

# NOVEMBER CONTEMPLATION

*Let us entrust everything to God who is a loving Father.*

– St. Gaspar (*Letter #1739*)

## Opening Hymn

*Eucharistic Exposition*

### Leader:

May this time of prayer and adoration before the Blessed Sacrament be a precious opportunity to grow in awareness of the incomparable treasure which Christ has entrusted to his Church. May it encourage a more lively and fervent celebration of the Eucharist, leading to a Christian life transformed by love. May all of us rediscover the gift of the Eucharist as light and strength for our daily lives in the world in the exercise of our respective professions. We pray in Jesus' name.

**All: Amen.**

### Leader:

Let us pray together the Daily Offering with the intention of the Holy Father:

### 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: that Christians in Asia, bearing witness to the Gospel in word and deed, may promote dialogue, peace, and mutual understanding, especially with those of other religions.

### *Silent Reflection*

*Let us keep silent within ourselves that our hearts and ears may be open.*

## Prayer Before Reading Scripture

**Leader:** *Let us pray.*

**All:** 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: (*1 Thessalonians 2:1-8*)

For you yourselves know, brethren, that our coming to you was not in vain, but after we had already suffered and been mistreated in Philippi, as you know, we had the boldness in our God to speak to you the gospel of God amid much opposition. For our exhortation does not come from error or impurity or by way of deceit; but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who examines our hearts. For we never came with flattering speech, as you know, nor with a pretext for greed—God is witness—nor did we seek glory from men, either from you or from others, even though as apostles of Christ we might have asserted our authority. But we proved to be gentle among you, as a nursing mother tenderly cares for her own children. Having so fond an affection for you, we were well-pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God but also our own lives, because you had become very dear to us.

The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## **Responsorial Psalm** (*Psalm 100:1-5*)

**Response: Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth.**

Shout joyfully to the LORD, all the earth.

Serve the LORD with gladness;

Come before Him with joyful singing. *R/.*

Know that the LORD Himself is God;

It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves;

We are His people and the sheep of His pasture. *R/.*

Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise.

Give thanks to Him, bless His name. *R/.*

For the LORD is good;

His loving kindness is everlasting

And His faithfulness to all generations. *R/.*

**Glory be to the Father...**

### **Prayer for Missionaries**

**All:** Lord our God, loving Father, we humbly pray to You for our beloved missionaries, heralds of the Gospel. May our prayers reach their hearts that they may feel our love, our strength, and our faith that they continue the mission entrusted to them with Your zeal. May their presence in our community be a reminder of Your presence among us. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

### **Meditation:** CHAPTER I - THE PRIESTHOOD IN THE MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

Priests, who are taken from among men and ordained for men in the things that belong to God in order to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins,[cf. Heb 5:1] nevertheless live on earth with other men as brothers. The Lord Jesus, the Son of God, a Man sent by the Father to men, dwelt among us and willed to become like His brethren in all things except sin.[cf. Heb 2:17; 4:15] The holy apostles imitated Him. Blessed Paul, the Doctor of the Gentiles, "set apart for the Gospel of God" (Rom. 1:1) declares that he became all things to all men that he might save all.[cf. Cor. 9:19-23] Priests of the New Testament, by their vocation and ordination, are in a certain sense set apart in the bosom of the People of God. However, they are not to be separated from the People of God or from any person; but they are to be totally dedicated to the work for which the Lord has chosen them.[cf. Acts 13:2]

They cannot be ministers of Christ unless they be witnesses and dispensers of a life other than earthly life. But they cannot be of service to men if they remain strangers to the life and conditions of men.[*Ecclesiam Suam*] Their ministry itself, by a special title, forbids that they be conformed to this world;[cf. Rom. 12:2] yet at the same time it requires that they live in this world among men. They are to live as good shepherds that know their sheep, and they are to seek to lead those who are not of this sheepfold that they, too, may hear the voice of Christ, so that there might be one fold and one shepherd.[cf. John 10:14-16] To achieve this aim, certain virtues, which in human affairs are deservedly esteemed, contribute a great deal: such as goodness of heart, sincerity, strength and constancy of mind, zealous pursuit of justice, affability, and others. The Apostle Paul commends them saying: "Whatever things are true, whatever honorable, whatever just, whatever holy, whatever loving, whatever of good repute, if there be any virtue, if anything is worthy of praise, think upon these things" (Phil. 4:8). (*Presbyterorum Ordinis, Decree on the Ministry and Life of Priests, #3*)

## *Silent Reflection*

### **Prayer**

*In November we traditionally remember all those who've gone before us with the sign of faith.*

**Leader:** *Let us pray.*

Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Most Precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen."

### **Intentions**

**Leader:**

Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, you have loved us with an everlasting love, and have established your friendship with us. We desire to live as you live, following you as your disciples along the path of holiness. Help us to share the good news of your love and your salvation to many others on life's journey. Amen.

Our response will be: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For the Church, spread throughout the world: may the wisdom of the Gospel guide her words and actions, so that she may make Christ the Savior known throughout the world, we pray. *R/.*

For legislators and politicians: may the wisdom that comes from above guide them in their search for the good of the individual person and the society, we pray. *R/.*

For all our family members who have died: bring them in joy to your eternal home, we pray. *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/.*

*Sharing in the mission of the Church to establish the kingdom of God we pray:*

**Our Father...**

*Silent Reflection*

### **Closing Prayer**

**Leader:** *Let us pray:*

**All:** 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.

*Benediction and Reposition*

### **Closing Hymn**