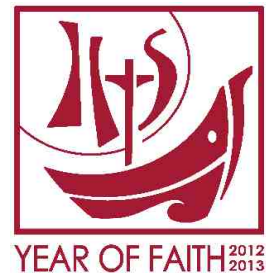


**CELEBRATING THE YEAR OF FAITH
THROUGH THE TEACHING OF VATICAN II**

*Holy Hour for December 2012
Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation
Dei Verbum, 18 November 1965*



*May we, the brothers and sisters of Christ,
hear the Word of God with reverence, and proclaim it with faith.*

As the Blessed Sacrament is exposed during this series of Holy Hours to mark the YEAR OF FAITH let us sing each time the hymn that bears these words from St Paul 'We Walk By Faith And Not By Sight'

'WE WALK BY FAITH AND NOT BY SIGHT'

Celebration For Everyone No 789/ Laudate No 284

COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God, whose goodness and wisdom have bathed us in the radiance of your incarnate word, the light of faith, which illumines our minds that we, who confess our Redeemer to be God and man, may merit to become partakers even in his divine nature.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **AMEN**

Reader 1:

'It pleased God, in his goodness and wisdom, to reveal himself and to make known the mystery of his will. His will was that mankind should have access to the Father, through Christ, the Word made flesh, in the Holy Spirit, and thus became sharers in the divine nature. By this revelation, then, the invisible God, from the fullness of his love, addresses mankind as his friends and moves among them to invite and receive them into his own company. This economy of Revelation is realised by deeds and words, which are intrinsically bound up with each other. As a result, the works performed by God in the history of salvation show forth and bear out the doctrine and realities signified by the words; the words, for their part, proclaim the works, and bring to light the mystery they contain. The most intimate truth which this revelation gives us about God and the salvation of humanity shines forth in Christ, who is himself both mediator and the sum total of Revelation.'

*(from the Documents of the II Vatican Council.
Constitution on Divine Revelation (Dei Verbum) No 2)*

A PAUSE FOR QUIET REFLECTION

Reader 2:

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 9:1-7 (*Lectioary I, pg 104*)

'THE JEALOUS LOVE OF THE LORD OF HOSTS WILL DO THIS'

12 MINUTE SILENT ADORATION

To conclude this time of adoration and reflection we sing:

MORNING HAS BROKEN

Celebration For Everyone No 490/ Liturgical Hymns Old & New No 476/ Laudate No 671

Other suitable hymns may be used highlighting the theme of God's revelation.

Reader 1:

'After God had spoken many times and in various ways through the prophets, "in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son" (Heb.1:1-2). For he sent his Son, the eternal Word who enlightens all men, to dwell among men and women and to tell them about the inner life of God. Hence, Jesus Christ, sent as a 'man among men,' 'speaks the words of God' (Jn.3:34), and accomplishes the saving work which the Father gave him to do... By divine Revelation God wished to manifest and communicate both himself and the eternal decrees of his will concerning the salvation of mankind. He wished, in other words, 'to share with us divine benefits which entirely surpass the powers of the human mind to understand.' The sacred Synod professes that 'God, the first principle and last end of all things, can be known with certainty from the created world, by the natural light of human reason' (cf. Rom.1:20). It teaches that it is to his Revelation that we must attribute the fact 'that those things, which in themselves are not beyond the grasp of human reason, can, in the present condition of the human race, be known by all people with ease, with firm certainty, and without the contamination of error.'

*(from the Documents of the II Vatican Council.
Constitution on Divine Revelation (Dei Verbum) Nos 4,6)*

A PAUSE FOR QUIET REFLECTION

Reader 2

SECOND READING **FIRST LETTER OF ST JOHN 4:9-15** (*Lectionary III, pg 516*)

‘GOD’S LOVE WAS REVEALED IN THE SENDING OF HIS SON.’

12 MINUTE SILENT ADORATION

To conclude this time of adoration and reflection we sing:

LET ALL MORTAL FLESH KEEP SILENT

Celebration For Everyone No 355/ Liturgical Hymns Old & New No 418/ Laudate No 607

Other suitable hymns may be used highlighting the theme of God’s revelation.

Reader 1:

‘Sacred Tradition and sacred Scripture make up a single sacred deposit of the Word of God, which is entrusted to the Church. By adhering to it the entire holy people, united to its pastors, remains always faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of the bread and the prayers (cf. Acts.2:42). So in maintaining, practicing and professing the faith that has been handed on there should be a remarkable harmony between the bishops and the faithful. But the task of giving an authentic interpretation of the Word of God, whether in its written form or in the form of Tradition, has been entrusted to the living teaching office of the Church alone. Its authority in this matter is exercised in the name of Jesus Christ. Yet this Magisterium is not superior to the Word of God, but is its servant.... It is clear, therefore, that, in the supremely wise arrangement of God sacred Tradition, sacred Scripture and the Magisterium of the Church are so connected and associated that one of them cannot stand without the others. Working together, each in its own way under the action of the one Holy Spirit, they all contribute effectively to the salvation of souls.’ *(from the Documents of the II Vatican Council.*

Constitution on Divine Revelation (Dei Verbum) No 10)

A PAUSE FOR QUIET REFLECTION

GOSPEL READING

JOHN 1:1-18 (*Lectionary I, pg 111*)

‘THE WORD WAS MADE FLESH AND LIVED AMONG US.’

12 MINUTE SILENT ADORATION

To conclude this time of adoration and reflection we sing:

COME DOWN, O LOVE DIVINE,

Celebration For Everyone No 125/ Liturgical Hymns Old & New No 209/ Laudate No 303

Other suitable hymns may be used highlighting the theme of God’s revelation.

Leader:

In humility of heart, let us pray to God who cares for everyone.

Response to each prayer: Lord, strengthen the faith of your people

Reader 2:

- Keep alive in your Church the strength of faith and the joy of believing. We pray to the Lord
- Open the hearts of all believers to hear and respond with love to your Incarnate Word so that they may be conformed to the image of your Son. We pray to the Lord
- Hold in your power the bond of communion between Tradition, Scripture and the Magisterium of the Church. We pray to the Lord
- Grant that all the faithful of the Church through the inspiration of divine revelation may devote themselves to the cause of peace, charity, forgiveness, mercy, justice and love. We pray to the Lord
- For all those preparing for Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist to become full members of the body of Christ, the Church and for those preparing to receive other sacraments, may they find the fulfilment they seek in Christ and his Church. We pray to the Lord
- May Christ through the ministry of the Church banish disease, drive out hunger, and ward of every affliction in the world. We pray to the Lord
- Grant to those who have died the joy of standing before you as Saints among saints in the halls of heaven. We pray to the Lord

BENEDICTION PRAYERS AND HYMNS NOW FOLLOW

FILL YOUR HEARTS WITH JOY AND GLADNESS

Alternative Melody: Ode To Joy (Beethoven: 9th Symphony)

Liturgical Hymns Old & New No 257/ Laudate No 703