



Feast of All Saints of the Order And Day of Prayer for Vocations 13/11/2024

On-going Conversion

The prayer begins with the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

OPENING HYMN

An appropriate hymn for the prayer session is taken

OPENING

In the presence of the Blessed Sacrament this opening prayer is chosen:

Presider: How holy this feast,

Community: In which Christ is our food: his passion is recalled. Grace fills our hearts, and we receive a pledge of the glory to come

Presider: Let us Pray:

Lord Jesus Christ, in this most wonderful sacrament you have left us the memorial of your passion; deepen our reverence for the mystery of your body and blood, that we may experience within us the fruit of your redemption. You live and reign for ever and ever.

Community: Amen.

Where the Blessed Sacrament is not present, this Opening Prayer is taken:

Presider: Great are you, O Lord, and worthy of praise!

Community: How limitless is your power! How immeasurable your wisdom! You have so made us that we long for you and our heart is restless until it rests in you.

Presider: Let us Pray:

O God of compassion, in Jesus our Saviour, you welcome us to your table and provide us with nourishment in abundance. Teach us to share with others the gifts you have given us and so build up the body of Christ. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Community: Amen.

INTRODUCTION

The presider or someone else may then introduce the prayer with these or similar words:

The call to conversion is not only directed to those who have not heard about Christ, but also to those who have already embraced the message and life of Christ but are not living in line with their faith. In the Catechism of the Catholic Church we read: “*Christ’s call to conversion continues to resound*

in the lives of Christians. This second conversion is an uninterrupted task for the whole Church who, clasping sinners in her bosom, is at once holy and always in need of purification, and follows constantly the path of penance and renewal” (CCC 1428)

Dear Brothers (and sisters), we recognize that we are not perfect in living out our vocation, and as such in constant need of second conversion. In this prayer, let us humbly seek the grace and mercy of God so that we may re-orient our gaze on the Lord Jesus who is the destination of our spiritual journey and the way that leads to this destination. May the Lord give us the grace to embrace ongoing conversion so that our life of interiority, community and service to the Church may be truly prophetic and efficacious.

PSALMODY

The presider introduces the recitation of the Psalm with these words:

Presider: Dear Brothers (and Sisters), let us together pray this penitential psalm with humility, and in the spirit of self-renewal and repentance.

Psalm 32

Happy is the Man whose offence is forgiven

Ant. Happy is the Man to whom the Lord imputes no guilt

Happy the man whose offence is forgiven,
whose sin is remitted
O happy the man to whom the Lord+
imputes no guilt,
in whose spirit is no guile.

I kept it secret and my frame was wasted
I groaned all day long
for night and day your hand
was heavy upon me.
Indeed, my strength was dried up
as by the summer's heat.

But now I have acknowledged my sins;
my guilt I did not hide.
I said: 'I will confess
my offence to the Lord.'
And you, Lord, have forgiven
the guilt of my sin.

So let every good man pray to you
in the time of need.
The floods of water may reach high
but him they shall not reach.
You are my hiding place O Lord;+
you save me from distress.
You surround me with cries of deliverance.

I will instruct you and teach you
the way you should go;
I will give you counsel
with my eye upon you.

Be not like horse and mule, unintelligent+
needing bridle and bit.
else they will not approach you.
Many sorrows has the wicked+
but he who trusts in the Lord,
loving mercy surrounds him.

Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord,
exult, you just!
O come, ring out your joy,
all you upright of heart.

Glory be to the Father...

Ant. Happy is the Man to whom the Lord imputes no guilt

SCRIPTURE READING

A reading from the Second Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians (7:8-11)

So now, though I did distress you with my letter, I do not regret it. Even if I did regret it - and I realise that the letter distressed you, even though not for long. I am glad now, not because you were made to feel distress, but because the distress that you were caused led to repentance; your distress was the kind that God approves and so you have come to no kind of harm through us. For to be distressed in a way that God approves leads to repentance and then to salvation with no regrets; it is the world's kind of distress that ends in death. Just look at this present case: at what the result has been for your being made to feel distress in the way that God approves - what concern, what defence, what indignation and what alarm; what yearning and what enthusiasm, and what justice done. In every way you have cleared yourselves of blame in this matter.

FROM THE WRITINGS OF SAINT AUGUSTINE

After a brief moment of silence, someone may read the following:

A reading from the Confessions of Saint Augustine:

"How sweet did it suddenly seem to me to shrug off those sweet frivolities, and how glad I now was to get rid of them - I who had been loath to let them go! For it was you who cast them out from me, you, our real and all-surpassing sweetness. You cast them out and entered yourself to take their place, you who are lovelier than any pleasure, though not to flesh and blood, more lustrous than any light, yet more inward than is any secret intimacy, loftier than all honour, yet not to those who look for loftiness in themselves. My mind was free at last from the gnawing need to seek advancement and riches, to welter in filth and scratch my itching lust. Childlike, I chattered away to you, my glory, my wealth, my salvation, and my Lord and God" (*Confessions*, IX,1.1).

MEDITATION

Some moments of silent meditation may be observed. If possible, a brief reflection may be given on the theme of "on-going conversion".

INTERCESSIONS

Let us ask God, the perfect ideal of all holiness, to grant that we serve him in holiness, justice and with an authentic conversion of heart every day of our lives.

Response: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord, give us true spirit of repentance when we go wrong in the course of our interactions with our brothers (and sisters), within and outside the community. May we be willing to forgive and to receive forgiveness from others. *We ask this in faith.*

Give us, Lord, the grace to appreciate a true life of interiority, and may our interiority lead to greater awareness of our weaknesses so that we may amend our ways. Give us the capacity to reach out to others in love. *We ask this in faith.*

Lord Jesus, you constantly invite us to repentance and life of holiness; grant that the members of our Order may heed your call and so become prophetic witnesses to the people of our time who tend to reject the path that leads to you. *We ask this in faith.*

In and through the community we restlessly seek you. Grant that we may be humble in acknowledging our weaknesses and faults, and having attained such an awareness, may we be courageous enough to effect the necessary changes in our behaviours. *We ask this in faith.*

Our world is faced with different forms of trouble and challenges: wars, hunger, environmental destruction, bad governance, inequality and denial of human rights. Lord Jesus, put the spirit of repentance and conversion into the perpetrators and promoters these evils so that the world may once again know peace and harmony. *We ask this in faith.*

LITANY OF AUGUSTINIAN SAINTS

The intercessory prayers end with the invocation of some Augustinian saints

Presider: Let us now turn to our Augustinian Ancestors in the faith and invoke their intercessions

Our Lady of Grace

Pray for us

Our Lady of Help

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Our Lady of Consolation

Our Lady of Good counsel

Our Holy Father, Augustine

Pray for us

St. Monica

St. Aypius and St. Possidius

St. William the Hermit

Blessed John the Good

Blessed James of Viterbo

St. Nicholas of Tolentine

St. Rita of Cascia

Augustinian Martyrs of Gafsa

St. Claire of Montefalco
St. Fulgentius
Blessed Clement of Osimo
Blessed William of Toulouse
St. Thomas of Villanova
St. Magdalene of Nagasaki
St. John Stone
Blessed Maria Theresa Fasce
Blessed Gonzalo of Lagos
St. Alonso De Orozco
St. Ezekiel Moreno
Blessed William Tirry
Blessed Helen of Udine
Augustinian Martyrs of Japan
All the Saints of our Order

Pray for us

Presider: *Let us Pray:*

O God, unfailing light and eternal shepherd who called St. Augustine from the ways of error to serve you in holiness; grant that our lives may be patterned after his example, and our faith deepened by his teaching. Through our Lord Jesus Christ you Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

Community: Amen.

BENEDICTION

After the intercessory prayers, the participants are blessed with the Blessed Sacrament, where it is exposed. Otherwise, a simple blessing may be imparted.

CLOSING HYMN

*The prayer is concluded with the singing or recitation of the **Magnificat**.*

