



01 September 2023

HOLY HOUR

(You call me your teacher and Lord and you should, because that is who I am. - Jn 13:13)

HYMN: No. 301- O Sacrament Most Holy- thrice *(Joyful Celebration Hymnal)*

(Pause... for Moments of Silent and Personal Adoration before the Eucharistic Lord)

PRAYER TO JESUS MASTER. (By Alberione, Prayers of the Pauline Family)

Jesus master, we adore you as the incarnate word, sent by the Father to teach us the truth which alone can give life. You are the uncreated wisdom, you the light, you the only master. You have the words of eternal life. We thank you for having enkindled in us the light of reason and the light of faith, and for having called us to the light of glory. We believe by submitting our whole mind to you and to your church, and we renounce what the Church condemns, Master, show us the treasure of your wisdom, lead us to the Father, make us your true disciples. Increase our faith so that we may one day attain your eternal vision in heaven.

HYMN: No. 123. – Father we love you, we worship and adore you - *(Joyful Celebration Hymnal)*

INTRODUCTION:

Dear Friends, we reflect on the role of teachers after the example of Jesus our Divine Master; as India observes Teacher's Day on the birthday of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan who was one of the most distinguished diplomat, scholar and teacher, apart from being the President of India. Today, the role of a teacher is nothing less than being an external parent, counsellor, mentor, role model, and more. Teachers change lives, inspire dreams, and push the limits of a child's potential, they deserve our love and gratitude.

Speaking to the Catholic Educators, Pope Francis said, *“We transmit to others what we are inside. It is not enough to fill one's head with ideas that is not educating; to educate is to transmit life. To be a teacher is to live a mission, he further said. God is only communicated if He dwells in our lives, if He fills our affections, if He unites our thoughts and inspires our actions. The duty of a good teacher, all the more for a Christian teacher, is to love his or her more difficult, weaker, more disadvantaged students with greater intensity. Jesus would say, if you love only those who study, who are well educated, what merit do you have? And there are some who make us lose our patience, but we must love them even more! Any teacher can do well with such students. I ask you to love the “difficult students more... those who do not want to study, those who find themselves in difficult situations, the disabled and foreigners, who today pose a great challenge for schools.”* Again in dialogue with Students, Teacher and Parents in 2019, he said, *“One cannot educate without love. You cannot teach words without gestures, and the first gesture is the caress: to caress hearts, caress souls. And what is*

the language of the caress? Persuasion. One teaches with the patience of persuasion. Witness, loving kindness, caresses, persuasion.”

(Pause..... for Moments of Silent and Personal Prayer)

Almighty God,
We thank you for all our teachers at school and of life.
Thank you, for they impart knowledge, sow love and care.
Serving and tending with patience and diligence.
We thank you and ask you to bless them all.

Be with them in their stressful moments,
in dealing with difficult child or colleague.
Grant them, moments of joy and accomplishments.
Bless them with good health and happiness
Give them your wisdom and discretion,
to deal with the needs of each student in love.
Amen.

HYMN: No. 453 -When I look into your holiness (*Joyful Celebration hymnal*)

SCRIPTURE READING: Jn 13:13-20

REFLECTION: *“If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you”* Children are highly impressionable, and are seeking out role models whose actions they will adopt and mirror, so teachers need to lead by example and inspire the students to be the best they can be. Jesus by his own servant leadership, exemplified to his followers that their practice of leadership was to be distinctly different than the self-centred, self-serving, and domineering style of leadership often found in the world: Good leadership motivates and mobilizes others to accomplish a task with creativity, foresight, and integrity and for the common good. Servant - leaders strengthen the weak and empower those entrusted to their care, and also show compassion towards the disadvantaged and the lost (Ezek. 34:2-10).

Jesus washing the feet of the disciples is a classic Christian leadership. In washing his disciple's feet he did not diminish but rather enhanced his position and influence as their teacher. Jesus' life of service originated from his loving relationship with God. Jesus was prepared to serve everyone, even the one who would ultimately betray him, by giving of himself sacrificially and with love. Pope Benedict XVI, in his message on the world Day of Peace, 2012 said, *“Where does true education in peace and justice take place? First of all, in the family, since parents are the first educators. The family is the primary cell of society; “it is in the family that children learn the human and Christian values which enable them to have a constructive and peaceful coexistence. It is in the family that they learn solidarity between the generations, respect for rules, forgiveness and how to welcome others. The family is the first school in which we are trained in justice and peace.”*

(Pause..... for Moments of Silent and Personal Reflection and Examination of Conscience)

HYMN: No. 256 – Lord, make me like you (*Joyful Celebration hymnal*)

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS:

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

For Catholic Education: That our Catholic schools may continue to inculcate in the students values of honesty, kindness, patience, tolerance, social responsibility and truthfulness. We pray to the Lord. **R/**

For all those who are in the teaching ministry, that their efforts may be supported and their sacrifices may be rewarded. **R/**

For all our teachers whose skillful patience and love have moulded and shaped us, into who we have become today, may God bless them with abundant blessings. **R/**

For peace, and harmony in our world: Inspire world and local leaders to seek peaceful resolutions and to act in wisdom and in truth. **R/**

We pray that the Government ensures elementary education to every individual, irrespective of race, gender, social and economic status. **R/**

We pray for the intentions and needs of all those gathered here for prayer, and for all those who have asked for our prayers. **R/**

THE DIVINE PRAISES:

(After the Benediction)

Blessed be God.
Blessed be His Holy Name.
Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true man.
Blessed be the name of Jesus.
Blessed be His Most Sacred Heart.
Blessed be His Most Precious Blood.
Blessed be Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.

Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete.
Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most holy.
Blessed be her holy and Immaculate Conception.
Blessed be her glorious Assumption.
Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.
Blessed be Saint Joseph, her most chaste spouse.
Blessed be God in His angels and in His Saints.

CLOSING HYMN: Let Us Bow In Adoration.

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