



**07 January 2022**

**“FOR ALL THAT HAS BEEN, THANKS.  
AND FOR ALL THAT WILL BE, YES”**

**HYMN:179** -Humbly we adore thee, Christ redeemer King.*(With Joyful Celebration) or any other.*

**INTRODUCTION:**

Dear friends, in the Eucharistic adoration, we are invited to enter into sacred communion with God in the quiet seclusion of our hearts. Adoration is the creature’s highest act of worship given to God, what belongs to him alone. Let us spend some moments of silence, allowing the all-pervading presence of the Lord to envelop our entire being. When the disciples of John the Baptist asked Jesus, “Rabi where do you live?” Jesus did not give the address or any impressive information about Him but said, “Come and see” They visited and stayed with him and found what their hearts and souls truly sought after, and they became his disciples for life. At the beginning of the New Year 2022, Let us examine and know what our hearts seek from our encounter with the Lord.

*(Silence)*

At this first week of the New Year, whether we leave behind a year of joy or of trials and difficulties, we pause to give thanks. Thank God for the people, the situations and opportunities God has placed in our lives. We thank God that when there are endings, there are new beginnings too, throughout the season of life. We thank God for being with us every day of the year, for all that we’ve gone through, the good along with the hard times. We thank God for the experiences that have brought us to this moment, wiser and stronger, loving life ever more. We thank God for the work of others that gives breadth and depth to our own work.

We ask the Lord to lead and direct us through the new challenges; opening doors needing to be opened and closing the ones needing to be shut. May we stay open to the moment as best as we can. May we welcome God’s lavish love and his plan for us in the New Year we have just begun.

**LEADER:** Let us invoke the Holy Spirit as we prepare our hearts to listen to the Word of God.

**Hymn – 88** Come Holy Ghost, Creator Blest *(With Joyful Celebration) or any other.*

**SCRIPTURE READING: 1Thes 5:12-18**

**REFLECTION:** ‘Be joyful always’, Paul advises. It’s not easy to be joyful, never mind ‘always’, and here he adds ‘give thanks in all circumstances’. This sounds like a tall order. I think he’s trying to draw a distinction between Christians and everyone else. Others may be joyful because of circumstances on particular occasions, but Christians can feel the joy of Christ’s loving sacrifice and support for them, and that’s something which doesn’t change

– It doesn’t depend on circumstances. Imagine you have to write down a reason to be joyful in your life. On the other side of the paper write down all the obstacles to joy that you face. This is rather like the newsreader who, before he began to read out a serious news story, thought of a positive event each time. Some people can’t rejoice because the world is full of suffering, and, if you feel like that, then it shows you’re a sensitive person, and it’s good to have a heart of flesh rather than a heart of stone, but Paul tells you to rejoice because of faith.

*(Brief moments of silent reflection and examination of life in the light of the gospel and the reflection)*

**HYMN:** “*Bless the Lord o my soul, all my being worship his holy name! Or any appropriate song.*”

**Ch:** Bless the Lord oh my soul Oh my soul  
Worship His Holy name.  
Sing like never before Oh my soul,  
I'll worship Your Holy name

The sun comes up  
It's a new day dawning  
It's time to sing your song again  
Whatever may pass  
And whatever lies before me  
Let me be singing  
When the evening comes.

You're rich in love,  
and You're slow to anger  
Your name is great,  
and Your heart is kind  
For all your goodness  
I will keep on singing  
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

And on that day when my strength is failing  
The end draws near and my time has come  
Still my soul will sing your praise unending  
Ten thousand years and then forevermore.

## **GENERAL INTERCESSIONS:**

**RESPONSE-1:** For all that has been, thanks; for all that will be, yes.

For the year that is gone by, the knowledge gained, lessons learned, relationships cherished, work accomplished, love and care received and given and for the new challenges and opportunities at hand. **R/-**

For the leaders who plan, execute and lead our nation and our world, the circumstances we've been through, the current situations we are in, and everything that will come to be in accordance to your will and purpose. **R/-**

For your providence, protection, blessing of good health, the love and support of family, friends and the solidarity of human community in the face of the pandemic. **R/-**

For Your unchanging love in the midst of life's uncertainties and setbacks and for the hope, faith and trust with which we set out this new year. **R/-**

**RESPONSE- 2:** Lord, hear our prayer.

For the synodal Church, that we may listen with our hearts and be reconciled with those who feel alienated or strayed and strengthen the unity and participation of all. **R/-**

We pray for an end to all religious prejudices and fanaticisms of any kind and for mutual sharing of diverse riches and goodness present in all religions and cultures. **R/-**

For leaders of nations all over the world, that they may centre their values, decisions and action on the common good and benefit of every citizen without any distinction. **R/-**

Sustain the needy, the sick and homebound, the dying; those in grief over the loss of loved ones or jobs; for those who suffer from Covid or its variants. **R/-**

## **CONCLUDING PRAYER:**

Almighty ever living God, light of every soul, fill the world with your glory, reveal to all people the splendour of your presence and let the light of faith in our hearts shine through all that we do and say. May the Lord we encounter transform us inwardly until we bear His likeness. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN:** 133 Give thanks with a grateful heart. *(With Joyful Celebration) or any other.*