctified by Christ's sacrifice. The Church is imperfectly **holy** and thus constantly in need of purification through the Holy Spirit. The saints are witnesses to the Church's holiness. The word "**catholic**" means universal. The Church is "catholic" firstly because the fullness of Christ and his salvation is present in her, and secondly because the mission of the Church is to all people. The church is **apostolic** because it is founded on the apostles, guided by their teachings, and governed by their successors, the bishops and the pope.

\* The Meditations this year will focus on the **Nicene Creed**. Pope Leo XIV visited Turkey in observance of the 1700<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ecumenical Council of Nicaea which drafted the first Nicene Creed in 325. Today nearly all Christian denominations regard the Nicene Creed as a foundational and authoritative statement of faith. Thus approximately 98.5% of the world's Christians adhere to the Nicene Creed's Trinitarian and Christological doctrines.

## 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 Mental Health Ministry

Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses, 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.