

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.

"These are times of trials. Oh God help us."

(Bl. John Merlini, Letter 283)

APRIL CONTEMPLATION

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. – *Colossians 1:15-17*

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 10:11-17*)

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God. Since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool, because by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy. The Holy Spirit also testifies to us about this. First he says: "This is the covenant I will make with them after that time, says the Lord. I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds." Then he adds: "Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more."

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: (Psalm 33:1-5)

Response: The Lord is faithful in all his works.

Sing joyfully to the Lord, you righteous; it is fitting for the upright to praise him.

Praise the Lord with the harp; make music to him on the ten-stringed lyre. **R/**

Sing to him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy. **R/**

For the word of the Lord is right and true; he is faithful in all he does. **R/**

The Lord loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love. **R/**

Glory Be...

Reflection from the Catechism: Faith and Science

Faith and science: "Though faith is above reason, there can never be any real discrepancy between faith and reason. Since the same God who reveals mysteries and infuses faith has bestowed the light of reason on the human mind, God cannot deny himself, nor can truth ever contradict truth."³⁷ "Consequently, methodical research in all branches of knowledge, provided it is carried out in a truly scientific manner and does not override moral laws, can never conflict with the faith, because the things of the world and the things of faith derive from the same God. the humble and persevering investigator of the secrets of nature is being led, as it were, by the hand of God in spite of himself, for it is God, the conserver of all things, who made them what they are."³⁸ (CCC, 159)

³⁷ Dei Filius 4: DS 3017. ³⁸ *Gaudium et spes*, 36 # 1.

Seasonal Prayer

Father, you will your Church to be the sacrament of salvation for all peoples. Make us feel more urgently the call to work for the salvation of men and women. Inspire the hearts of all your people to continue the saving work of Christ every-where until the end of the world. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Silent Reflection

Meditation from the Nicene Creed

“...through him all things were made.”

“In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...All things came to be through him...” (John 1:1-2). God the Father creates through his divine Word. The Greek word here is Logos, which can be translated as “word, reason, or mind.” Jesus is the reflection and emanation of the Father’s mind, Logos through which he creates all things. In the beginning of Genesis, God speaks, and things are created by his Word (Gen 1).

* The Meditations this year will focus on the **Nicene Creed**. Pope Leo XIV visited Turkey in observance of the 1700th 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 Priests in Crisis

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer, 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.

* The Meditations this year will focus on the **Nicene Creed**. Pope Leo XIV visited Turkey in observance of the 1700th 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.