

## 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.*

## DECEMBER CONTEMPLATION

*Let us pray and never cease promoting and spreading  
the most important devotion of the Divine Blood  
– St. Gaspar #1398*

### 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 12:11-16,20-21)*

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

The high priest carries the blood of animals into the Most Holy Place as a sin offering, but the bodies are burned outside the camp. And so Jesus also suffered outside the city gate to make the people holy through his own blood. Let us, then, go to him outside the camp, bearing the disgrace he bore. For here we do not have an enduring city, but we are looking for the city that is to come. Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that confess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### Responsorial Psalm: *(Psalm 95:1-7)*

***Response: I will sing to the Lord all my life.***

Come, let us sing for joy the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. **R/.**

Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song. **R/.**

For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods. **R/.**

In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him.

The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land. **R/.**

Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker;

for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care. **R/.**

**Glory Be...**

### **Reflection from the Catechism: The final doxology**

"For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever," takes up again, by inclusion, the first three petitions to our Father: the glorification of his name, the coming of his reign, and the power of his saving will. But these prayers are now proclaimed as adoration and thanksgiving, as in the liturgy of heaven. (cf. Rev. 1:6, 4:11, 5:13) The ruler of this world has mendaciously attributed to himself the three titles of kingship, power, and glory. (cf. Luke 4:5-6) Christ, the Lord, restores them to his Father and our Father, until he hands over the kingdom to him when the mystery of salvation will be brought to its completion and God will be all in all. (1 Cor. 15:24-28) (CCC, 2855)

### **A Christmas Prayer**

God of love, Father of all, the darkness that covered the earth has given way to the bright dawn of your Word made flesh. Make us a people of this light. Make us faithful to your Word that we may bring your life to the waiting world. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### *Silent Reflection*

**Meditation:** (*Spe Salvi*, Action and suffering as setting for learning hope)

The Christian faith has shown us that truth, justice and love are not simply ideals, but enormously weighty realities. It has shown us that God—Truth and Love in person—desired to suffer for us and with us... Man is worth so much to God that he himself became man in order to *suffer with* man in an utterly real way—in flesh and blood—as is revealed to us in the account of Jesus's Passion. Hence in all human suffering we are joined by one who experiences and carries that suffering *with* us... the capacity to suffer for the sake of the truth is the measure of humanity. Yet this capacity to suffer depends on the type and extent of the hope that we bear within us and build upon. The saints were able to make the great journey of human existence in the way that Christ had done before them, because they were brimming with great hope.<sup>39</sup>

There used to be a form of devotion—perhaps less practiced today but quite widespread not long ago—that included the idea of “offering up” the minor daily hardships that continually strike at us like irritating “jabs”, thereby giving them a meaning... What does it mean to offer something up? Those who did so were convinced that they could insert these little annoyances into Christ's great “com-passion” so that they somehow became part of the treasury of compassion so greatly needed by the human race. In this way, even the small inconveniences of daily life could acquire meaning and contribute to the economy of good and of human love. Maybe we should consider whether it might be judicious to revive this practice ourselves.<sup>40</sup>

\* 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 Intention for persons with disabilities:

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation, we pray to the Lord. *R/.*

For all who hear and read God's word with faith, that the Spirit may touch their hearts with joy, let us 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.