

## HOLY HALF HOUR FOR JULY 2018

### Obedience to God's will

#### Hymn : Jesus my Lord, my God - 221

#### Introduction :

Dear Friends, we thank God for bringing us to this moment when we can praise and adore Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. As we fix our eyes on Jesus our hearts are filled with gratitude for the numerous blessings we have received in our lives - family, friends, health, employment, and especially the gift of rain. Thank you Jesus! (Silence)

This month we celebrate the feast of St.Thomas the apostle, St.Maria Goretti, St.Mary Magdalene, Sts. Joachim and Anne and St. Ignatius of Loyola among many others. As we read and focus on their lives we notice their deep love for God to the point of sacrificing their lives, wanting to be close to Jesus at all time and obedience to God's will.

Let us during this half hour reflect on our lives - are we obedient to God's will in every sphere of our life? Do we want to stay connected to Jesus at every moment of our life? As parents do we teach our children to seek for God's will through prayer?(Silence)

#### Hymn: O God my God - No. 292

Let us now listen to a reading from St.Paul to the Romans 12:1-2.

#### Reflection:

We all struggle with questions like: How can I know God's plan for my life? Which job should I take? Is this the person God wants me to marry? Is this a good investment to make? Should I share the gospel at my workplace? Am I a good catholic? Etc.

- Your obedience is the key to God's work in your life.
- Like St.Thomas the apostle we doubt God's ways. May we implore Jesus to reveal himself to us that we too may say 'My Lord, my God'
- St. Maria Goretti teaches us to be holy in mind and body. May we seek Jesus in moments of temptation, worldly pleasures and unholy things. May we be obedient to the virtue of purity.
- Like St. Joaquim and Anne taught Mary to be obedient to God's will, may we parents be good role models for our children. May we as a family spend time in reflection and prayer to discern and be obedient to God's will.

- As St. Ignatius of Loyola may we too be transformed by renewing our mind through a simple contemplation of ourselves, God, and God's plan for us.
- Christ taught us that knowing God's will and living in obedience to that will is the key to it all! God is the potter; we are the clay. God keeps us spinning on His potter's wheel, shaping and reshaping us to become more Christ-like so He can use us for His will. Surrender daily. Keep your clay moist through daily prayer - prayer that's in accordance to His will. (SILENCE)

**Hymn : Have thine own way Lord - 164**

**Prayer of the Faithful :**

Lord Jesus give us grace to accept the realities of this world and rise above a mediocre life but constantly pursue a rich and fuller life by being obedient to your will.

**Response: May we follow Your will in our lives**

- In order to create, sustain and transform ourselves...
- In order to embrace and abundant life...
- In order to break free from sin and temptations of this materialistic world...
- In order to mirror Christ's likeness...
- In order to imitate the Saints...

We make these prayers through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Concluding Prayer :**

We pray in the silence of our hearts as we reflect on the words of St. Thomas Aquinas

"Obedience unites us so closely to God that in a way transforms us into Him, so that we have no other will but His. If obedience is lacking, even prayer cannot be pleasing to God."  
(SILENCE)

**Hymn: O Sacrament most holy - No.301**

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