



02 January 2026

HOLY HOUR

(“Behold, I make all things new” - Rev 21: 5)

Hymn: No. 221 Verses 1, 2, 4 – Jesus my Lord, my God my all, *(Joyful Celebration hymnal)*

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

Introduction:

Brothers and sisters in Christ, as we stand at the threshold of a new year, we come before the Eucharistic Lord, not merely to mark the passage of time, but to consecrate it. This New Year brings with it, hope, new opportunities and also uncertainties, gratitude for what has been and concern for what lies ahead of us. We come to the Lord of time with trusting hearts; confident that the One who walked with us through the past year will not abandon us this new year too. In the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, we ask for eyes of faith to recognize the new life God is already bringing forth for each of us. We surrender to the Lord, not only our plans and expectations, but also our hidden fears, unfinished struggles, and unanswered prayers. A new beginning is never ours alone; it is shared with a world that journeys together—nations and peoples bound by common hopes and common wounds, we bring all of them in our prayers.

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

Hymn: *A hymn of praise and worship.*

Leader: Like St Francis of Assisi who praised God from the glory of daybreak to nightfall, through all weather, the elements of fire and water; let us also fill our lives with songs of God’s praise.

Response: Lord, we praise and glorify your name!

Lord, your love is ceaselessly creative and ever-renewing; we thank you for the novelty, variety, and freshness in our lives and for your presence at every transition.

For the lessons of the past times, the joy of the present and for the hopes and dreams of tomorrows,

For the support of families, the loyalty of friends, the guidance of mentors, inspiration from the wise, and the benevolence of God that seasons everything.

For the parts of us that have matured and grown with time and those areas which still needs patience, compassion and careful tending and the confidence we have in your grace.



For all the good and happy moments and also for our share of trials, sicknesses and failures that keep us from pride of self-sufficiency and hold on to you, our ultimate joy and peace.

For your constancy; that even when everything changes for good or for worse, you always remain the same faithful, unconditional in love and true to your promises.

Leader: The Holy Spirit acts as a spiritual teacher, helping believers grasp the deeper meaning, apply Biblical principles to our lives and grow in our faith fostering a close relationship with God and a deeper understanding of his Divine plan. Therefore, we invoke the Holy Spirit before we listen to God's Word.

Hymn: No. 363 – Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me (*Joyful Celebration hymnal*)

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 43:18–19

Reflection:

The New Year confronts us with memory and expectation. We carry with us the weight of what has been—successes we long to repeat, failures we wish to forget, may be many open doors or those to be closed. Yet God does not invite us merely to *close a chapter*; He invites us to *open our eyes*. God's "new thing" is not always dramatic. It is frequently hidden in changed hearts, in deeper patience, in reconciled relationships, in courage slowly learned. The danger is not that God will fail to act in the New Year, but that we will be so bound to the past that we fail to recognize His grace when it appears.

Faith begins when we allow God to redeem even what we thought was wasted time. "*Do not remember the former things*" is not an invitation to forget God's blessings, but a call to stop defining ourselves solely by yesterday's wounds, mistakes, or even achievements. God reveals Himself here as the One who acts anew. The "new thing" He promises is not always immediate or spectacular. Many of us expect God to act only after everything becomes clear. But Scripture reverses this logic: "*now it springs forth.*" God's grace is already at work, even when we cannot yet name it. The wilderness and desert symbolize seasons of emptiness, loss, confusion, and waiting. God does not remove us from these places; He transforms them. He does not promise the absence of deserts, but the presence of rivers within them. Faith is the ability to recognize God's movement before results appear. As we begin this New Year, Christ in the Eucharist stands before us as living proof that God brings life from brokenness, hope from apparent endings, and new beginnings from surrendered hearts.

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

Hymn: No. 283– Beginning today my mornings are yours. (*Joyful Celebration hymnal*)

General Intercessions:



As we raise our voices in prayer, let the vibrations of our words resonate with the collective yearning for peace, justice, and unity in the world. May our intentions ripple outward, creating waves of positive change that touch the hearts of all beings.

Response: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For the Church, that she may be renewed in faith, mission, and prophetic courage as she proclaims the Gospel in a changing world. **We pray:**

For those who feel stuck in past wounds, failures, or grief, that the New Year may open paths of healing, reconciliation, and hope. **We pray**

For families facing uncertainty, division, or financial strain, that God may create streams of support, understanding, and peace. **We pray:**

For young people discerning their future and for all who fear change, that they may perceive God's quiet work within their lives. **We pray:**

For our world, marked by conflict, displacement, and ecological crisis, that God may bring new paths of justice, peace, and care for creation. **We pray:**

For ourselves, gathered before the Eucharistic Lord, that this New Year may deepen our trust and sharpen our spiritual vision. **We pray:**

Lord, as we embark on this New Year, we place our hopes and fears, joys and sorrows, into your loving hands. Walk with us, guide us, and fill our hearts with the light of your presence. May the coming year be one of growth, grace, and abundant blessing. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord, Amen

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

Concluding Prayer:

God of new beginnings, You speak hope into barren places and life into what seems finished. As we step into this New Year, teach us not to cling to the past, but to walk forward in faith. Give us eyes to perceive Your grace, hearts ready to surrender, and courage to follow where You lead. May this year not simply change our circumstances, but transform our hearts. We entrust ourselves to You, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**