

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.*

AUGUST CONTEMPLATION

*Do not fail to ground yourself ever more firmly through prayer and humility,
the sources of every good work.
– St. Gaspar #1720*

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: *(Romans 10:5-11)*

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans

Moses describes in this way the righteousness that is by the law: "The man who does these things will live by them." But the righteousness that is by faith says: "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) or "Who will descend into the deep?" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming: That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. As the Scripture says, "Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame."

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: (*Psalm 139:1-3, 7-8, 9-10, 13-14ab*)

R/. The Lord will remember his covenant forever.

I will give thanks to the LORD with all my heart in the company and assembly of the just.
Great are the works of the LORD, exquisite in all their delights. *R/.*

Majesty and glory are his work, and his justice endures forever.
He has won renown for his wondrous deeds; gracious and merciful is the LORD. *R/.*

He has given food to those who fear him; he will forever be mindful of his covenant.
He has made known to his people the power of his works, giving them the inheritance of the nations. *R/.*

Glory Be...

Reflection: (*Catechism*, 107,108)

The inspired books teach the truth. "Since therefore all that the inspired authors or sacred writers affirm should be regarded as affirmed by the Holy Spirit, we must acknowledge that the books of Scripture firmly, faithfully, and without error teach that truth which God, for the sake of our salvation, wished to see confided to the Sacred Scriptures."

Still, the Christian faith is not a "religion of the book." Christianity is the religion of the "Word" of God, a word which is "not a written and mute word, but the Word which is incarnate and living." If the Scriptures are not to remain a dead letter, Christ, the eternal Word of the living God, must, through the Holy Spirit, "open [our] minds to understand the Scriptures."

(Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2nd Edition, PART ONE: THE PROFESSION OF FAITH, SECTION ONE: "I BELIEVE" - "WE BELIEVE", CHAPTER TWO: GOD COMES TO MEET MAN; ARTICLE 3: SACRED SCRIPTURE, II. INSPIRATION AND TRUTH OF SACRED SCRIPTURE.)

Silent Reflection

This year the **Meditations** will be taken from *Gaudete et Exsultate*, the Apostolic Exhortation by Pope Francis that presents a spirituality of holiness in everyday life clearly based on Catholic Tradition.

Meditation: (*Gaudete et Exsultate*, 157)

Meeting Jesus in the Scriptures leads us to the Eucharist, where the written word attains its greatest efficacy, for there the living Word is truly present. In the Eucharist, the one true God receives the greatest worship the world can give him, for it is Christ himself who is offered. When we receive him in Holy Communion, we renew our covenant with him and allow him to carry out ever more fully his work of transforming our lives.

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 For small businesses:

We pray for small and medium sized businesses; in the midst of economic and social crisis, may they find ways to continue operating, and serving their communities, we pray to the Lord. **R/.**

That by the Church's sacred remembrance of the mysteries of our salvation, the Lord may pour his divine love into every human heart, we pray to the Lord. **R/.**

That the Missionaries of the Precious Blood, celebrating their founding August 15th, may continue to inspire and guide us to appreciate the holy mysteries of our salvation, 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.