

Gathering Hymn Sweet Heart of Jesus

The Blessed Sacrament is exposed in a monstrance, as the hymn is sung

Prayer

God of truth and love, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, hear our prayer for those who do not yet know you. That all may come to the saving knowledge of the truth, and that your name may be praised among all peoples of the world. Sustain, inspire and enlighten your servants who bring the Gospel. Bring fresh vigour to wavering faith; sustain our faith when it is fragile.

Continually renew missionary zeal in ourselves, your Church. Raise up new missionaries who will follow you to the ends of the world. Make us all witnesses of your goodness: Full of love, strength and faith - for your glory and the salvation of the entire world. Amen.

Introduction

One of the first things that Jesus did when he began his public mission and ministry amongst us, was to gather around him men and women who would continue his mission in his name. This first group, the Apostles and Disciples, became the first community of faith, the Church. They lived a common life; were faithful to the Breaking of Bread (Eucharist), the prayers, care of the poor, and witnessed in word and action the faith in Jesus which they professed. Each one, called uniquely by Jesus, needed the support, encouragement and affirmation of the community of believers.

Scripture Reading *Matthew 11:28-30***Reflection**

- Our God is a God of compassion.
- Everyone is welcome into God's consoling presence.
- There is no aspect of my life which I cannot bring to my loving Lord.
- The Lord knows me better than I know myself.
- In his Incarnation, my Lord has embraced humanity completely.
- What has become a 'burden' in my life?
- What provides satisfaction, affirmation and approval in my life?
- Is there any aspect of my life which causes personal dissatisfaction?
- Is there anything that cries out for healing; physical, spiritual or emotional, which the community of faith helps me face?
- How do I experience the support of the faith community, the Church?

Period of silent reflection

Scripture Reading *Psalm 23*
*'The Lord is my Shepherd'***Hymn** Because the Lord is my shepherd (Walker)

Period of silent reflection

Scripture Reading

Matthew 18:20

'For where two or three meet in my name, I am there among them'

Reflection

- Belonging to a group, club or organisation is important to us as social beings.
- I can derive support, encouragement, strength and courage from like-minded people.
- I am a member of the Body of Christ, the Church.
- The faith I profess in God through Jesus Christ finds nurture and guidance, as well as expression, in the Church and in the world.
- As I participate in the sacraments, I receive the necessary grace to be a living part of the Church, and a witness of what I believe.

Period of silent reflection

Benediction**Hymn**

Tantum ergo Sacramentum (*St. Thomas Aquinas*)

Prayer

O God, who in this wonderful sacrament has left us a memorial of your passion, help us so to reverence the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood, that we may always experience in our lives the effects of your redemption, who live and reign forever and ever. Amen.

Blessing of the people with the monstrance

The Divine Praises

Blessed be God.
Blessed be his Holy Name.
Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true man.
Blessed be the name of Jesus.
Blessed be his most Sacred Heart.
Blessed be his most Precious Blood.
Blessed be Jesus in the most holy sacrament of the altar.
Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete.
Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most holy.
Blessed be her holy and Immaculate Conception.
Blessed be her glorious Assumption.
Blessed be the name of Mary, virgin and mother.
Blessed be Saint Joseph, her spouse most chaste.
Blessed be God in his angels and in his saints.

Prayer of St. Francis Xavier for the conversion of the world

O eternal God, remember that we are all the work of your hands, and that you have created us in your own likeness. Remember that Jesus Christ, your Son, suffered a most cruel death for our salvation. Permit no longer that any of us should ever despise him. Be appeased by the prayers of the Church, the spouse of your Son, and remember your mercy. Give all the grace ever to acknowledge that Jesus Christ is God; that he is our salvation, our life and our resurrection, and that by him we have been delivered from hell. May glory be given to him forever and ever. Amen.

Hymn

O sacrament most holy, O sacrament divine

During this hymn the Blessed Sacrament is deposed

St. Therese of the Child Jesus, patroness of missions

Your servant of God, who in her dying moments did say, 'I will spend my heaven doing good upon the earth', hasten to let fall upon me a shower of roses, that I too may be inflamed with that fire of love which burned so brightly in her heart and brought her so gloriously to the arms of Jesus, my Lord and my God. Amen.

Anthem to Our Lady

Salve Regina Mater misericordiae, vita dulcedo, et spes nostra salve. Ad te clamamus exsules filii Hevae, ad te suspiramus, gementes et flentes in hac lacrimarum valle. Eia, ergo, advocata nostra, illos tuos misericordes oculos ad nos converte; et Jesum, benedictum fructum ventris tui, nobis post hoc exilium ostende. O clemens, O pia, O dulcis Virgo Maria.

(Hail holy Queen, mother of mercy, hail our life, our sweetness and our hope. To thee do we cry poor banished children of Eve, to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy upon us, and after this, our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.)