

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

*May the Crucifix be our book; therein do we read to learn how to act.
– St. Gaspar #2368*

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 10:11-17)*

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

Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God. Since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool, because by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy. The Holy Spirit also testifies to us about this. First he says: "This is the covenant I will make with them after that time, says the Lord. I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds." Then he adds: "Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more."

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: (*Psalm 40: 2,4,7-8a,10,11*)

Response: *Here am I Lord, I come to do your will.*

He drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog,
and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure. **R/.**

Happy are those who make The LORD their trust, who do not turn to the proud,
to those who go astray after false gods. **R/.**

Then I said, "Here I am; in the scroll of the book it is written of me.
I delight to do your will, O my God." **R/.**

I have not hidden your saving help within my heart, I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation;
I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness from the great congregation. **R/.**

Do not, O LORD, withhold your mercy from me;
let your steadfast love and your faithfulness keep me safe forever. **R/.**

Glory Be...

Reflection from the Catechism: Forgive us

Now, in this new petition, we return to him like the prodigal son and, like the tax collector, recognize that we are sinners before him.(cf. Luke 18:13) Our petition begins with a "confession" of our wretchedness and his mercy. Our hope is firm because, in his Son, "we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins." (Eph. 1:7) We find the efficacious and undoubted sign of his forgiveness in the sacraments of his Church. (cf. Matt. 26:28) (CCC, 2839)

This petition is so important that it is the only one to which the Lord returns and which he develops explicitly in the Sermon on the Mount.(Mark 11:25) This crucial requirement of the covenant mystery is impossible for man. But "with God all things are possible." (Matt. 19:26) (CCC, 2841)

Silent Reflection

Meditation: (*Spe Salvi*, The true shape of Christian hope)

Day by day, man experiences many greater or lesser hopes, different in kind according to the different periods of his life. Sometimes one of these hopes may appear to be totally satisfying without any need for other hopes. Young people can have the hope of a great and fully satisfying love; the hope of a certain position in their profession, or of some success that will prove decisive for the rest of their lives. When these hopes are fulfilled, however, it becomes clear that they were not, in reality, the whole. It becomes evident that man has need of a hope that goes further. It becomes clear that only something infinite will suffice for him, something that will always be more than he can ever attain. In this regard our contemporary age has developed the hope of creating a perfect world that, thanks to scientific knowledge and to scientifically based politics, seemed to be achievable. Thus Biblical hope in the Kingdom of God has been displaced by hope in the kingdom of man, the hope of a better world which would be the real "Kingdom of God."³⁰

We need the greater and lesser hopes that keep us going day by day. But these are not enough without the great hope, which must surpass everything else.³¹

* In memory of Pope Benedict XVI, this year's **Meditations** will be taken from his encyclical *Spe Salvi – in hope we were saved* - that reminds us of the future awaiting us in Jesus Christ.

"The one who has hope lives differently; the one who hopes has been granted the gift of a new life." *Spe Salvi*, 2

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 World Youth Day: We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives, 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.