

JULY CONTEMPLATION

Blood of Christ, poured out on the cross, 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 John 5: 5-12)

Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the One who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ; not with the water only, but with the water and with the blood. It is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. For there are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement. If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater; for the testimony of God is this, that He has testified concerning His Son. The one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself; the one who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has given concerning His Son. And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

(Psalm 77:11-20)

Response: You are the God who works wonders!

I will call to mind the deeds of the Lord;

I will remember your wonders of old. *R/.*

I will meditate on all your work, and muse on your mighty deeds.

Your way, O God, is holy. What god is so great as our God?

You are the God who works wonders;

you have displayed your might among the peoples. *R/.*

With your strong arm you redeemed your people,

the descendants of Jacob and Joseph. *R/.*

When the waters saw you, O God, when the waters saw you, they were afraid;
the very deep trembled.

The clouds poured out water; the skies thundered;
your arrows flashed on every side. **R/.**

The crash of your thunder was in the whirlwind;
your lightnings lit up the world; the earth trembled and shook. **R/.**

Glory Be...

Reflection

(Catechism, #1432)

God gives us the strength to begin anew. It is in discovering the greatness of God's love that our heart is shaken by the horror and weight of sin and begins to fear offending God by sin and being separated from him. The human heart is converted by looking upon him whom our sins have pierced: (cf. Jn 19:37)

Let us fix our eyes on Christ's blood and understand how precious it is to his Father, for, poured out for our salvation it has brought to the whole world the grace of repentance.

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.

I will refuse my heart to no one. I will be sincere even with those who, I know, will abuse my kindness. 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. 17:14-18)

When they came to the crowd, a man came up to Jesus, falling on his knees before Him and saying, “Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is a lunatic and is very ill; for he often falls into the fire and often into the water. I brought him to Your disciples, and they could not cure him.” And Jesus answered and said, “You unbelieving and perverted generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring him here to Me.” And Jesus rebuked him, and the demon came out of him, and the boy was cured at once.

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Meditation

John Paul II, *Dives in Misericordia*, 7

THE PASCHAL MYSTERY

Mercy Revealed in the Cross and Resurrection

Yet, even in this glorification of the Son of God, the cross remains, that cross which—through all the messianic testimony of the Man the Son, who suffered death upon it—speaks and never ceases to speak of God the Father, who is absolutely faithful to His eternal love for man, since He “so loved the world”—therefore man in the world—that “he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” (*John 3:16*) Believing in the crucified Son means “seeing the Father,” (cf *John 14:9*) means believing that love is present in the world and that this love is more powerful than any kind of evil in which individuals, humanity, or the world are involved.

Believing in this love means believing in mercy. For mercy is an indispensable dimension of love; it is as it were love's second name and, at the same time, the specific manner in which love is revealed and effected vis-

a-vis the reality of the evil that is in the world, affecting and besieging man, insinuating itself even into his heart and capable of causing him to “perish in Gehenna.” (*Matt. 10:28*)

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 indigenous peoples, whose identity and very existence are threatened, will be shown due respect, we pray. *R/.*

For the Holy Father’s **Intention for Evangelization:** That the Church in Latin America and the Caribbean, by means of her mission to the continent, may announce the Gospel with renewed vigor and enthusiasm, 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 we may be generous with others, knowing that God showers his goodness upon us with immense generosity, we pray. *R/.*

For our young people that they may have the courage to look to the future with hope, 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