

Diocesan Commission for Liturgy, Vasai

Thanksgiving Adoration 31 December 2019

Opening Hymn: O Sacrament most holy, O Sacrament Divine

Opening Prayer

As we stand on the threshold of yet another year in our lives, we have all gathered here to thank God for the gift of 2019 to all of us. Surely most of us have enjoyed the year to the full, with our loved ones in the family, we may have enjoyed good health, the company of helpful friends, inspiring days in school, college, at work. For others 2019 may have been a tragic and painful year, a year of losses, of broken relationships, of failure and ill health. Whatever may have been the experience, we keep in mind Christ's supreme sacrifice of loving us so much that he gave up his life for our redemption. We accept what has transpired in our lives and we place ourselves, our families and our Communities under Jesus' care who loves us till the end.

Silence (4 mins.)

Hymn No 388. The Lord is my Shepherd

ACT OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE BLESSINGS OF THE PAST YEAR

O Jesus, the beginning and the end of all things, who always is the same and never changes, and whose years fail not, we now, at the close of another year, kneel in adoration before you, and offer you our deepest gratitude for the brotherly care with which you have watched over us during the past, for the many times you have shielded us from evils of soul and body, and for the numberless blessings, both temporal and spiritual, which you have showered upon us.

1. Let us call to mind any event or events that were memorable to us , happy or sad, victorious or desperate and thank God for all the experiences that helped us to grow - a birth in the family, a wedding, a new house, good results - or despair like a death in the family, financial losses, property disputes...(PAUSE 5 secs)

2. Let us think of all the people we may have encountered during this year, especially new friends that we made, old relationships that we may have renewed...(PAUSE 5 secs)

3. Let us think of the relationships that may have soured or broken down this year. How did we feel? Bring to mind the people who may have affected our life negatively this year ... (PAUSE 5 secs)

4. Let us think of new skills or talents we may have developed during this year. How have these affected our life ... (PAUSE 5 secs)

Did we experience the presence of God this year through all the experiences, through the people we encountered, through the things we learnt?

Let us use this opportunity to praise and thank God for the wonderful blessings of the year 2019.

Silence (4 minutes)

Hymn No 152. Great things happen when God mixes with us

During this Christmas Octave the scripture narratives stand out in its reference to Mary, our Mother, on how she, on hearing the conception of her cousin Elizabeth, hastened hurriedly through the hill country of Judea to reach out to her in her time of need. Let us reflect on this single act of great charity which shines as a beacon for us, that we may, amidst all the glitter of Christmas decorations and earthly celebrations, be filled with love for those in need and thus reflect Jesus' love – high as the sky and deep as the oceans- for mankind.

We also anticipate the 1st of January, the beginning of the New Year, dedicated to Mary, the Mother of God, that truly she may lead the way for us into the coming months instilling in us the love that already flows from God through her divine intercession.

Silence

Hymn No 133. Give thanks with a grateful heart

One of the best gifts we have received from God is the gift of time. As we look forward to a new year, we offer this time to God, that we can make the best possible use of God's gift in our lives. We listen to St Paul's advice in his letter to the Colossians

Scripture Reading (Colossians 3: 14-17)

Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The Word of the Lord.

Reflection:

A believer in Christ reflects the love of Jesus to the people he encounters. Jesus had said: “Love one another as I have loved you.” So we are called to love others in the manner that Jesus does – selflessly, unconditionally, always building up others and supporting them to grow in all ways, mentally, materially and spiritually so that we may be a strong body with Christ as our head. May this be our focus during the years to come.

Silence

SUPPLICATION AND RESOLUTIONS FOR THE NEW YEAR

As we place all our hopes, our dreams and our time at Jesus’ feet

Our Response is: “May your love be upon us O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.”

1. During this coming year, through each month and day, through all the events that will unfold in our lives... Our Response
2. In our lives, families, in our work, study and play... Our Response
3. In our moments of celebration, in our times of need, on occasions when we feel you are far away... Our Response
4. In our relationships around us, in our dealings with people, especially of other religions... Our Response
5. In our good days and not so good days, in our health and sickness, in our pain and sorrow, our despair and frustrations... Our Response
6. In our parish community, in all the events that will build up our parish family.. Our Response

As we spend a few minutes in silence we ask God to bless this time before us...

Silence

Hymn No 207. In his time

We thank you Jesus, for this hour that we have spent with you. We ask you to bless us and give us the discernment, through the Holy Spirit, to know your will and to accept it and carry it out in the years to come, so that our lives may be pleasing to you and thus help fulfil the plan for which we were created, Amen.

Silence

Hymn No 245. Let us bow in adoration

Note: All Silence duration is for 4 minutes