



DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE ORDER OF ST. AUGUSTINE

13/11/2022

THEME: the gift of fraternity

LAUDS or VESPERS

1. OPENING

In the presence of the Blessed Sacrament:

Presider:

Oh sacrament of love!

Community:

Sign of our unity, bond of our fraternity, those who long for life have here its very source.

Let them come here and believe, unite with you and live.

Presider:

Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood.

Community:

Will live in me and I in them.

Presider:

Let us pray:

Lord, we give you praise in the Eucharist, the memorial of our salvation in Christ.

Grant that this holy sacrament may be for us a sign of unity and a bond of love.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Community:

Amen.

Opening prayer where the Blessed Sacrament is not present:

Great are you, O Lord, and worthy of praise! 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.

2. INTRODUCTION

Presider:

O God, come to my assistance.

Community:

O Lord, make haste to help me.

Presider:

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Community:

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Alleluia.

The presider may then continue with these or similar words:

Brothers (and sisters), in this prayer let us unite our minds and hearts to the entire Order and give praise to the Lord for our Augustinian charism, our communities, and our service to the Church and the world. In this moment of praise, let us pray for the gift of fraternity and ask, in particular, for the grace to live community charity in a prophetic way: a concrete witness that we are all brothers and sisters.

3. HYMN (using this hymn or another)

Ubi caritas

Ant. Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.

V. Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.

Exultemus, et in ipso jucundemur.

Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum.

Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.

Ant. *Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.*

V. Simul ergo cum in unum congregamur.

Ne nos mente dividamur, caveamus.

Cessent jurgia maligna, cessent lites.

Et in medio nostri sit Christus Deus.

Ant. *Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.*

V. Simul quoque cum beatis videamos.

Glorianter vultum tuum, Christe Deus.

Gaudium quod est immensum, atque probum.

Saecula per infinita saeculorum.

Amen.

After the hymn, someone else may introduce the recitation of the Psalm with these words:

In the encyclical *Fratelli Tutti*, Pope Francis reminds us that “without an openness to the Father of all, there will be no solid and stable reasons for an appeal to fraternity. We are certain that “only with this awareness that we are not orphans, but children, can we live in peace with one another”. For “reason, by itself, is capable of grasping the equality between men and of giving stability to their civic coexistence, but it cannot establish fraternity” (n. 272). Therefore, let us open our hearts to the merciful action of God who unites us in unity and makes us have one heart and one mind oriented towards Him.

4. PSALMODY

Psalm 132

Happiness in fraternal harmony

Ant. *Where there is charity and love, there is God.*

How good and how pleasant it is,
when brothers dwell together as one!

Like fine oil on the head,
running down upon the beard,
Upon the beard of Aaron,
upon the collar of his robe.

Like dew of Hermon coming down
upon the mountains of Zion.
There the LORD has decreed a blessing,
life for evermore!

Glory.....

Ant. Where there is charity and love, there is God.

5. BRIEF MOMENT OF SILENCE

6. FROM THE WRITINGS OF SAINT AUGUSTINE

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

From the writings of Saint Augustine

“Behold, how good and how pleasant is it, that brethren should dwell together in unity. So sweet is that sound, that even they who know not the Psalter, sing that verse. ... Behold, how good and how pleasant is it, that brethren should dwell together in unity. For these same words of the Psalter, this sweet sound, this honeyed melody, did even beget Monasteries. By this sound were stirred up the brethren who longed to dwell together. This verse was their trumpet. It sounded through the whole earth, and they who had been divided, were gathered together. The summons of God, the summons of the Holy Spirit, the summons of the Prophets!” (Enarrationes in psalmos, 132, 1-2).

7. PRAYER

The following may be repeated: “Ubi Caritas et amor, Deus ibi est” (Where there is charity and love, there is God.) or another known refrain. Then, the presider invites the assembly to pray:

+ Let us turn to the Holy Trinity who, out of love, brings us together in fraternity and makes us his holy people; let us pray together:

Our God, Trinity of love, from the powerful communion of your divine intimacy, infuse in us the flowing source of fraternal love. Give us the love that was manifested in the gestures of Jesus, in his Holy Family in Nazareth and in the first Christian community. *R.*

Grant us, Christians, to live the Gospel and recognize Christ in every human being, to see him crucified in the anguish of those abandoned and forgotten in this world, and to believe in the resurrection. *R.*

Come Holy Spirit! Show us your beauty reflected in all the peoples of the earth, to discover that all are important, that all are necessary, and that we all are different faces of the same humanity loved by God. Amen. *R.*

You can then continue with the corresponding short reading, Gospel Cantical, Intercessions, Our Father and concluding prayer.

8. BLESSING

The prayer ends with the customary blessing.

