

## **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.*

*"Our heart must completely belong to Jesus.*

*May whatever diminishes the love of God within us be removed, little by little."*

*(Bl. John Merlini, Letter 390)*

## **JULY CONTEMPLATION**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. – *1 Peter 1:3*

### **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 10:19-24)*

*A reading from the letter to the Hebrews*

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## **Responsorial Psalm:** (*Psalm 118:25-29*)

***Response: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.***

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. From the house of the Lord we bless you. ***R/:***

The Lord is God, and he has made his light shine on us.

With boughs in hand, join in the festal procession up to the horns of the altar. ***R/:***

You are my God, and I will praise you; you are my God, and I will exalt you. ***R/:***

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. ***R/:***

## **Glory Be...**

## **Reflection from the Catechism: We Walk by Faith**

Now, however, "we walk by faith, not by sight";<sup>49</sup> we perceive God as "in a mirror, dimly" and only "in part".<sup>50</sup> Even though enlightened by him in whom it believes, faith is often lived in darkness and can be put to the test. The world we live in often seems very far from the one promised us by faith. Our experiences of evil and suffering, injustice and death, seem to contradict the Good News; they can shake our faith and become a temptation against it. (CCC, 164)

<sup>49</sup> 2 Cor 5:7. <sup>50</sup> 1 Cor 13:12.

## **Prayer for July**

Almighty and eternal God, enable those who do not acknowledge Christ to find the truth as they walk before you in sincerity of heart. Help us to grow in love for one another, to grasp more fully the mystery of your godhead, and to become more perfect witnesses of your love in the sight of all. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## ***Silent Reflection***

## **Meditation from the Nicene Creed**

*"He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father."*

Through the Ascension, Jesus takes his glorified humanity into the divine glory, the fullness of life and happiness of the Father's house. Jesus precedes us to "prepare a place for us" (John 14:2-3). In Jesus Ascension, we, the members of this body, have hope that our humanity will one day share in this glory and happiness forever. Jesus' seat at the Father's right hand symbolizes both Jesus priesthood and kingship, as he forever intercedes for us before the Father and reigns with the Father in the new kingdom just begun.

*"He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end."*

By virtue of his death and resurrection Jesus is "Lord of both the dead and the living" (Rom 14:9). When Christ returns in his glory, he will judge each person according to his works and his acceptance or refusal of grace. Our acceptance in faith of grace and love will be revealed by how we have loved our neighbor. "Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me" (Matt 25:40). Those who accept Christ in faith lived out in love will reign with him in the everlasting kingdom.

\* 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 Respect for Human Life

Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God, 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.