



FEAST OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS HOUR OF ADORATION

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

Hymn: O Sacrament Most Holy

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Leader: We offer you worship and adoration, O Jesus Our Lord Crucified and truly Risen, and really present in the Most Blessed Sacrament of your Risen Body and Blood. Lord, receive our worship of you in this Sacrament and receive our intentions and intercessions for the good of each here, for our parish, for our city and for the entire world.

SCRIPTURE READING:

1 JOHN 4:7-16

Beloved, let us love one another,
because love is of God;
everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God.
Whoever is without love does not know God, for God is love.
In this way the love of God was revealed to us:
God sent his only Son into the world
so that we might have life through him.
In this is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us
and sent his Son as expiation for our sins.
Beloved, if God so loved us, we also must love one another.
No one has ever seen God.
Yet, if we love one another, God remains in us,
and his love is brought to perfection in us.
This is how we know that we remain in him and he in us,
that he has given us of his Spirit.
Moreover, we have seen and testify
that the Father sent his Son as Saviour of the world.
Whoever acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God,
God remains in him and he in God.
We have come to know and to believe in the love God has for us.
God is love, and whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him.

REFLECTION:

This is one of the most striking passages in the whole of the Scriptures. It is about the centrality of love in our relationship with God and with the people all around us. But it is a special kind of love. The word that the Letter uses is agape ('agaph). Agape-love is an outreaching concern for the other which is totally unconditional. It is given irrespective of how it is received – or rejected.

In today's short passage a form of the word agape occurs no less than 15 times. It is the love which God has for his creation and for each and every one of us. It is the love which Jesus, the Son of God, showed and which reached its climax on the Cross. It is the love by which followers of Jesus will be recognised.

This love is not just something which God does. God IS this love. It is his very nature. He cannot not love. For us to be like him is to be people of this love. "By this will all know that you are my followers, that you have agape-love for one another."

And this love is all we need. The Letter today says, "Where there is agape-love, there is God." Augustine, who was a very passionate person both before and after his conversion, wrote commentaries on this Letter. One of his most striking phrases is: '*Ama, et fact quod vis*', 'Love, and do whatever you like.' In other words, provided an act or a word is an expression of agape-love, it cannot be bad – because where there is agape-love, God is there. It makes life very simple – and very challenging.

LITANY OF THE SACRED HEART:

(Pope Leo XIII approved this litany for public use in 1899, but many of the invocations have been used since the 17th century.)

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
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
Heart of Jesus, Son of the Eternal Father,	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, formed by the Holy Spirit in the womb of the Virgin Mother,	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, substantially united to the Word of God,	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, of Infinite Majesty,	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, Sacred Temple of God,	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, Tabernacle of the Most High,	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, House of God and Gate of Heaven,	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, burning furnace of charity,	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, abode of justice and love,	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, full of goodness and love,	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, abyss of all virtues,	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, most worthy of all praise,	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, king and center of all hearts,	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, in whom are all treasures of wisdom and knowledge,	have mercy on us

Heart of Jesus, in whom dwells the fullness of divinity,	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, in whom the Father was well pleased,	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, of whose fullness we have all received,	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, desire of the everlasting hills,	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, patient and most merciful,	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, enriching all who invoke Thee,	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, fountain of life and holiness,	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, propitiation for our sins,	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, bruised for our offenses,	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, obedient to death,	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, pierced with a lance,	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, source of all consolation,	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, our life and resurrection,	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, our peace and our reconciliation,	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, victim for our sins,	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, salvation of those who trust in Thee,	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, hope of those who die in Thee,	have mercy on us
Heart of Jesus, delight of all the Saints,	have mercy on us

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
 Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
 Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
 Jesus, meek and humble of heart.

spare us, O Lord.
 graciously hear us, O Lord.
 have mercy on us, O Lord.
 Make our hearts like unto yours.

Let us pray;

Almighty and eternal God, look upon the Heart of your most beloved Son and upon the praises and satisfaction which he offers you in the name of sinners; and to those who implore your mercy, in your great goodness, grant forgiveness in the name of the same Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:

Leader: Let us now pray for the Church and the entire world.

Our response is “Lord hear our prayer.”

For our Holy Father Pope Francis, for our Bishop Oswald and for the honourable priesthood and diaconate in Christ, let us pray to the Lord...

For all the Priests of the world, that their generous daily offering of self on behalf of the Church may be received as a pleasing sacrifice at the altar of the Most High, let us pray to the Lord...

For an increase in vocation to the ordained ministry, especially for Priests who will serve at God’s altar and call us to the one sacrifice of Jesus Christ, let us pray to the Lord...

For all government leaders, that they may serve the dignity and freedom of all, let us pray to the Lord...

For all of us who share in the Eucharist for the life of the world, that we may share our bread and our lives with others, let us pray to the Lord...

For God’s blessings upon our parish that we all grow in the faith and love for the Lord in the Eucharist, let us pray to the Lord...

For the poor, the sick and all who are in danger or necessity, let us pray to the Lord...

For all who have died in the Communion of Christ, that they may share in the wedding feast of the Lamb, let us pray to the Lord...

For our personal intentions in the silence of our hearts...(Pause) Let us pray to the Lord...

Leader: United with our Most Holy Virgin Mary, Mother of God, and with all the Saints let us commend our lives and one another, and all our lives unto Christ who taught us to pray.

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

PRAYER OF PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING TO THE SACRED HEART:

Lord, you deserve all honour and praise, because your love is perfect and your heart sublime. My heart is filled with gratitude for the many blessings and graces you give me and those whom I love. I cannot do anything to deserve this love, but may I always be attentive and never take for granted the gifts of mercy and love that flow freely and generously from your Sacred Heart.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us.

BENEDICTION:

BLESSING:

CONCLUDING HYMN: Sweet Heart of Jesus