

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

PRAYER

*“Do not fail to ground yourself ever more firmly through prayer and humility,
the sources of every good work.”
– St. Gaspar #1720*

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: (Romans 12:9-18)

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

Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor; not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer, contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. Be of the same mind toward one another; do not be haughty in mind, but associate with the lowly. Do not be wise in your own estimation. Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all men. If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: (*Psalm 17: 1-2, 6, 8, 15*)

Response: Listen as I pray, O LORD!

O LORD, hear my plea for justice. Listen to my cry for help.

Pay attention to my prayer, for it comes from honest lips. *R/.*

Declare me innocent, for you see those who do right. *R/.*

I am praying to you because I know you will answer, O God.

Bend down and listen as I pray. *R/.*

Guard me as you would guard your own eyes. Hide me in the shadow of your wings. *R/.*

By the power of your hand, O LORD, destroy those who look to this world for their reward. *R/.*

Because I am righteous, I will see you.

When I awake, I will see you face to face and be satisfied. *R/.*

Glory Be...

Reflection: PRAYER

Christian prayer is a covenant relationship between God and man in Christ. It is the action of God and of man, springing forth from both the Holy Spirit and ourselves, wholly directed to the Father, in union with the human will of the Son of God made man.

In the New Covenant, prayer is the living relationship of the children of God with their Father who is good beyond measure, with his Son Jesus Christ and with the Holy Spirit. The grace of the Kingdom is "the union of the entire holy and royal Trinity . . . with the whole human spirit." Thus, the life of prayer is the habit of being in the presence of the thrice-holy God and in communion with him. This communion of life is always possible because, through Baptism, we have already been united with Christ. (*Romans 6:5*) Prayer is *Christian* insofar as it is communion with Christ and extends throughout the Church, which is his Body. Its dimensions are those of Christ's love. (*Eph 3:18-21*)

(*Catechism, 2564, 2565*)

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: Joseph Most Just

Joseph was first and foremost just unto God, rendering to Him what was His due. Since all things are due to God, Joseph was perfectly religious in prayer, in labor, and in love giving to God, even as an infant, the energy of his whole life. ¹

As Pope Benedict once said in a rare play on words, St. Joseph “ad-justed” his life to the word of God. His whole life was in relationship to God.

Not once in the Bible do we hear a word from the great Saint Joseph. This silence of Saint Joseph is very eloquent. It teaches us a fundamental attitude to enter into deep prayer: silence. If we are constantly bombarded by noises then it is impossible to hear the Word of God, the Holy Spirit that speaks to us in the gentle breeze of silence. Also the silence of Saint Joseph teaches us the importance of example. We must prove our authenticity by words, but also by our actions. Saint Joseph taught the world by the holy way that he lived. May he be an example for us.²

¹ Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlotte 2019-2021

² *Virtues of St. Joseph* by Fr. Ed Broom, OMV

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 that the Church may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel, 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/.*

Help us, St. Joseph, through your example and prayers,
to be open the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

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. Joseph, pray for us, St. Gaspar, pray for us, St. Maria De Mattias, pray for us,
St. Francis Xavier, pray for us.