

# Diocesan Commission for Liturgy, Vasai

Holy Hour – First Friday of the Month – 1<sup>st</sup> November 2019

## Opening Hymn:

As the Blessed Sacrament is being exposed:

“O Sacrament, most holy, O Sacrament divine,

All praise and thanksgiving be every moment thine”....(3)

Silence–5 Minutes

Let us bow before the Presence of the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

## Introduction:

We come to you O Lord, to spend some time in prayer and worship. We thank you for making us worthy to come and adore you. We ask you to fill us with your love. Help us to leave all our thoughts and worries aside and concentrate on your divine presence. . Help us to open our hearts and minds to the Holy Scriptures and build a closer and deeper relationship with you.

We praise and thank you for your goodness and your love, thank you for showering on us your blessing and showing us your compassion and mercy.

We now let go of our fear and experience your love and presence in the form of the Bread on the altar and meditate in this silence and try listening to your voice. O Lord you have said “My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me” in Jn1-:27, we now maintain silence and calm our hearts and thoughts and listen to your voice.

**Silence** – 5 mins.

## Prayer:

O Lord, There are a lot of lying voices that make “noise” in our world! We have heard them. These voices tell us to swap our integrity for a new sale. To barter our convictions for an easy deal. They whisper. They woo. They taunt. They flirt. They flatter. They say “Go ahead, it’s okay.” “Just wait until tomorrow.” “Don’t worry, no one will know.”

The voices of the crowd! The world rams at our door. But Jesus you tap at our door. You have said in the Scripture that, “the sheep listen to His voice.” (John 10:2-4)

The mark of your disciple is the ability to hear the Master’s voice i.e. your voice. There’s never a time O lord that you are not speaking. Never a place in which you are not present.

Never a room so dark, that the ever-present, ever-pursuing Jesus Christ is not present.

Help us to listen to the voice of the Father in the bounties and beauties of nature, in the gentle whisperings of the Spirit, in our daily interactions with others, in the words of a hymn, in the laughter of a child.

**Silence** – 2 mins.

**Hymn:** No 250 : Listen let your heart keep seeking( 2 verses)

**Reading:** Baruch 1:18-19

And we were not obedient to him, and we have not hearkened to the voice of the Lord our God, to walk in his commandments, which he hath given us. From the day that he brought our fathers out of the land of Egypt, even to this day, we were disobedient to the Lord our God: and going astray we turned away from hearing his voice

**Reflection:**

Man has been disobedient to God and have hardened their hearts over the time. But our ever loving God has always reached out to us and always keeps talking to us.

In the scriptures his words ring out through the centuries, and urge us to LISTEN to him right now:

In Mark 7:14 - He called the people to him again and said to them, “Hear me, all of you, and understand.”

In Luke 8:8 - As he said these things, he called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

In Mt 7:24 - Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

In Jn 5:24 - Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.

LISTENING to the voice of Jesus is a crucial factor in obeying the commands.

How do you feel when you read the Word of God? How do you feel if you read them aloud, or listen to someone else reading them? Is your heart indifferent to them? Are they easily forgotten? Or are they gripping you, as we work through them slowly? Are you really listening?

Believe that those who will listen to the commands of Jesus contained in the gospels, and act on them, there is also a promise of an ongoing, direct, intimate communication with Jesus.

Jesus promised those who listen to his commands and obey them that he would not leave as orphans in Jn 14:18-23 “I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. . . . If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him”

So despite the voices around us, let’s quieten our souls and listen, we will hear God’s “still small voice”.

**Silence** – 5 mins.

**Hymn:** No 165. He is Lord, He is Lord

**Reading:** Psalm 85:8-9

“I will listen to what God the Lord says; he promises peace to his people, his faithful servants but let them not turn to folly.”

“Surely his salvation is near those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.”

“Love and faithfulness meet together; righteousness and peace kiss each other.”

“Faithfulness springs forth from the earth, and righteousness looks down from heaven.”

“The Lord will indeed give what is good, and our land will yield its harvest.”

“Righteousness goes before him and prepares the way for his steps.”

**Reflection:** We have a message of assurance from God in this Psalm, God's glory will again come to the land. In other words, God will again be present to bless the community and nurture it to fullness of life. And this gift is for the faithful, those whose lives are centered in relationship with God.

The images of God's salvation delightfully pile up in verses 10-13. In verse 10, God's unchanging love and trustworthiness come together to bring the community into right relationship with God and each other (i.e. righteousness). God's righteousness brings peace. The personifications in verse 10 are worth quoting: "“Love and faithfulness meet together; righteousness and peace kiss each other.”"

In addition, faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will come down from the heavens. This exuberant poetic picture is clearly in excess of any possible human achievement, and so is focused on God's presence and activity for the faithful.

God acts to bring the community into righteousness (right relationship), in turn making a path for God to walk with this community of faith.

**Silence** – 5 mins.

**Hymn:** No 336. Rejoice in the Lord always.

### **Intercessory Prayers:**

Now let us place our petitions before our living God.

### **Our Response: Lord, hear our prayer**

1. We pray for our Pope Francis, Bishops, Clergy and the Religious they may impart the fine nuances of Christian discipleship. We Pray to the Lord.
2. Lord we pray for Vocations, we pray that our youth and young ones follow you Lord Jesus. We Pray to the Lord.
3. For Christians who are not fervent in the practice of faith that they may change their ways and return to the Lord who is anxiously waiting for their conversion. We Pray to the Lord.
4. Let us pray for the sick and for those who suffer, for all in the nursing homes and hospitals, and for those who are housebound. Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles; and bring them the joy of your salvation. We Pray to the Lord.
5. For all Christians that following the example of Christ they may live holy and blameless lives and may encourage others to follow the path of Jesus. We Pray to the Lord. We Pray to the Lord.

6. Lord, set our minds on you. Let us not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of our minds. We Pray to the Lord
7. Lord we prayer for our country, give wisdom to those in authority, and give to all peoples a desire for righteousness and peace, with the will to work together in trust, to seek the common good and to share with justice the resources of the earth. We Pray to the Lord

### **Concluding Prayer**

With grateful hearts, we thank you Lord for this wonderful hour spent in your presence. The Scriptures enriched us and filled us with Joy. Bless us and always keep us under your watchful care.

**Silence – 3 min**

**Benediction Hymn: Let us bow in Adoration**