

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.

"Be in good spirits. Everything is good for heaven."

(Bl. John Merlini, Letter 289)

SEPTEMBER CONTEMPLATION

But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. – *John 14:26*

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 letter to the Hebrews

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. And you have forgotten that word of encouragement that addresses you as sons: "My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes everyone he accepts as a son."

Our fathers disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, that we may share in his holiness. No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it. Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees. "Make level paths for your feet," so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: (Psalm 37:23-28)

Response: The Lord upholds his faithful ones.

The Lord makes firm the steps of the one who delights in him;
though he may stumble, he will not fall, for the Lord upholds him with his hand. **R/:**

I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken
or their children begging bread.

They are always generous and lend freely; their children will be a blessing. **R/:**

Turn from evil and do good; then you will dwell in the land forever.

For the Lord loves the just and will not forsake his faithful ones. **R/:**

Glory Be...

Reflection from the Catechism: Faith is a Human Act

Believing is possible only by grace and the interior helps of the Holy Spirit. But it is no less true that believing is an authentically human act. Trusting in God and cleaving to the truths he has revealed is contrary neither to human freedom nor to human reason. Even in human relations it is not contrary to our dignity to believe what other persons tell us about themselves and their intentions, or to trust their promises (for example, when a man and a woman marry) to share a communion of life with one another. If this is so, still less is it contrary to our dignity to "yield by faith the full submission of... intellect and will to God who reveals",²⁶ and to share in an interior communion with him.

In faith, the human intellect and will co-operate with divine grace: "Believing is an act of the intellect assenting to the divine truth by command of the will moved by God through grace."²⁷ (CCC, 154,155)

²⁶ Dei Filius: 3: DS 3008 (*Sources of Catholic Dogma* by Denzinger)

²⁷ Dei Filius: 3: DS 3010

Prayer for September

God our Father, you have placed all the powers of nature under the control of human beings and their work. May we bring the spirit of Christ to all our efforts and work with our brothers and sisters at our common task, establishing true love and guiding your creation to perfect fulfillment. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Silent Reflection

Meditation from the Nicene Creed

*"...who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets."*

We use the pronoun "who" for the Holy Spirit is truly a divine person and not just a divine power or force. Just as the Son is eternally begotten of the Father, so the Holy Spirit eternally proceeds from the Father and the Son. As the Son is a perfect emanation of the Father's self, the Spirit is an emanation of love between the Father and the Son, thus the Holy Spirit is the both the spirit of the Father and of the Son. Because of this, the Holy Spirit is consubstantial, of the same divine essence, with the Father and the Son and is rightfully worship as God. Though the centuries the Spirit spoke through the prophets, those who were inspired to write the Sacred Scriptures, and his voice continues to speak through the Church.

* 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 the Care of Water

Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it, 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.