

# MAY CONTEMPLATION

*Blood of Christ, Eucharistic drink and refreshment of souls, have mercy on us.*

## 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.

### *Silent Reflection*

*We pray that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord.*

### Prayer for the Year of Mercy

#### All:

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the visible face of the invisible Father, of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy. May your church, with renewed enthusiasm, bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind. We ask this through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy, you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit forever and ever. Amen.

### Scripture Reading:

*(1 Thess. 2:9-13, 19-*

*20)*

For you recall, brethren, our labor and hardship, how working night and day so as not to be a burden to any of you, we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. You are witnesses, and so is God, how devoutly and uprightly and blamelessly we behaved toward you believers; just as you know how we were exhorting and encouraging and imploring each one of you as a father would his own children, so that you would walk in a manner worthy of the God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.

For this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but for what it really is, the word of God...

After all, it is you—you, no less than others!—who are our hope, our joy, and our reason for boasting of our victory in the presence of our Lord Jesus when he comes. Indeed, you are our pride and our joy!

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.

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

Such people will not be overcome by evil.

Those who are righteous will be long remembered.

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**

*(Catechism, #1436)*

### **Eucharist and Penance**

Daily conversion and penance find their source and nourishment in the Eucharist, for in it is made present the sacrifice of Christ which has reconciled us with God. Through the Eucharist those who live from the life of Christ are fed and strengthened. "It is a remedy to free us from our daily faults and to preserve us from mortal sins."

*(Council of Trent, 1551. DS 1638)*

### **Prayer to be Merciful to Others**

*St. Maria Faustina Kowalska (Diary, 163)*

**All:** O Lord, I want to be completely transformed into Your mercy and to be Your living reflection. May the greatest of all divine attributes, that of Your unfathomable mercy, pass through my heart and soul to my neighbor.

Help me, that my feet may be merciful, so that I may hurry to assist my neighbor, overcoming my own fatigue and weariness. My true rest is in the service of my neighbor. May Your mercy, O Lord, rest upon me. Amen.

### ***Silent Reflection***

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

## **Gospel**

*(Matt. 15:29-31)*

Departing from there, Jesus went along by the Sea of Galilee, and having gone up on the mountain, He was sitting there. And large crowds came to Him, bringing with them *those who were* lame, crippled, blind, mute, and many others, and they laid them down at His feet; and He healed them. So the crowd marveled as they saw the mute speaking, the crippled restored, and the lame walking, and the blind seeing; and they glorified the God of Israel.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## **Meditation**

John Paul II, *Dives in Misericordia*, 13

### **THE MERCY OF GOD IN THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH**

#### **The Church Professes the Mercy of God and Proclaims It**

The Church lives an authentic life when she professes and proclaims mercy—the most stupendous attribute of the Creator and of the Redeemer—and when she brings people close to the sources of the Savior's mercy, of which she is the trustee and dispenser. Of great significance in this area is constant meditation on the Word of God, and above all conscious and mature participation in the Eucharist and in the sacrament of Penance or Reconciliation. The Eucharist brings us ever nearer to that love which is more powerful than death: "For as often as we eat this bread and drink this cup," we proclaim not only the death of the Redeemer but also His resurrection, "until he comes" in glory. (cf *Cor. 11:26*, acclamation in the *Roman Missal*) The same Eucharistic rite, celebrated in memory of Him who in His messianic mission revealed the Father to us by means of His words and His cross, attests to the inexhaustible love by virtue of which He desires always to be united with us and present in our midst, coming to meet every human heart. It is the sacrament of Penance or

Reconciliation that prepares the way for each individual, even those weighted down with great faults. In this sacrament each person can experience mercy in a unique way, that is, the love which is more powerful than sin.

## **Intentions**

### **Leader:**

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 **Universal Intention:** That in every country of the world, women may be honored and respected and that their essential contribution to society may be highly esteemed, we pray. *R/.*

For the Holy Father's **Intention for Evangelization:** That families, communities, and groups may pray the Holy Rosary for evangelization and peace, we pray. *R/.*

That our country more fully embrace the culture of life, recognizing in each person the image of God Himself, 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. *R/.*

That all mothers may find in Mary the example and strength to carry out their vocation, we pray to the Lord. *R/.*

That we may rediscover the corporal works of mercy in this special Jubilee Year, we pray. *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. *R/.*

### **Our Father...**

## *Silent Reflection*

### **Closing Prayer**

#### **All:**

Eternal God, in Whom mercy is endless, and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us, and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments, we might not despair, nor become despondent, but with great confidence, submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy Itself. Amen.

## *Benediction and Reposition*

### **Closing Hymn**