#### **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.

# FEBRUARY CONTEMPLATION LOVE

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

- St. Gaspar #1739

# **Opening Prayer**

Dear Jesus, we believe that You truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. We adore You with profound reverence. We beg pardon for our sins and the grace to make this time of prayer fruitful. May our Immaculate Mother, St. Joseph our Patron, our guardian angels, and our patron saints intercede for us during this time of prayer and adoration. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

## Silent Reflection

# Year of St. Joseph

With the Apostolic Letter "Patris corde" ("With a Father's Heart"),
Pope Francis has proclaimed a "Year of Saint Joseph"
to honor the man who played "an incomparable role in the history of salvation."

# The Year of St. Joseph Prayer

To you, O blessed Joseph, do we come in our afflictions...and confidently invoke your patronage. Through that charity which bound you to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God and through the paternal love with which you embraced the Child Jesus, we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inheritance which Jesus Christ has purchased by his Blood, and with your power and strength to aid us in our necessities.

O most watchful guardian of the Holy Family, defend the chosen children of Jesus Christ...As once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril, so now protect God's Holy Church from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity; shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection, so that, supported by your example and your aid, we may be able to live piously, to die in holiness, and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven. Amen.

# **Scripture Reading:** (Ephesians 2:4-10)

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians

But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Responsorial Psalm:** (Psalm 112: 1-2, 4-5, 6, 9)

Response: Happy are those who fear the Lord.

Praise the Lord! How joyful are those who fear the Lord and delight in obeying his commands. R/.

Their children will be successful everywhere;

an entire generation of godly people will be blessed. R/.

Light shines in the darkness for the godly.

They are generous, compassionate, and righteous. R/.

Good comes to those who lend money generously and conduct their business fairly.

Such people will not be overcome by evil.

Those who are righteous will be long remembered. R/.

They share freely and give generously to those in need.

Their good deeds will be remembered forever.

They will have influence and honor. R/.

## Glory Be...

#### **Reflection: LOVE**

"Pray constantly. . . always and for everything giving thanks in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God the Father." (*1 Thess* 5:17) This tireless fervor can come only from love. Against our dullness and laziness, the battle of prayer is that of humble, trusting, and persevering love.

Prayer and Christian life are inseparable, for they concern the same love and the same renunciation, proceeding from love; the same filial and loving conformity with the Father's plan of love; the same transforming union in the Holy Spirit who conforms us more and more to Christ Jesus; the same love for all men, the love with which Jesus has loved us. "Whatever you ask the Father in my name, he [will] give it to you. This I command you, to love one another." (*Jn* 15:16-17) (*Catechism*, 2742, 2745)

# **Seasonal Prayer: Canticle of the Blood** by St. Maria de Mattias

## February 4 - Feast of St. Maria de Mattias Foundress of the Adorers of the Blood of Christ

Come, let us adore Christ, the Son of God, who has redeemed us with his blood.

Clap your hands, all you peoples, sing unto God with a voice of jubilation.

For you, God, glorious and mighty, have shown us mercy.

You have not spared your only Son but delivered him up in our behalf.

That you might redeem us from our sins in Christ's own blood;

That justified in the blood of Jesus you might turn your anger from us;

That we who were separated might be reconciled through the blood of Christ.

O God, my God, what can I render to you for all the good you have bestowed upon me?

I will take the chalice of salvation, and I will call upon the power of Christ's blood.

Sing to Jesus, all you saints, and make known the memory of his holiness.

For Christ indeed has loved us and washed us in his blood and has become our helper and redeemer.

May Christ be blessed forever who has wrought such wonders in us.

Blessed be Jesus for all ages, and may the heavens and the earth be filled with the praises of his love.

Come, let us adore Christ, the Son of God, who has redeemed us with his blood. Amen.

#### Silent Reflection

During this Year of St. Joseph may we learn of his holy life, implore his intercession, and imitate his virtues and his zeal. (Pope Francis, Patris Corde).

## Meditation: A Man after God's Own Heart

To Joseph was entrusted the Divine Child and His fairest Mother. Chaste in body but also in heart, Joseph loved freely which created the interior tranquility of order in the Holy Family. Chaste love requires that one wills the good to another without taking the other to oneself as one's own.

St. Joseph was the Foster Father in whose arms the Child Jesus often rested-so that the divine Heart was beating very close to his own; who then could better understand the law of Charity which was the center and essence of Christ's teaching? Who more faithful in carrying out that law to the full?<sup>1</sup>

St. Joseph's hidden virtues were practiced away from the public view and under the eye of God alone which is the secret of true virtue: to make man according to God's own heart. Joseph sought God in simplicity; Joseph found God in detachment; Joseph enjoyed God's company in obscurity.<sup>2</sup>

¹e-Catholic2000.com

#### **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 women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded, we pray to the Lord. R/.

We pray for all those who are discerning their vocation in life, particularly those whom the Lord is calling to consecrated life. May they be given the wisdom to hear God's call and the courage to respond generously, 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**/.

Pray for us St. Joseph, that the sacred blood of Christ, poured out for our salvation, may guard our families, so the Divine Name of Jesus may be written in our hearts forever.

## 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> www.catholictreasury.info/joseph

- **★** 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. Joseph, pray for us, St. Gaspar, pray for us, St. Maria De Mattias, pray for us,

St. Francis Xavier, pray for us.