

FIRST FRIDAY HOLY HALF HOUR - JULY 2019

God Is Always On Our Side

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

[silence]

Hymn: Glory & Praise to Our God hymn No 134 v 3

INTRODUCTION:

Jesus, we would like to spend this time before your sacramental presence. Strengthen us and fill us with your joy and peace so that we may be able to share this abundant life, which you give us with others. **(Pause)**

So many of us today live with a survival mentality instead of a thriving mentality. We have a mindset that says, "If I can just make it through..." or "If I can just get by..." Of course, there are some times that are more difficult than others. Mostly it's challenging to get a vision for the future. But if you are constantly living with a survival mentality, you are missing out on God's best. Scripture doesn't say, "Jesus came so you could survive." No, it says that He came to give you a full, abundant life! Let us **pause** and reflect on what kind of life am I living?

If you are living in survival mode right now, today can be your turning point. If you'll take a step of faith and begin to declare, "My days of survival are over; my days of thriving have begun," I believe God will meet your faith. I believe He will open an unexpected door. He'll pour out His favor and blessing on you. He'll make a way where there seems to be no way! Even if you're in a tough time right now, remember that tough times don't last, but the Word of the Lord stands forever. Begin to believe what God's Word says rather than let your circumstance direct your life.

Hymn: I now no longer live, hymn no 190

SCRIPTURE READING: Jn 10:10-11 [to be proclaimed from the Bible]

[Silence]

REFLECTION: (after each point pause for silent reflection)

- As a follower of Jesus and a child of His, God is on your side! If you haven't thought about it yet today, remember, you are created for greatness. There is no obstacle that can stop you. Are there any obstacles in your life that you need to surrender to the Lord?
- You're in the palms of God's hands, and He has equipped and empowered you. Am I thankful to the Lord for all the blessing and privileges that I have received in Christ?
- Let us change our perspective. We are not weak, defeated or inferior. The same Spirit that raised Christ from the dead lives on the inside of you. What will I decide to do today?
- God is on your side. Open your heart to Him today. Expect Him to work in your life. *'If God is for you, no one can rise against you!'* As you meditate on this promise, it will become real to you. You will walk in the favor and victory of God!

St Paul tells us in his letter to the Romans “*If God is for us, who can be against us?*” (Rom 8:31) Knowing and trusting in God’s loving care let us surrender ourselves once again to him as we sing the

Hymn: Have thine own way Lord – 164

INTERCESSIONS:

Lord you love and care for us, you want to give us our deepest desire if it is for our good, as we pray...

Our Response: Loving Father hear our prayer

- Lord, we want to live for you. Help us to feel your strength at all times. When we are tempted help us not to conform to this world and its standards. Let us pray to the Lord...
- Lord, help us to remember that You love us just the way we are! Let us pray to the Lord....
- Lord, help us know that our days of thriving have begun. Help us to continue to put our faith and trust in You alone. Let us pray to the Lord...

Father God, We believe that You have a good plan for our future. Thank You for giving us abundant life through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Concluding prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for being on our side today. Thank You for equipping and empowering us to accomplish everything you’ve called us to. Give us a deeper revelation of your love for us today so that we can live the abundant life you have prepared for us. In Jesus’ Name. **Amen.**

SILENCE

BENEDICTION FOLLOWS

Hymn: Let us bow in adoration....

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