

EUCCHARISTIC HOLY HOUR GUIDE FOR PARISHES

2019



‘DISCIPLES ON THE WAY’

MOST REV. DAVID L. RICKEN, DD, JCL
BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF GREEN BAY



Diocese of
Green Bay

EUCCHARISTIC HOLY HOUR GUIDE FOR PARISHES

2019

“FOR AN INCREASE IN VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD”

*“Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few;
so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest.”
(Matthew 9:37-38)*

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DIOCESE OF GREEN BAY

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OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Dear Pastors, Administrators, and Pastoral Leaders,

Since 2014 and the launch of 'Disciples on the Way', we have celebrated together as a Diocesan community a monthly Eucharistic Holy Hour in each of our 157 parishes. The monthly Holy Hours are an opportunity for us to gather at the foot of the Master, Jesus Christ, offering our prayers of intercession and praise while meditating on the Word and reflections by members of the Church past and present.

After hearing the strong desires in our parishes for more pastors and priests I am pleased to share with you our theme for the Diocesan Eucharist Holy Hour in 2019 is '**For an Increase in Vocations to the Priesthood**'.

Recalling Jesus' words: "*The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest.*" (Matthew 9:37-38), my brothers and sisters, we must continue to increase our attention to this vital need in both action and especially in prayer. We cannot deny our current crisis in the dangerously low number of active priests serving in our parish communities, ministering to the faithful and celebrating the Sacraments. It is the responsibility of each of the faithful – clergy, religious, lay – to actively promote vocations to the priesthood in their communities and to join in prayer that God will grant us many more young men to say "yes" to His call to serve as good and faithful priests. At the same time we continue to be extremely thankful for the continued service of our retired and visiting international priests without whom many of our communities would no longer have access to the Eucharistic celebration each Sunday and Holy Day.

In addition to joining in the Eucharistic Holy Hours again in 2019, I ask that each parish renews its commitment to actively celebrating the Holy Hours by:

- ensuring that all parish priests and deacons schedule time to lead their communities in prayer by serving as the primary ministers of the Holy Hour,
- scheduling the parish's Holy Hour at a time which is most convenient for the largest number of the faithful to participate, and by
- actively promoting your parish's Holy Hour and providing catechesis (ie: Sunday Mass homilies, bulletin announcements, etc.) on Adoration and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

If you have any questions or need assistance in the promotion of your parish's Diocesan Eucharistic Holy Hour, please contact Michael Poradek, Divine Worship Director. Together, we will join in prayer twelve times this calendar year across our nearly 200 worship sites in calling upon Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, to inspire young men who are called to be servant leaders for our parishes to accept the call to be good and faithful priests for his Church.

Thank you for your continued commitment and witness, as I remain

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

The Most Reverend David L. Ricken, DD, JCL
Bishop of Green Bay

INTRODUCTION

“In my pastoral letter of 2011, Green Bay Parishes: Called to be Holy, Fully Engaged, Fully Alive, I explained that since the world “has become very secularized and is losing sight of God, it is incredibly important for all of us who are members of the church to help to satisfy the great hunger for holiness and for meaning in life through spirituality... We need to make space for Christ in our minds and in our hearts which are often too cluttered. We need to make space for the gift which is Jesus Christ himself for ‘Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever’ (Hebrews 13:8)” – Bishop Ricken, Disciples on the Way

In union with all parishes within the Diocese of Green Bay, all parish sites are to provide the faithful with an opportunity for a Eucharistic Holy Hour which follows the protocol and intentions provided in this Guide each month. Through this effort, we join as brothers and sisters in Christ within the Diocesan community as the Church of Green Bay in order to grow in prayer and holiness together. In doing so, we actively seek to open our hearts to ongoing conversion towards Christ in order to more passionately respond to the present call of the New Evangelization to truly know, love, and share Jesus with others.

Parish leadership should take time to carefully determine the best time and day for implementation within each unique parish environment in order to inspire active participation from the local community.

HOLY HOUR OUTLINE

Welcome / Introduction

Entrance of the Ministers and Chant (*O Salutaris Hostia / O Saving Victim*)

Exposition & [First Incensation]* Greeting

Opening Prayer

Reading Selection I / Sacred Silence

Reading Selection II / Sacred Silence

Litany of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Priest & Victim / Sacred Silence

Reading III & Prayer of St. Therese / Sacred Silence

Reflection (Optional)

Intercessions

The Lord’s Prayer

Chant (*Tantum Ergo/ Down In Adoration Falling*) & [Second Incensation]*

[Benediction]*

Divine Praises

Reposition

Recessional (*Holy God We Praise Thy Name or other hymn of praise*)

**Priest or Deacon only*

PREPARING FOR THE HOLY HOUR

Who may minister at the Eucharistic Holy Hour?

The Parish's Priest or Deacon is the ordinary minister for the Eucharistic Holy Hour. Parish Priests and Deacons are especially encouraged to lead the monthly Holy Hour and to be present with the community in prayer.

If this is not possible, a lay minister may preside (ie: Pastoral Leader, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, or Pastoral Associate). If a lay minister presides, the incensation at the Exposition and the Benediction are omitted.

What is needed for Solemn Exposition of the Holy Eucharist?

All parishes should have available the following liturgical items:

- Cope/Humeral Veil (Priest/Deacon only)
- Alb (Lay Leaders)
- Incense / Thurible (if needed)
- Corporal
- Monstrance
- 4 or 6 Candles at the Altar
- Copy of the Order for Service
- Prayers and songs for recitation by the faithful
(available in most Missalettes or the provided Participant Guide)

Is there a specific timeframe for the Eucharistic Holy Hour?

The Holy Hour may take place at any reasonable time during the day or evening. If the parish already has hours of exposition, this monthly Holy Hour is to take place distinctly in a location and time that would allow large numbers of the faithful to attend. The monthly Holy Hour is to follow the specially prescribed format for this service.

Can we join with another Parish in their Eucharistic Holy Hour?

Each Parish should host their own Eucharistic Holy Hour. Where there are two or more Parishes that are linked, it is desirable to have the Holy Hour at each individual Parish. Where there is one Parish with multiple worship sites, a specific site should be selected for the Holy Hour, perhaps on a rotating basis.

How can we best communicate the Holy Hour to our Parishioners?

Consider communicating the Holy Hour via:

- Parish Bulletin / Bulletin Insert
- Diocesan Posters (Given to each parish to fill in with times/locations)
- Social Media / Website
- Announcements
- Invitations through Religious Education / Catholic Schools
- Announcements at other Parish events
- Personal Invitation

Do we need designated music ministers for the Holy Hour?

While it is highly desirable to find music ministers to assist with the music of the Holy Hour, it is not necessary to have designated ministers to do so. If there are no music ministers available, the presiding minister or designated person should be prepared to lead *Tantum Ergo/ Down In Adoration Falling* and *O Salutaris Hostia/ O Saving Victim*.

Who do we contact with questions regarding the Holy Hour?

Questions regarding the Eucharistic Holy Hour can be directed to:

Michael Poradek

Divine Worship Director

Diocese of Green Bay

mporadek@gbdioc.org

920-272-8342, or toll free 877-500-3580 (ext. 8342)

ORDER OF EUCHARISTIC HOLY HOUR

WELCOME / INTRODUCTION TO PRAYER

The presiding minister or another designated minister approaches the ambo and greets the assembled faithful in these *or similar words*:

Good Morning/Afternoon/Evening:

Welcome to our Monthly Holy Hour of Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

We gather in the presence of Christ, truly present Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity, in the Blessed Sacrament, along with parishes across our Diocese as we journey as ‘Disciples on the Way’.

This year during our monthly Holy Hours we pray especially for “an increase in vocations to the priesthood” for our Diocese.

At this time, please kneel or prayerfully be seated as we expose the Blessed Sacrament and sing together *O Salutaris Hostia / O Saving Victim*, found _____(insert location in hymnal/worship aid).

ENTRANCE OF THE MINISTERS & CHANT

The presiding minister, accompanied by other ministers if present, enter the Sanctuary and genuflect to the Tabernacle (or if the Tabernacle is not located in the Sanctuary profoundly bow to the Altar) before either going to their assigned seats or kneeling before the Altar.

O Salutaris Hostia / O Saving Victim is to be sung in either Latin or English:



1. O sav - ing Vic - tim, o - pen wide The gate of
2. To your great name be end - less praise, Im - mor - tal
1. *O sa - lu - tá - ris Hó - sti - a, Quae cae - li*
2. *U - ni tri - nó - que Dó - mi - no Sit sem - pi -*



1. heav'n to us be - low, Our foes press on from
2. God - head, One in Three; Grant us, for end - less
1. *pan - dis ó - sti - um: Bel - la pre - munt ho -*
2. *tér - na gló - ri - a, Qui vi - tam si - ne*



1. ev - 'ry side; Your aid sup - ply, your strength be - stow.
2. length of days, In our true na - tive land to be.
1. *stí - li - a, Da ro - bur fer au - xí - li - um.*
2. *tér - mi - no No - bis do - net in pá - tri - a.*

Text: LM; *O Salutaris*; St. Thomas Aquinas, 1227–1274; tr. by Edward Caswall, 1814–1878, alt.
Music: attr. to Abbé Dieudonne Duguet, 1794–1849.

EXPOSITION & INCENSATION

The presiding minister goes to the Tabernacle, genuflects, removes the Blessed Sacrament, brings it to the Altar, and places it in the monstrance turned towards the faithful.

If a Priest or Deacon, kneel before the altar and incense the Holy Eucharist. Musical accompaniment should continue, if possible, until the incensation is concluded.

If the Pastoral Leader or a Lay Minister, go directly to the Greeting and Opening Prayer

GREETING

OPTION A (if Priest/Deacon Only):

PRESIDER: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

℟: And with your spirit

or

OPTION B:

PRESIDER: Praised be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy gave us new birth into a living hope by resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Blessed be God for ever.

℟: Blessed be God for ever.

OPENING PRAYER

PRESIDER: Let us pray

(brief pause)

**Almighty and eternal God, in Christ your Son
you have shown your glory to the world. Guide the work of your Church:
help it proclaim your name, to persevere in faith
and to bring salvation to people
everywhere. We ask this through Christ our
Lord.**

℟: Amen.

READING I

*During this time, the presiding minister and/or a designated reader should present the first Reading from Sacred Scripture, quotes, and other material throughout the time of adoration found **starting on Page 31** for the corresponding month. Only these selections should be utilized.*

[INSERT READING I HERE FROM THE APPENDIX]

SACRED SILENCE

*There should be **approximately 8 minutes** of silence after the reading/selection.*

READING II

[INSERT READING II HERE FROM THE APPENDIX]

SACRED SILENCE

There should be **approximately 4 minutes** of silence after the reading/selection.

LITANY

The minister should then lead the assembly in the **Litany of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Priest and Victim.**

PRESIDER: The Litany of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Priest and Victim. *(pause)*

Lord, have mercy Lord, have mercy
Christ, have mercy..... Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy Lord, have mercy

Christ, hear us. Christ, hear us.
Christ, graciously hear us.Christ, graciously hear us.

Please respond 'Have Mercy on Us':

God the Father of heaven, have mercy on us
God the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy on us
God the Holy Spirit, have mercy on us
Holy Trinity, One God, have mercy on us
Jesus, Priest and Victim, have mercy on us
Jesus, Priest forever according to the Order of Melchizedek,
..... have mercy on us
Jesus, Priest Whom God sent to preach the Gospel to the poor,
..... have mercy on us
Jesus, Priest Who at the Last Supper institute the form
of the eternal sacrifice, have mercy on us
Jesus, Priest Who lives forever to intercede for us, have mercy on us
Jesus, High Priest whom the Father anointed with the Holy Spirit
and power, have mercy on us
Jesus, High Priest chosen from among men, have mercy on us
Jesus, made High Priest for men, have mercy on us
Jesus, High Priest of our confession of faith, have mercy on us
Jesus, High Priest of greater glory than Moses, have mercy on us
Jesus, High Priest of the true tabernacle, have mercy on us
Jesus, High Priest of the good things to come, have mercy on us
Jesus, High Priest, holy, innocent and undefiled, ... have mercy on us
Jesus, High Priest faithful and merciful, have mercy on us
Jesus, High Priest inflamed with zeal for God and souls,
..... have mercy on us

Jesus, High Priest, perfect forever, have mercy on us
 Jesus, High Priest, Who by Your own Blood entered the heavens,
 have mercy on us
 Jesus, High Priest, who opened us a new way for us,
 have mercy on us
 Jesus, High Priest, who loved us and washed us from our sins
 in Your Blood, have mercy on us
 Jesus, High Priest, who offered Yourself to God as an oblation and
 sacrificial Victim, have mercy on us
 Jesus, sacrificial Victim of God and men, have mercy on us
 Jesus, holy and immaculate sacrificial Victim, have mercy on us
 Jesus, pleasing sacrificial Victim, have mercy on us
 Jesus, peace-making sacrificial Victim, have mercy on us
 Jesus, sacrifice of propitiation and praise, have mercy on us
 Jesus, sacrificial Victim of reconciliation and peace,
 have mercy on us
 Jesus, sacrificial Victim in whom we have confidence and
 access to God, have mercy on us
 Jesus, sacrificial Victim living forever and ever, have mercy on us

Be merciful, spare us, Jesus.
 Be merciful, graciously hear us, Jesus.

Please respond 'deliver us, Jesus.'

From rashly entering the clergy, deliver us, Jesus
 From the sin of sacrilege, deliver us, Jesus
 From the spirit of incontinence, deliver us, Jesus
 From sordid pursuits, deliver us, Jesus
 From every lapse into simony, deliver us, Jesus
 From the unworthy administration of the Church's treasures,
 deliver us, Jesus
 From the love of the world and its vanities, deliver us, Jesus
 From the unworthy celebration of Your Mysteries, deliver us, Jesus
 Through Your eternal priesthood, deliver us, Jesus
 Through the holy anointing whereby You were constituted a priest
 by God the Father, deliver us, Jesus
 Through Your priestly spirit, deliver us, Jesus
 Through that ministry whereby You glorified Your Father on earth,
 deliver us, Jesus

Through the bloody immolation of Yourself made once and for all
upon the Cross,deliver us, Jesus

Through that same sacrifice daily renewed upon the altar,
.....deliver us, Jesus

Through that divine power which You exercise invisibly
in Your priests,deliver us, Jesus

Please respond 'we beseech You, hear us.'

That You would deign to maintain the whole priestly order in holy religion,
.....we beseech You, hear us.

That You would deign to provide Your people with pastors after
Your own heart,we beseech You, hear us.

That You would deign to fill them with the spirit of Your priesthood,
.....we beseech You, hear us.

That the lips of Your priests might preserve true knowledge,
.....we beseech You, hear us.

That You would deign to send faithful workers into Your harvest,
.....we beseech You, hear us.

That You would deign to multiply the faithful dispensers of Your Mysteries,
.....we beseech You, hear us.

That You would deign to grant them perseverance in the service of Your will,
.....we beseech You, hear us.

That You would deign to give them gentleness in their ministry, resourcefulness in
their actions, and constancy in prayer,we beseech You, hear us.

That through them You would deign to promote the veneration of the Blessed
Sacrament everywhere,we beseech You, hear us.

That You would deign to receive into Your joy those who have served You well,
.....we beseech You, hear us.

Lamb of God, Who take away the sin of the world, spare us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, Who take away the sin of the world, graciously hear us, O Lord

Lamb of God, Who take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us, O Lord

Jesus, Our Priest, hear us

Jesus, Our Priest, graciously hear us.

Let us pray:

O God, Sanctifier and Guardian of your Church, raise up in her through Your Spirit suitable and faithful dispensers of the holy Mysteries, so that by their ministry and example, the Christian people may be guided under Your protection in the path of salvation. Through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O God, who, while the disciples were worshiping and fasting, ordered Saul and Barnabas to be set apart for the work to which You had called them, be present now to Your Church in prayer, and You, who know the hearts of all, indicate those whom You have chosen for ministry. Through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

(Following the Litany, the minister should return to their place.)

SACRED SILENCE

There should be **approximately 4 minutes** of silence after the Litany.

READING III & PRAYER

[INSERT READING/SELECTION III HERE FROM THE APPENDIX]

SACRED SILENCE

There should be **approximately 8 minutes** of silence after the reading/selection.

REFLECTION (OPTIONAL)

(The presiding minister may at this time present a **3-5 minute reflection** on the readings / selections.)

INTERCESSIONS

PRESIDER: Let us kneel or remain seated.

Our hope is in God, who gives us help. Let us call on the Lord as we pray:

℟: Lord, Hear our Prayer.

Deacon, presiding minister, or other minister leads the prepared intentions:

For the Church, that she may continue to proclaim the Christ's Gospel with joy to all people; we pray to the Lord...

℟: Lord, Hear our Prayer.

For world leaders, that they might find ways to bring an end to war and violence, and promote peace and development for all nations; we pray to the Lord...

℟: Lord, Hear our Prayer.

For those who suffer injustice, that they may receive the grace necessary to persevere in Christ and that we courageously respond to their needs; we pray to the Lord...

℟: Lord, Hear our Prayer.

For an increase in vocations to the priesthood in the Diocese of Green Bay; we pray to the Lord...

℟: Lord, Hear our Prayer.

INSERT TWO MONTHLY INTENTIONS:

JANUARY:

For Pope Francis' January Intention: That young people, especially in Latin America, follow the example of Mary and respond to the call of the Lord to communicate the joy of the Gospel to the world. We pray to the Lord.

℟: Lord, Hear our Prayer.

For Bishop Ricken's January Intention: That many more men will answer the call to become good and faithful priests to serve our parish communities. We pray to the Lord.

℟: Lord, Hear our Prayer.

FEBRUARY :

For Pope Francis' February Intention: For a generous welcome of the victims of human trafficking, of enforced prostitution, and of violence. We pray to the Lord.

℟: Lord, Hear our Prayer.

For Bishop Ricken's February Intention: For those who suffer from every illness, especially during this time of year; that they may be strengthened in healing as they grow closer to Jesus Christ. We pray to the Lord.

℟: Lord, Hear our Prayer.

MARCH:

For Pope Francis' March Intention: That Christian communities, especially those who are persecuted, feel that they are close to Christ and have their rights respected.. We pray to the Lord.

℟: Lord, Hear our Prayer.

For Bishop Ricken's March Intention: That parishes without a priest in our Diocese may be blessed with an abundance of vocations to the priesthood. We pray to the Lord.

℟: Lord, Hear our Prayer.

APRIL:

For Pope Francis' April Intention: For doctors and their humanitarian collaborators in war zones, who risk their lives to save the lives of others. We pray to the Lord.

℟: Lord, Hear our Prayer.

For Bishop Ricken's April Intention: For all who suffer from opioid addictions in our communities, that they may receive the support and healing they need to persevere. We pray to the Lord.

℟: Lord, Hear our Prayer.

MAY:

For Pope Francis' May Intention: That the Church in Africa, through the commitment of its members, may be the seed of unity among her peoples and a sign of hope for this continent. We pray to the Lord.

℟: Lord, Hear our Prayer.

For Bishop Ricken's May Intention: For all who suffer from opioid addictions in our communities, that they may receive the support and healing they need to persevere. We pray to the Lord.

℟: Lord, Hear our Prayer.

JUNE:

For Pope Francis' June Intention: That priests, through the modesty and humility of their lives, commit themselves actively to a solidarity with those who are most poor. We pray to the Lord.

℟: Lord, Hear our Prayer.

For Bishop Ricken's June Intention: That the Holy Spirit will enlighten the hearts of all those who seek the Sacrament of Confirmation in our Diocese to become true missionary disciples. We pray to the Lord.

℟: Lord, Hear our Prayer.

JULY:

For Pope Francis' July Intention: That those who administer justice may work with integrity, and that the injustice which prevails in the world may not have the last word. We pray to the Lord.

℟: Lord, Hear our Prayer.

For Bishop Ricken's July Intention: That all who volunteer and minister in our communities may be given the support necessary to share the love and mercy of Jesus Christ with those who have not yet discovered him. We pray to the Lord.

℟: Lord, Hear our Prayer.

AUGUST:

For Pope Francis' August Intention: That families, through their life of prayer and love, become ever more clearly "schools of true human growth". We pray to the Lord.

℟: Lord, Hear our Prayer.

For Bishop Ricken's August Intention: That priests who serve our parishes continue to grow in holiness and love for the Eucharist. We pray to the Lord.

℟: Lord, Hear our Prayer.

SEPTEMBER:

For Pope Francis' September Intention: That politicians, scientists and economists work together to protect the world's seas and oceans. We pray to the Lord.

℟: Lord, Hear our Prayer.

For Bishop Ricken's September Intention: That students in our Catholic schools discover and follow Jesus Christ as their best friend each and every day. We pray to the Lord.

℟: Lord, Hear our Prayer.

OCTOBER:

For Pope Francis' October Intention: That the breath of the Holy Spirit engender a new missionary "spring" in the church. We pray to the Lord.

℟: Lord, Hear our Prayer.

For Bishop Ricken's October Intention: For families who struggle financially in our neighborhoods; that they may receive the resources and support necessary especially from our parish communities. We pray to the Lord.

℟: Lord, Hear our Prayer.

NOVEMBER:

For Pope Francis' November Intention: That a spirit of dialogue, encounter, and reconciliation emerge in the Near East, where diverse religious communities share their lives together. We pray to the Lord.

℟: Lord, Hear our Prayer.

For Bishop Ricken's November Intention: That all who suffer from loneliness and the loss of loved ones may find true community and friendship in Jesus Christ, embodied by our Local Church. We pray to the Lord.

℟: Lord, Hear our Prayer.

DECEMBER:

For Pope Francis' December Intention: That every country determine to take the necessary measures to make the future of the very young, especially those who suffer, a priority. We pray to the Lord.

℟: Lord, Hear our Prayer.

For Bishop Ricken's December Intention: That young people in our communities may respond generously to the call to serve the Church in ministry, especially in the priesthood and religious life. We pray to the Lord.

℟: Lord, Hear our Prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

PRESIDER: Remember us Lord when you come into your kingdom and teach us to pray:

℟: Our Father...

PRESIDER: Together we will now sing Tantum Ergo / Down in Adoration Falling found (insert location in missalette/hymnal).

INCENSATION & CHANT

If incense is used, the Priest or Deacon kneels before the altar and again incenses the Holy Eucharist.

Meanwhile, **Tantum Ergo / Down in Adoration Falling (found on next page)** is to be sung in either English or Latin (it is appropriate to adjust the accompaniment depending upon the time of the Liturgical Year)



1. Down in ad - o - ra - tion fall - ing, This great sac - ra - ment we hail;
2. To the ev - er - last - ing Fa - ther, And the Son who made us free,

1. *Tan - tum er - go Sa - cra - mén - tum Ve - ne - ré - mur cér - nu - i:*
2. *Ge - ni - tó - ri, Ge - ni - tó - que Laus et ju - bí - lá - ti - o,*



1. O - ver an - cient forms of wor - ship New - er rites of grace pre - vail;
2. And the Spir - it, God pro - ceed - ing From them each e - ter - nal - ly,

1. *Et an - tí - quum do - cu - mén - tum No - vo ce - dat rí - tu - i:*
2. *Sa - lus, ho - nor, vir - tus quo - que Sit et be - ne - dí - cti - o:*



1. Faith will tell us Christ is pres - ent, When our hu - man sens - es fail.
2. Be sal - va - tion, hon - or, bless - ing, Might and end - less maj - es - ty.

1. *Prae - stet fi - des sup - ple - mén - tum Sén - su - um de - fé - ctu - i.*
2. *Pro - ce - dén - ti ab u - tró - que Com - par sit lau - dá - ti - o.*

Text: 87 87 87; *Tantum ergo*; St. Thomas Aquinas, 1227–1274; *Liber Hymnarius*, 1983; tr. by Edward Caswall, 1814–1878.
Music: John F. Wade, 1711–1786.

PRAYER

PRESIDER: You have given them Bread from heaven

R: Having within it all Sweetness

PRESIDER: Lord Jesus Christ, you gave us the Eucharist as the memorial of your suffering and death. May our worship of this sacrament of your body and blood help us to experience the salvation you won for us and the peace of the kingdom where you live with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **R:** Amen.

EUCCHARISTIC BLESSING (PRIEST / DEACON ONLY)

The presiding minister, if a Priest or Deacon, dons the humeral veil and goes to the altar and the Blessed Sacrament. He genuflects, takes the monstrance, and makes the sign of the cross with it over the people in silence. He then replaces the monstrance on the altar, genuflects, and returns to the front of the Altar to kneel.

A lay presiding minister may not minister the blessing with the Eucharist or conduct a blessing / ritual action in its place. *The Order of the Holy Hour should move, instead, from the preceding Prayer directly to the Divine Praises.*

DIVINE PRAISES

The presiding minister then leads the faithful in the recitation of the Divine Praises:

PRESIDER: 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 St. Joseph, her most chaste spouse.

Blessed be God in his angels and in his saints.

REPOSITION

The presiding minister then genuflects, removes the Blessed Sacrament from the monstrance and places it in the tabernacle, and genuflects again. Once the tabernacle is closed, all stand.

PRESIDER: Please stand as we conclude this Holy Hour with the singing of *Holy God We Praise Thy Name* (or another appropriate hymn), found (insert location in missalette/hymnal).

RECESSIONAL HYMN

The song *Holy God, We Praise Thy Name* (or another appropriate hymn of praise) is then sung.

During the song, the presiding minister, accompanied by other ministers if present, go before the Altar, genuflect to the Tabernacle (or if the Tabernacle is not located in the Sanctuary profoundly bow to the Altar) before exiting the Sanctuary.

1. Ho - ly God, we praise thy name! Lord of all, we
2. Hark! the loud ce - les - tial hymn An - gel choirs a -
3. Ho - ly Fa - ther, Ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it,

bow be - fore thee; All on earth thy scep - ter claim,
bove are rais - ing; Cher - u - bim and Ser - a - phim
Three we name thee, While in es - sence on - ly One,

All in heav'n a - bove a - dore thee;
In un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing,
Un - di - vid - ed God we claim thee,

In - fin - ite thy vast do - main,
Fill the heav'ns with sweet ac - cord:
And a - dor - ing bend the knee,

Ev - er - last - - - ing is thy reign.
Ho - ly, ho - - - ly, ho - - - ly Lord!
While we own the mys - - - ter - y.

Text: *Grosser Gott, wir loben dich*: ascr. to Ignaz Franz, 1719-1790; tr. by Clarence Walworth. 1820-1900
Tune: GROSSER GOTT, 7 8 7 8 7 7; *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, Vienna, c. 1774

MONTHLY READINGS APPENDIX

JANUARY 2019

Selection I: GEN 12:1-4a

A reading from the Book of Genesis

The Lord said to Abram:

“Go forth from the land of your kinsfolk
and from your father’s house to a land that I will show you.

“I will make of you a great nation,
and I will bless you;

I will make your name great,
so that you will be a blessing.

I will bless those who bless you
and curse those who curse you.

All the communities of the earth
shall find blessing in you.”

Abram went as the Lord directed him.

The Word of the Lord

Selection II: MT 5:13-16

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples:

"You are the salt of the earth.

But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned?

It is no longer good for anything

but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

You are the light of the world.

A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden.

Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket;

it is set on a lampstand,

where it gives light to all in the house.

Just so, your light must shine before others,

that they may see your good deeds

and glorify your heavenly Father."

The Gospel of the Lord

Selection III: Pope Francis; “Gaudete et Exsultate”

From Pope Francis’ apostolic exhortation on the Call to Holiness in Today’s World:

“Though it may seem obvious, we should remember that holiness consists in a habitual openness to the transcendent, expressed in prayer and adoration. The saints are distinguished by a spirit of prayer and a need for communion with God. They find an exclusive concern with this world to be narrow and stifling, and, amid their own concerns and commitments, they long for God, losing themselves in praise and contemplation of the Lord...

Trust-filled prayer is a response of a heart open to encountering God face to face, where all is peaceful, and the quiet voice of the Lord can be heard in the midst of silence. In that silence, we can discern, in the light of the Spirit, the paths of holiness to which the Lord is calling us.”

(pause)

Now, together let us pray the Prayer of St. Therese of the Child Jesus for Priests:

(next page)

O Jesus, I pray for your faithful and fervent priests;
for your unfaithful and tepid priests;
for your priests laboring at home or abroad in distant mission fields;
for your tempted priests;
for your lonely and desolate priests;
for your young priests;
for your dying priests;
for the souls of your priests in Purgatory.

But above all, I recommend to you the priests dearest to me:
the priest who baptized me;
the priests who've absolved me from my sins;
the priests at whose Masses I've assisted and who've given me Your Body and
Blood in Holy Communion;
the priests who've taught and instructed me;
all the priests to whom I am indebted in any other way.

O Jesus, keep them all close to your heart,
and bless them abundantly in time and in eternity. Amen.

FEBRUARY 2019

Selection I: EXODUS 3:1-6, 9-12

A reading from the Book of Exodus

Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian. Leading the flock across the desert, he came to Horeb, the mountain of God.

There an angel of the LORD appeared to him in fire flaming out of a bush.

As he looked on, he was surprised to see that the bush, though on fire, was not consumed.

So Moses decided,

"I must go over to look at this remarkable sight, and see why the bush is not burned."

When the LORD saw him coming over to look at it more closely, God called out to him from the bush, "Moses! Moses!"

He answered, "Here I am."

God said, "Come no nearer!

Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground.

I am the God of your father," he continued,

"the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob.

The cry of the children of Israel has reached me, and I have truly noted that the Egyptians are oppressing them.

Come, now! I will send you to Pharaoh to lead my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt."

(continued)

(continued)

But Moses said to God,
"Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh
and lead the children of Israel out of Egypt?"
He answered, "I will be with you;
and this shall be your proof that it is I who have sent you:
when you bring my people out of Egypt,
you will worship God on this very mountain."

The Word of the Lord

Selection II: MK 1:14-20

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark

After John had been arrested,
Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God:
"This is the time of fulfillment.
The kingdom of God is at hand.
Repent, and believe in the gospel."

As he passed by the Sea of Galilee,
he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting their nets into the sea;
they were fishermen.
Jesus said to them,
"Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men."
Then they abandoned their nets and followed him.
He walked along a little farther
and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John.
They too were in a boat mending their nets.
Then he called them.
So they left their father Zebedee in the boat
along with the hired men and followed him.

The Gospel of the Lord

Selection III: Pope John Paul II; Message (18th World Youth Day)

From St. John Paul II:

My dear young people, only Jesus knows what is in your hearts and your deepest desires. Only He, who has loved you to the end (cf. Jn 13,1), can fulfill your aspirations. His are words of eternal life, words that give meaning to life. No one apart from Christ can give you true happiness. By following the example of Mary, you should know how to give Him your unconditional "yes". There is no place in your lives for selfishness or laziness. Now more than ever it is crucial that you be "watchers of the dawn", the lookouts who announce the light of dawn and the new springtime of the Gospel of which the buds can already be seen. Humanity is in urgent need of the witness of free and courageous young people who dare to go against the tide and proclaim with vigor and enthusiasm their personal faith in God, Lord and Savior.

You are also aware, my dear friends, that this mission is not easy. It becomes absolutely impossible if one counts only on oneself. But "what is impossible with men is possible for God" (Lk 18,27; 1,37).

True disciples of Christ are conscious of their own weakness. For this reason they put all their trust in the grace of God and they accept it with undivided hearts, convinced that without Him they can do nothing (cf. Jn 15,5). What characterizes them and distinguishes them from others is not their talents or natural gifts. It is their firm determination to proceed as followers of Jesus.

(pause)

Now, together let us pray the Prayer of St. Therese of the Child Jesus for Priests:

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O Jesus, I pray for your faithful and fervent priests;
for your unfaithful and tepid priests;
for your priests laboring at home or abroad in distant mission fields;
for your tempted priests;
for your lonely and desolate priests;
for your young priests;
for your dying priests;
for the souls of your priests in Purgatory.

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the priest who baptized me;
the priests who've absolved me from my sins;
the priests at whose Masses I've assisted and who've given me Your Body and
Blood in Holy Communion;
the priests who've taught and instructed me;
all the priests to whom I am indebted in any other way.

O Jesus, keep them all close to your heart,
and bless them abundantly in time and in eternity. Amen.

MARCH 2019

Selection I: 1 Samuel 3:1-10

A reading from the First Book of the Prophet Samuel

During the time young Samuel was minister to the Lord under Eli, a revelation of the Lord was uncommon and vision infrequent.

One day Eli was asleep in his usual place.

His eyes had lately grown so weak that he could not see.

The lamp of God was not yet extinguished,

and Samuel was sleeping in the temple of the LORD

where the ark of God was.

The LORD called to Samuel, who answered, "Here I am."

Samuel ran to Eli and said, "Here I am. You called me."

"I did not call you," Eli said. "Go back to sleep."

So he went back to sleep.

Again the LORD called Samuel, who rose and went to Eli.

"Here I am," he said. "You called me."

But Eli answered, "I did not call you, my son. Go back to sleep."

At that time Samuel was not familiar with the LORD,

because the LORD had not revealed anything to him as yet.

The LORD called Samuel again, for the third time.

Getting up and going to Eli, he said, "Here I am. You called me."

Then Eli understood that the LORD was calling the youth.

So he said to Samuel, "Go to sleep, and if you are called, reply,

Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening."

When Samuel went to sleep in his place,

the LORD came and revealed his presence,

calling out as before, "Samuel, Samuel!"

Samuel answered, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

The Word of the Lord

Selection II: MT 9:35-38

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus went around to all the towns and villages,
teaching in their synagogues,
proclaiming the Gospel of the Kingdom,
and curing every disease and illness.

At the sight of the crowds, his heart was moved with pity for them
because they were troubled and abandoned,
like sheep without a shepherd.

Then he said to his disciples,
"The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few;
so ask the master of the harvest
to send out laborers for his harvest."

The Gospel of the Lord

Selection III: Pope John Paul II; Message (38th World Day of Prayer for Vocations)

From Saint John Paul II:

“The celebration of the Eucharist and prayer make us understand better the words of Jesus: "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest" (Mt 9, 37-38; cf. Lk 10, 2).

When one prays for vocations, one learns to look with the wisdom of the Gospel at the world and at the needs of life and the salvation of every human being.

Moreover, one lives the charity and compassion of Christ towards humanity, and one has the grace to be able to say, following the example of Our Lady: "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word" (Lk 1, 38).

I invite everyone to join me in imploring the Lord, so that there will never be a lack of laborers in his harvest.”

(pause)

Now, together let us pray the Prayer of St. Therese of the Child Jesus for Priests:

(next page)

O Jesus, I pray for your faithful and fervent priests;
for your unfaithful and tepid priests;
for your priests laboring at home or abroad in distant mission fields;
for your tempted priests;
for your lonely and desolate priests;
for your young priests;
for your dying priests;
for the souls of your priests in Purgatory.

But above all, I recommend to you the priests dearest to me:
the priest who baptized me;
the priests who've absolved me from my sins;
the priests at whose Masses I've assisted and who've given me Your Body and
Blood in Holy Communion;
the priests who've taught and instructed me;
all the priests to whom I am indebted in any other way.

O Jesus, keep them all close to your heart,
and bless them abundantly in time and in eternity. Amen.

APRIL 2019

Selection I: 1 COR 11:23-26

A reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:

I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you,
that the Lord Jesus, on the night he was handed over,
took bread, and, after he had given thanks,
broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you.

Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying,
"This cup is the new covenant in my blood.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup,
you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes.

The Word of the Lord

Selection II: MK 10:17-27

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark

As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up,
knelt down before him, and asked him,
“Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”
Jesus answered him, “Why do you call me good?
No one is good but God alone.
You know the commandments: You shall not kill;
you shall not commit adultery; you shall not steal;
you shall not bear false witness; you shall not defraud;
honor your father and your mother. ”He replied and said to him,
“Teacher, all of these I have observed from my youth.”
Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said to him,
“You are lacking in one thing.
Go, sell what you have, and give to the poor
and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.”
At that statement, his face fell,
and he went away sad, for he had many possessions.

Jesus looked around and said to his disciples,
“How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the Kingdom of God!”
The disciples were amazed at his words.
So Jesus again said to them in reply,
“Children, how hard it is to enter the Kingdom of God!
It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle
than for one who is rich to enter the Kingdom of God.”
They were exceedingly astonished and said among themselves,
“Then who can be saved?”
Jesus looked at them and said,
“For men it is impossible, but not for God.
All things are possible for God.”

The Gospel of the Lord

Selection III: Blessed John Henry Newman, Meditation

From Blessed John Henry Newman:

God has created me to do Him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have my mission. I may never know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next. I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons.

He has not created me for naught. I shall do good; I shall do His work. I shall be an angel of peace, a preacher of truth in my own place, while not intending it if I do but keep His commandments.

Therefore, I will trust Him, whatever I am, I can never be thrown away. If I am in sickness, my sickness may serve Him, in perplexity, my perplexity may serve Him. If I am in sorrow, my sorrow may serve Him. He does nothing in vain. He knows what He is about. He may take away my friends. He may throw me among strangers. He may make me feel desolate, make my spirits sink, hide my future from me. Still, He knows what He is about.

(pause)

Now, together let us pray the Prayer of St. Therese of the Child Jesus for Priests:

(next page)

O Jesus, I pray for your faithful and fervent priests;
for your unfaithful and tepid priests;
for your priests laboring at home or abroad in distant mission fields;
for your tempted priests;
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for your young priests;
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for the souls of your priests in Purgatory.

But above all, I recommend to you the priests dearest to me:
the priest who baptized me;
the priests who've absolved me from my sins;
the priests at whose Masses I've assisted and who've given me Your Body and
Blood in Holy Communion;
the priests who've taught and instructed me;
all the priests to whom I am indebted in any other way.

O Jesus, keep them all close to your heart,
and bless them abundantly in time and in eternity. Amen.

MAY 2019

Selection I: PHIL 3:8-14

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

Brothers and sisters:

I consider everything as a loss
because of the supreme good of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.
For his sake I have accepted the loss of all things
and I consider them so much rubbish,
that I may gain Christ and be found in him,
not having any righteousness of my own based on the law
but that which comes through faith in Christ,
the righteousness from God,
depending on faith to know him and the power of his resurrection
and the sharing of his sufferings by being conformed to his death,
if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

It is not that I have already taken hold of it
or have already attained perfect maturity,
but I continue my pursuit in hope that I may possess it,
since I have indeed been taken possession of by Christ Jesus.

Brothers and sisters, I for my part
do not consider myself to have taken possession.
Just one thing: forgetting what lies behind
but straining forward to what lies ahead,
I continue my pursuit toward the goal,
the prize of God's upward calling, in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord

Selection I: MK 10:28-30

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark

Peter said to Jesus:

"We have given up everything and followed you."

Jesus said, "Amen, I say to you,

there is no one who has given up house or brothers or sisters

or mother or father or children or lands

for my sake and for the sake of the Gospel

who will not receive a hundred times more now in this present age:

houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands,

with persecutions, and eternal life in the age to come."

The Gospel of the Lord

Selection III: Pope John Paul II; Message (32nd World Day of Prayer for Vocations)

From Saint John Paul II:

“What is needed today is a Church which knows how to respond to the expectations of young people. Jesus wants to enter into dialogue with them and, through his Body which is the Church, to propose the possibility of a choice which will require a commitment of their lives. As Jesus with the disciples of Emmaus, so the Church must become today the traveling companion of young people, who are often marked by confusion, resistance and contradictions, in order to announce to them the ever-astonishing "news" of the risen Christ.

This is what is needed: a Church for young people, which will know how to speak to their heart and enkindle, comfort, and inspire enthusiasm in it with the joy of the Gospel and the strength of the Eucharist; a Church which will know how to invite and to welcome the person who seeks a purpose for which to commit his whole existence; a Church which is not afraid to require much, after having given much; which does not fear asking from young people the effort of a noble and authentic adventure, such as that of the following of the Gospel.”

(pause)

Now, together let us pray the Prayer of St. Therese of the Child Jesus for Priests:

(next page)

O Jesus, I pray for your faithful and fervent priests;
for your unfaithful and tepid priests;
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the priests at whose Masses I've assisted and who've given me Your Body and
Blood in Holy Communion;
the priests who've taught and instructed me;
all the priests to whom I am indebted in any other way.

O Jesus, keep them all close to your heart,
and bless them abundantly in time and in eternity. Amen.

JUNE 2019

Selection I: Jeremiah 1:4-9

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah

The word of the LORD came to me thus:

Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
before you were born I dedicated you,
a prophet to the nations I appointed you.

"Ah, Lord, GOD!" I said,
"I know not how to speak; I am too young."

But the LORD answered me,

Say not, "I am too young."
To whomever I send you, you shall go;
whatever I command you, you shall speak.
Have no fear before them,
because I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD.

Then the LORD extended his hand and touched my mouth, saying,

See, I place my words in your mouth!

The Word of the Lord

Selection II: LK 24:13-35

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

That very day, the first day of the week,
two of Jesus' disciples were going
to a village seven miles from Jerusalem called Emmaus,
and they were conversing about all the things that had occurred.
And it happened that while they were conversing and debating,
Jesus himself drew near and walked with them,
but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him.
He asked them,
"What are you discussing as you walk along?"
They stopped, looking downcast.

One of them, named Cleopas, said to him in reply,
"Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem
who does not know of the things
that have taken place there in these days?"
And he replied to them, "What sort of things?"

They said to him,
"The things that happened to Jesus the Nazarene,
who was a prophet mighty in deed and word
before God and all the people,
how our chief priests and rulers both handed him over
to a sentence of death and crucified him.
But we were hoping that he would be the one to redeem Israel;
and besides all this,
it is now the third day since this took place.
Some women from our group, however, have astounded us:
they were at the tomb early in the morning
and did not find his Body;

they came back and reported
that they had indeed seen a vision of angels
who announced that he was alive.
Then some of those with us went to the tomb
and found things just as the women had described,
but him they did not see."

And he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are!
How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke!
Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things
and enter into his glory?"

Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets,
he interpreted to them what referred to him in all the Scriptures.
As they approached the village to which they were going,
he gave the impression that he was going on farther.
But they urged him, "Stay with us,
for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over."
So he went in to stay with them.
And it happened that, while he was with them at table,
he took bread, said the blessing,
broke it, and gave it to them.
With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him,
but he vanished from their sight.

Then they said to each other,
"Were not our hearts burning within us
while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?"
So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem
where they found gathered together
the Eleven and those with them who were saying,
"The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!"

Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way
and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord

Selection III: Pope Francis; Audience (Audience with Seminarians of the Diocese of Agrigento; November 24, 2018)

From Pope Francis:

“... the Risen Jesus meets us on the journey, which at the same time is the path, that is, the reality in which each of us is called to live, and it is the inner path, the path of faith and hope, which knows moments of light and moments of darkness. Here, in the journey, the Lord meets us, listens to us and speaks to us.

First of all, He listens to us. This is the second key word: *listen*.

Our God is Word, and at the same time He is the silence that listens. Jesus is the Word that has listened to us, the acceptance of our human condition. When He appears next to the two disciples, He walks with them listening to them, and even stimulating them to bring out what they have inside, their hope and their disappointment. This... means that in the first place there is the dialogue with the Lord, which is constituted of mutual listening: He listens to me and I listen to Him. No fiction. No mask.”

(pause)

Now, together let us pray the Prayer of St. Therese of the Child Jesus for Priests:

(next page)

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Blood in Holy Communion;
the priests who've taught and instructed me;
all the priests to whom I am indebted in any other way.

O Jesus, keep them all close to your heart,
and bless them abundantly in time and in eternity. Amen.

JULY 2019

Selection I: 2 COR 5:14-20

A reading from the Second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:

The love of Christ impels us.

once we have come to the conviction that one died for all;
therefore, all have died.

He indeed died for all,

so that those who live might no longer live for themselves
but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

Consequently, from now on we regard no one according to the flesh;
even if we once knew Christ according to the flesh,
yet now we know him so no longer.

So whoever is in Christ is a new creation:

the old things have passed away;

behold, new things have come.

And all this is from God,

who has reconciled us to himself through Christ

and given us the ministry of reconciliation,

namely, God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ,

not counting their trespasses against them

and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

So we are ambassadors for Christ,

as if God were appealing through us.

We implore you on behalf of Christ,

be reconciled to God.

The Word of the Lord

Selection II: LK 5:1-11

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

While the crowd was pressing in on Jesus and listening to the word of God, he was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret [geh-NEHS-uh-reht].

He saw two boats there alongside the lake; the fishermen had disembarked and were washing their nets.

Getting into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, he asked him to put out a short distance from the shore.

Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.

After he had finished speaking, he said to Simon,

"Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch."

Simon said in reply,

"Master, we have worked hard all night and have caught nothing, but at your command I will lower the nets."

When they had done this, they caught a great number of fish and their nets were tearing.

They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come to help them.

They came and filled both boats so that they were in danger of sinking.

When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at the knees of Jesus and said, "Depart from me. Lord, for I am a sinful man."

For astonishment at the catch of fish they had made seized him and all those with him,

and likewise James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners of Simon.

Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men."

When they brought their boats to the shore, they left everything and followed him.

The Gospel of the Lord

Selection III: Pope Francis; Message (55th World Day of Prayer for Vocations)

From the message of Pope Francis for the 55th World Day of Prayer for Vocations:

The Christian mission is now! Each one of us is called – whether to the lay life in marriage, to the priestly life in the ordained ministry, or to a life of special consecration – in order to become a witness of the Lord, here and now. We should not wait to be perfect in order to respond with our generous “yes”, nor be fearful of our limitations and sins, but instead open our hearts to the voice of the Lord.

(pause)

Now, together let us pray the Prayer of St. Therese of the Child Jesus for Priests:

O Jesus, I pray for your faithful and fervent priests;
for your unfaithful and tepid priests;
for your priests laboring at home or abroad in distant mission fields;
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the priests at whose Masses I’ve assisted and who’ve given me Your Body and Blood in Holy Communion;
the priests who’ve taught and instructed me;
all the priests to whom I am indebted in any other way.

O Jesus, keep them all close to your heart,
and bless them abundantly in time and in eternity. Amen.

AUGUST 2019

Selection I: 1 JN 4:19–5:4

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

Beloved, we love God because
he first loved us.
If anyone says, "I love God,"
but hates his brother, he is a liar;
for whoever does not love a brother whom he has seen
cannot love God whom he has not seen.
This is the commandment we have from him:
Whoever loves God must also love his brother.

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is begotten by God,
and everyone who loves the Father
loves also the one begotten by him.
In this way we know that we love the children of God
when we love God and obey his commandments.
For the love of God is this,
that we keep his commandments.
And his commandments are not burdensome,
for whoever is begotten by God conquers the world.
And the victory that conquers the world is our faith.

The Word of the Lord

Selection II: LK 9:57-62

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

As Jesus and his disciples were proceeding
on their journey to Jerusalem,
someone said to him,

"I will follow you wherever you go."

Jesus answered him,

"Foxes have dens and birds of the sky have nests,
but the Son of Man has nowhere to rest his head."

And to another he said, "Follow me."

But he replied, "Lord, let me go first and bury my father."

But he answered him, "Let the dead bury their dead.

But you, go and proclaim the Kingdom of God."

And another said, "I will follow you, Lord,
but first let me say farewell to my family at home."

Jesus said, "No one who sets a hand to the plow
and looks to what was left behind is fit for the Kingdom of God."

The Gospel of the Lord

Selection III: Benedict XVI; Message (48th World Day of Prayer for Vocations)

From the message of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI:

It is a challenging and uplifting invitation that Jesus addresses to those to whom he says: “Follow me!”. He invites them to become his friends, to listen attentively to his word and to live with him. He teaches them complete commitment to God and to the extension of his kingdom in accordance with the law of the Gospel: “Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit ” (Jn 12:24). He invites them to leave behind their own narrow agenda and their notions of self-fulfillment in order to immerse themselves in another will, the will of God, and to be guided by it. He gives them an experience of fraternity, one born of that total openness to God (cf. Mt 12:49-50) which becomes the hallmark of the community of Jesus: “By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another” (Jn 13:35).

It is no less challenging to follow Christ today. It means learning to keep our gaze fixed on Jesus, growing close to him, listening to his word and encountering him in the sacraments; it means learning to conform our will to his...

...It is essential that every local Church become more sensitive and attentive to the pastoral care of vocations, helping children and young people in particular at every level of family, parish and associations – as Jesus did with his disciples - to grow into a genuine and affectionate friendship with the Lord.”

(pause)

Now, together let us pray the Prayer of St. Therese of the Child Jesus for Priests:

(next page)

O Jesus, I pray for your faithful and fervent priests;
for your unfaithful and tepid priests;
for your priests laboring at home or abroad in distant mission fields;
for your tempted priests;
for your lonely and desolate priests;
for your young priests;
for your dying priests;
for the souls of your priests in Purgatory.

But above all, I recommend to you the priests dearest to me:
the priest who baptized me;
the priests who've absolved me from my sins;
the priests at whose Masses I've assisted and who've given me Your Body and
Blood in Holy Communion;
the priests who've taught and instructed me;
all the priests to whom I am indebted in any other way.

O Jesus, keep them all close to your heart,
and bless them abundantly in time and in eternity. Amen.

SEPTEMBER 2019

Selection I: IS 6:1, 6-8

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

In the year King Uzziah died,
I saw the Lord seated on a high and lofty throne,
with the train of his garment filling the temple.

One of the seraphim flew to me,
holding an ember that he had taken with tongs from the altar.

He touched my mouth with it, and said,
“See, now that this has touched your lips,
your wickedness is removed, your sin purged.”

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,
“Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?”
“Here I am,” I said; “send me!”

The Word of the Lord

Selection II: LK 14:25-33

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

Great crowds were traveling with Jesus,
and he turned and addressed them,
"If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother,
wife and children, brothers and sisters,
and even his own life,
he cannot be my disciple.
Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me
cannot be my disciple.
Which of you wishing to construct a tower
does not first sit down and calculate the cost
to see if there is enough for its completion?
Otherwise, after laying the foundation
and finding himself unable to finish the work
the onlookers should laugh at him and say,
This one began to build but did not have the resources to finish.'
Or what king marching into battle would not first sit down
and decide whether with ten thousand troops
he can successfully oppose another king
advancing upon him with twenty thousand troops?
But if not, while he is still far away,
he will send a delegation to ask for peace terms.
In the same way,
every one of you who does not renounce all his possessions
cannot be my disciple."

The Gospel of the Lord

Selection III: Pope Francis; Audience (Audience with Seminarians of the Diocese of Agrigento; November 24, 2018)

From Pope Francis:

“... Listening to the heart in prayer educates us to be people able to listen to others, to become, God willing, priests who offer the service of listening – and how much we need it! – and it educates us increasingly to be a Church that listens, a community that knows how to listen.

You now live this in particular in contact with [young people], meeting them, listening to them, inviting them to express themselves ... But this applies to all pastoral life: like Jesus, the Church is sent into the world to listen to the cry of humanity, which is often a silent cry, sometimes repressed, suffocated.”

(pause)

Now, together let us pray the Prayer of St. Therese of the Child Jesus for Priests:

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the priests at whose Masses I've assisted and who've given me Your Body and Blood in Holy Communion;
the priests who've taught and instructed me;
all the priests to whom I am indebted in any other way.

O Jesus, keep them all close to your heart,
and bless them abundantly in time and in eternity. Amen.

OCTOBER 2019

Selection I: HEB 5:1-10

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

Brothers and sisters:

Every high priest is taken from among men
and made their representative before God,
to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins.

He is able to deal patiently with the ignorant and erring,
for he himself is beset by weakness
and so, for this reason, must make sin offerings for himself
as well as for the people.

No one takes this honor upon himself
but only when called by God,
just as Aaron was.

In the same way,
it was not Christ who glorified himself in becoming high priest,
but rather the one who said to him:

You are my Son:
this day I have begotten you;
just as he says in another place,
You are a priest forever
according to the order of Melchizedek.

In the days when he was in the Flesh,
he offered prayers and supplications with loud cries and tears
to the one who was able to save him from death,
and he was heard because of his reverence.

Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered;
and when he was made perfect,
he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

The Word of the Lord

Selection II: JN 1:35-42

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

John was standing with two of his disciples,
and as he watched Jesus walk by, he said,
Behold, the Lamb of God

The two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus.
Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them,
“What are you looking for?”

They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher),
“where are you staying?”

He said to them, “Come, and you will see.”
So they went and saw where he was staying,
and they stayed with him that day.

It was about four in the afternoon.
Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter,
was one of the two who heard John and followed Jesus.
He first found his own brother Simon and told him,
“We have found the Messiah,” which is translated Christ.

Then he brought him to Jesus.
Jesus looked at him and said,
“You are Simon the son of John;
you will be called Cephas,” which is translated Peter.

The Gospel of the Lord

Selection III: Pope Francis; Message (55th World Day of Prayer for Vocations)

From the message of Pope Francis for the 55th World Day of Prayer for Vocations:

When Jesus, in the synagogue of Nazareth, reads the passage of the prophet Isaiah, he discerns the content of the mission for which he was sent, and presents it to those who awaited the Messiah: *“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor (Lk 4:18-19)*. In the same way, each of us can discover his or her own vocation only through spiritual discernment. This is a process by which a person makes fundamental choices, in dialogue with the Lord and listening to the voice of the Spirit, starting with the choice of one’s state in life.

(pause)

Now, together let us pray the Prayer of St. Therese of the Child Jesus for Priests:

(next page)

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Blood in Holy Communion;
the priests who've taught and instructed me;
all the priests to whom I am indebted in any other way.

O Jesus, keep them all close to your heart,
and bless them abundantly in time and in eternity. Amen.

NOVEMBER 2019

Selection I: COL 1:24-29

A reading from Letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians

Brothers and sisters:

I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake,
and in my flesh I am filling up
what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ
on behalf of his Body, which is the Church,
of which I am a minister
in accordance with God's stewardship given to me
to bring to completion for you the word of God,
the mystery hidden from ages and from generations past.
But now it has been manifested to his holy ones,
to whom God chose to make known the riches of the glory
of this mystery among the Gentiles;
it is Christ in you, the hope for glory.
It is him whom we proclaim,
admonishing everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom,
that we may present everyone perfect in Christ.
For this I labor and struggle,
in accord with the exercise of his power working within me.

The Word of the Lord

Selection II: JN 15:9-17

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

"As the Father loves me, so I also love you.

Remain in my love.

If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love,
just as I have kept my Father's commandments
and remain in his love.

"I have told you this so that my joy might be in you
and your joy might be complete.

This is my commandment: love one another as I love you.

No one has greater love than this,
to lay down one's life for one's friends.

You are my friends if you do what I command you.

I no longer call you slaves,
because a slave does not know what his master is doing.

I have called you friends,
because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father.

It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you
and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain,
so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you.

This I command you: love one another."

The Gospel of the Lord

Selection III: Benedict XVI; Message (45th World Day of Prayer for Vocations)

From the message of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI for the 45th World Day of Prayer for Vocations:

“...So that the Church may continue to fulfill the mission entrusted to her by Christ, and not lack promoters of the Gospel so badly needed by the world, Christian communities must never fail to provide both children and adults with constant education in the faith. It is necessary to keep alive in the faithful a committed sense of missionary responsibility and active solidarity with the peoples of the world. The gift of faith calls all Christians to co-operate in the work of evangelization. This awareness must be nourished by preaching and catechesis, by the liturgy, and by constant formation in prayer. It must grow through the practice of welcoming others, with charity and spiritual companionship, through reflection and discernment, as well as pastoral planning, of which attention to vocations must be an integral part.

Vocations to the ministerial priesthood and to the consecrated life can only flourish in a spiritual soil that is well cultivated. Christian communities that live the missionary dimension of the mystery of the Church in a profound way will never be inward looking. Mission, as a witness of divine love, becomes particularly effective when it is shared in a community, “so that the world may believe” (cf. Jn 17: 21). The Church prays everyday to the Holy Spirit for the gift of vocations. Gathered around the Virgin Mary, Queen of the Apostles, as in the beginning, the ecclesial community learns from her how to implore the Lord for a flowering of new apostles, alive with the faith and love that are necessary for the mission.”

(pause)

Now, together let us pray the Prayer of St. Therese of the Child Jesus for Priests:

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Blood in Holy Communion;
the priests who've taught and instructed me;
all the priests to whom I am indebted in any other way.

O Jesus, keep them all close to your heart,
and bless them abundantly in time and in eternity. Amen.

DECEMBER 2019

Selection I: 2 COR 4:1-2, 5-7

A reading from the Second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:

Since we have this ministry through the mercy shown us,
we are not discouraged.

Rather, we have renounced shameful, hidden things;
not acting deceitfully or falsifying the word of God,
but by the open declaration of the truth
we commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God.

For we do not preach ourselves but Jesus Christ as Lord,
and ourselves as your slaves for the sake of Jesus.

For God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness,"
has shone in our hearts to bring to light
the knowledge of the glory of God on the face of Jesus Christ.

But we hold this treasure in earthen vessels,
that the surpassing power may be of God and not from us.

The Word of the Lord

Selection II: LK 10:1-9

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

The Lord Jesus appointed seventy-two disciples whom he sent ahead of him in pairs

to every town and place he intended to visit. He said to them,

"The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest.

Go on your way;

behold, I am sending you like lambs among wolves. Carry no money bag, no sack, no sandals; and greet no one along the way.

Into whatever house you enter,

first say, 'Peace to this household.'

If a peaceful person lives there,

your peace will rest on him;

but if not, it will return to you.

Stay in the same house and eat and drink what is offered to you,

for the laborer deserves his payment.

Do not move about from one house to another. Whatever town you enter and they welcome you,

eat what is set before you,

cure the sick in it and say to them,

'The Kingdom of God is at hand for you.'"

The Gospel of the Lord

Selection III: Benedict XVI; Message (48th World Day of Prayer for Vocations)

From the message of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI for the 48th World Day of Prayer for Vocations:

“Dear brothers and sisters, your commitment to the promotion and care of vocations becomes most significant and pastorally effective when carried out in the unity of the Church and in the service of communion.

For this reason, every moment in the life of the Church community – catechesis, formation meetings, liturgical prayer, pilgrimages – can be a precious opportunity for awakening in the People of God, and in particular in children and young people, a sense of belonging to the Church and of responsibility for answering the call to priesthood and to religious life by a free and informed decision.

The ability to foster vocations is a hallmark of the vitality of a local Church. With trust and perseverance let us invoke the aid of the Virgin Mary, that by the example of her own acceptance of God’s saving plan and her powerful intercession, every community will be more and more open to saying “yes” to the Lord who is constantly calling new laborers to his harvest.”

(pause)

Now, together let us pray the Prayer of St. Therese of the Child Jesus for Priests:

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O Jesus, keep them all close to your heart,
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