

Holy Hour Adoration for the
Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Sign of the Cross:

Hymn: Joyful Celebration no. 301 O Sacrament most holy....

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: (2 Minutes silence)

Introduction: Lord Jesus, we have set aside this time on the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Our Universal King. By your victory you become the King of every age and the Lord of all history. You have achieved all this by the power of love. All of us too, would joyfully like to have you as our King. Lord Jesus, it is your love that transforms sin into grace, death into resurrection, fear into trust, giving us a new hope. This will be meaningful to us when we personally make you the Lord of our life. Let us sing the hymn "He is Lord...." alleging our allegiance to Jesus, King of our lives.

Hymn: Joyful Celebration no. 165 He is Lord..... (1 Minute silence)

Scripture Reading: Lk 23:35,37 *To be proclaimed from the bible* (2 Minutes silence)

In the Gospel of Luke, the kingship of Jesus ends with His saving work. Jesus appears without any power or glory: he is on the cross, where he appears conquered rather than be seen as the conqueror. His kingship is different. His throne is the cross; his crown is made of thorns; he has no sceptre, he does not have luxurious clothing, is stripped of his tunic; he wears no shiny rings on his fingers, but his hands are pierced with nails; he is sold for thirty pieces of silver.

As we now spend some time in silent prayer, let us reflect on the death kingship that Jesus offers us. (2 Minute silence)

Our Response: O Lord! Strengthen us on our pilgrim journey

- a) Jesus, you invite each of us to freely follow in your footsteps.....
- b) Jesus, help us to be ready to obey the Father's will in our life.....
- c) Jesus, you redeemed our death and invite us to share in your divine life; help us on our pilgrim journey.....
- d) Jesus, you are our inspiration. Help us to freely and totally give ourselves in the service of others.....

Hymn: Joyful Celebration no. 231 Just like a lamb.....

Scripture Reading: Col 1:13-14 *To be proclaimed from the bible* (2 Minutes silence)

It is in Jesus that we find redemption and forgiveness. Jesus' kingdom is not one of power, but of a love which is able to encounter and heal all creation. It is Christ who loved us first and saved us by a humiliating and obedient death on the cross. He lived our human misery, he suffered to the lowest point of our human existence i.e. injustice, betrayal, abandonment. He even experienced death and the tomb. Christ our King went out of his way to embrace and save every living being. He did not condemn us, nor did he conquer us and he respects our freedom. It is His love that forgives all things, hopes all things, and sustains all things.

As we pause in silent prayer, let us ask the Lord to fill us with His love that alone overcame and continues to help us to overcome all obstacles and even our worst enemies. **(3 Minutes silence)**

Our Response: Lord, hear our prayer

- a) Lord, help us to forgive all those who hurt us, disrespect us, offend us.....
- b) Lord, help us to be your witness of love in our families, neighbourhood, communities & places of work.....
- c) Lord, help us never to condemn those who are poor or marginalized. Help us to always speak a kind word of love and compassion
- d) Lord, teach us to respect each other's freedom, starting in our own families.....

Hymn: Joyful Celebration no.412 To follow the Lord

Scripture Reading: Lk 23:39, 42, 43 *To be proclaimed from the bible* **(2 Minutes silence)**

In Luke's gospel, the evangelist presents us with different people reflecting different attitudes and mannerisms.

The first: "The people stood by, watching" no one says a word, no one draws any closer. They are the same people who were pressing in on Jesus when they are in need and now they keep their distance. We too can be tempted to keep our distance from Jesus' kingship. What does love ask of me? In which direction am I being urged to go? What answer am I going to give Jesus? Let us pause and reflect. **(3 Minutes silence)**

Our Response: Gracious Lord, hear our prayer

- a) Lord, temptations will always be there. Help me to never get lured into them.....
- b) Lord, help me to realize that I need to give you thanks from all that you have blessed me with.....
- c) Lord, your kingship invites me to be other-centred. Often I try to keep my distance from giving myself totally to serve others.....
- d) Jesus, give me the strength and courage to be your disciple at all times.....

Hymn: Joyful Celebration no. 203 If you wish to be

The second: includes various people like the leaders, the soldiers and one of the criminals. They mock Jesus. They provoke him saying "Save yourself!". Jesus is tempted to give up

reigning as God desires/wills. They tempt Jesus to come down from the cross and destroy his enemies! They wanted Jesus to show his power. This was directly the opposite of Jesus' message of love and humility. Jesus does not speak, he does not react, he does not defend himself, he does not try to convince them, nor does not try to defend his kingship. He continues to love, to forgive. He did what his Father willed.

Let us reflect on our struggle against temptation/s that we face in our lives. How many times, do we give into the comforts, offered by the world? Jesus challenges us today to rediscover His rich love for us. He wants us to welcome others, respect their freedom and be faithful to God. **(3 Minutes silence)**

Hymn: Joyful Celebration no.220 Jesus is the joy.....

The Thief: The thief begs him: "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom". This person, looking at Jesus, believed in His kingdom. He had an open heart and with his errors, sins and troubles, he turned to Jesus. He asked Jesus to remember him and he experienced God's mercy and goodness: "Today you will be with me in paradise". As soon as we open ourselves to the Lord's love he is ready to forgive us. Let us ask for grace to start anew.

(2 Minutes silence)

Let us go beyond evil and differences. We are called to instill hope and provide opportunities for others. May our Blessed Mother Mary accompany us in our pilgrim journey as we make Christ, the King and Lord of our life.

General Intercessions:

Our Response: Lord, listen to your children praying.

1. For those who are despised and rejected by our fellowmen and stripped of our dignity, that we may take refuge in Christ our King during our times of despair; for this we pray to the Lord...
2. For those who have strayed, who are lost or living in darkness, that Christ, the light of the world may lead us out of our misery and save us; for this we pray to the Lord...
3. For those who stand as mute spectators or walk away when we see atrocities, crime or injustice being committed on our fellowmen, that Christ our Lord may give us the courage and strength to stand up for our convictions and defend the helpless; for this we pray to the Lord...
4. For those who are struggling with failure, temptations, addictions, obsessions, vices etc, that, with trust and hope, we may turn to Christ our liberator; for this we pray to the Lord...
5. For those suffering life-threatening diseases, mental illness and depression, accidents and tragedies, that Christ our healer may comfort and mend our broken hearts and restore us to health; for this we pray to the Lord...

6. For those who give of time and talent to work in God's vineyard, that we may follow in the footsteps of Christ and serve our community with humility and willingness; for this we pray to the Lord...
7. For all God's people, that we may be true witnesses and disciples of Christ, our Lord and King and promote Christ's values of love, faith, compassion, hope, justice, mercy and peace; for this we pray to the Lord...
8. That those who have died, especially _____ and _____ will become like their risen Savior in his triumph over death, let us pray to the Lord:

ClosingHymn: Joyful Celebration no. 415 To the King of all ages.....

Archdiocesan Liturgy Committee