

## **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.*

*"Let us pray the Most Blessed Lady of Sorrows,  
so that she may help us, with a strong arm."*

(Bl. John Merlini, *Letter 26*)

## **MAY CONTEMPLATION**

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

— *Isaiah 9:6*

### **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 10:1-7,10*)**

*A reading from the letter to the Hebrews*

The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming—not the realities themselves. For this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship. If it could, would they not have stopped being offered? For the worshipers would have been cleansed once for all, and would no longer have felt guilty for their sins. But those sacrifices are an annual reminder of sins, because it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said: "Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me; with burnt offerings and sin offerings you were not pleased. Then I said, 'Here I am—it is written about me in the scroll—I have come to do your will, O God'." And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## **Responsorial Psalm: (Psalm 40:1-4)**

***Response: Blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD.***

I waited patiently for the Lord; he turned to me and heard my cry.  
He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire;  
he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand. **R/**

He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. **R/**  
Many will see and fear the Lord and put their trust in him.  
Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord. **R/**

## **Glory Be...**

### **Reflection from the Catechism: Witnesses of Faith**

It is then we must turn to the witnesses of faith: to Abraham, who "in hope... believed against hope";<sup>51</sup> to the Virgin Mary, who, in "her pilgrimage of faith", walked into the "night of faith"<sup>52</sup> in sharing the darkness of her son's suffering and death; and to so many others: "Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith."<sup>53</sup> (CCC, 165) <sup>51</sup> Rom 4:18 <sup>52</sup> *Lumen gentium*, 58. <sup>53</sup> Heb 12:1-2.

### **Prayer for May - Prayer for Mothers**

Father, we thank You for our mothers to whom You have entrusted the care of every precious human life from its very beginning in the womb. You have given to woman the capacity of participating with you in the creation of new life. May your holy spirit constantly inspire and strengthen them that they may worthily foster the faith of their children. May they ever follow the example of Mary, Mother of Our Lord, and imitate her fidelity, her humility, and her self-giving love. Amen

### ***Silent Reflection***

### **Meditation from the Nicene Creed**

*"For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man."*

Jesus, the Only Begotten Son of God, the Second Person of the Trinity, took upon himself our human nature in order to redeem us from our sins and reconcile us to the Father. Jesus was conceived in the womb of the Virgin Mary by the Holy Spirit. The Son, who was not a creature, entered into creation and became truly human like us in all things but sin. In honor of Jesus' Incarnation, we bow our heads in reverence to the mystery of God made Man.

\* 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 that Everyone Might Have Food

Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food, 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.