

## BENEDICTION HYMN

*Tantum ergo Sacramentum  
Veneremur cernui:  
Et antiquum documentum  
Novo cedat ritui:  
Præstet fides supplementum  
Sensuum defectui.*

*Genitori, Genitoque  
Laus et iubilatio,  
Salus, honor, virtus quoque  
Sit et benedictio:  
Procedenti ab utroque  
Compar sit laudatio. Amen.*

## THE DIVINE PRAISES

Blessed be God.  
Blessed be His Holy Name.  
Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God  
and true Man.  
Blessed be the Name of Jesus.  
Blessed be His Most Sacred Heart.  
Blessed be His Most Precious Blood.  
Blessed be Jesus in the Most Holy  
Sacrament of the Altar.  
Blessed be the Holy Spirit,  
the Paraclete.

## CLOSING HYMN

Holy God, we praise Thy Name; Lord of all, we bow before Thee!  
All on earth thy scepter claim, all in Heaven above adore Thee  
Infinite Thy vast domain, everlasting is Thy reign.

Hark! the loud celestial hymn Angel choirs above are raising  
Cherubim and seraphim, in unceasing chorus praising  
Fill the heavens with sweet accord: Holy, holy, holy, Lord.

Holy Father, Holy Son, Holy Spirit, Three we name Thee  
While in essence only One, Undivided God we claim Thee  
And adoring bend the knee, while we own the mystery. (2x)

Down in adoration falling,  
Lo! the sacred Host we hail,  
Lo! o'er ancient forms departing  
Newer rites of grace prevail;  
Faith for all defects supplying,  
Where the feeble senses fail.

To the everlasting Father,  
And the Son Who reigns on high  
With the Holy Spirit proceeding  
Forth from each eternally,  
Be salvation, honor blessing,  
Might and endless majesty. Amen.

Blessed be the great Mother of God,  
Mary most Holy.  
Blessed be her Holy and Immaculate  
Conception.  
Blessed be her Glorious Assumption.  
Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin  
and Mother.  
Blessed be St. Joseph, her most  
chaste spouse.  
Blessed be God in His Angels and in  
His Saints. Amen.



ARCHDIOCESE  
OF NEW YORK



## Archdiocese of New York SYNOD 2021 - 2023 Prayer Service Before the Blessed Sacrament

## ENTRANCE HYMN

Come, Holy Ghost, Creator blest, and in our hearts take up thy rest  
Come with thy grace and heav'nly aid to fill the hearts which thou hast made  
To fill the hearts which thou hast made.

O Comforter, to thee we cry, thou heav'nly gift of God most high  
Thou font of life and fire of love and sweet anointing from above  
And sweet anointing from above.

Praise be to thee, Father and Son and Holy Spirit, with them one  
And may the Son on us bestow the gifts that from the Spirit flow  
The gifts that from the Spirit flow.

## EXPOSITION HYMN

*O salutaris Hostia  
Quae caeli pandis ostium:  
Bella premunt hostilia,  
Da robur, fer auxilium.*

*Uni trinoque Domino  
Sit sempiterna gloria,  
Qui vitam sine termino  
Nobis donet in patria. Amen.*

O saving Victim, opening wide  
The gate of Heaven to man below;  
Our foes press hard on every side;  
Thine aid supply; thy strength bestow.

To thy great name be endless praise,  
Immortal Godhead, One in Three.  
Oh, grant us endless length of days,  
In our true native land with thee. Amen.

## SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:46-51

After three days they found [Jesus] in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions, and all who heard him were astounded at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and

I have been looking for you with great anxiety." And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things, pondering them in her heart.

## MEDITATION

Luke's first description of the boy Jesus in the temple is that he was listening. Before astounding the temple teachers with his understanding, Jesus was listening to them. Perhaps Jesus' profound human understanding was the fruit of his profound listening: When the boy Jesus returned with Mary and Joseph to Nazareth, he was obedient to them. He listened to them.

The Incarnation of Christ, the Word becoming Flesh, is a radical act of listening. Jesus listening to the will of the Father. Jesus listening attentively to the deepest stirrings of the humanity he has assumed, to the loving desires of his own Sacred Heart. Jesus listening, compassionately and mercifully, to the deepest stirrings in the hearts of all whom he encountered, recognizing the unique cry of each heart for the love of His Heavenly Father.

One aspect of the unity that binds Jesus' disciples is that each one has experienced being heard by Jesus, being important to Jesus, being

taken seriously by Jesus. Jesus would not have spent so much time with so many sinners if they were not important to him. He would not have corrected Pharisees, temple merchants, and even Peter and the apostles with such urgency, if their well-being and salvation were not of the utmost importance.

As his disciples today, let us pray to Our Lord for listening hearts. For hearts that listen with charity, like the Sacred Heart of Jesus. For hearts that listen with humility, like the Immaculate Heart of Mary, who confronted so many difficult circumstances, not complaining, not avoiding, but pondering, keeping in her heart those things she could not immediately understand, holding them in her heart with faith, hope and love.

Let us listen in prayer for the voice of Our Heavenly Father. Let us pray for the unity, given by the Spirit, for the grace to listen to each other as brothers and sisters.

Lord Jesus, open our hearts that we may hear. Open our lips, that what we utter may build your Church, your Kingdom on earth. May we be guided by the inspired words of St. Paul: *Therefore, putting away falsehood, speak the truth, each one to his neighbor, for we are members one of another. . . Be kind to one another, compassionate, forgiving one another as God has forgiven you in Christ.* (Ephesians 4:25,32)

– Fr. Richard Veras

## PERIOD OF SILENCE

### UNIVERSAL PRAYER

Let us bring our petitions to the Lord:

For a spirituality of journeying together. That we may be formed as disciples of Christ, as families, as communities, and as human beings, through our experience of this Synodal journey. **We pray to the Lord.**

For true dialogue in the Church and in society. That through a path of perseverance, patience, and mutual understanding, we may be attentive to the experience of persons and peoples. **We pray to the Lord.**

For the unity of Christians. That dialogue between Christians of different denominations, united by one Baptism, may radiate with new brightness on this Synodal journey. **We pray to the Lord.**

For our discernment to be led by the Holy Spirit. That all decisions made on this Synodal path may be discerned through a consensus that flows from our common obedience to the Holy Spirit. **We pray to the Lord.**

For a Church that celebrates. That our journey together in the coming months will be based on listening together to the Word of God and the celebration of the Eucharist in the communion of the People of God. **We pray to the Lord.**

Lord Jesus, you know the needs, hopes and desire of your Church to serve you and each other. Guide the course of our work that we may give you glory and honor in all things. We ask this in your name. **Amen.**