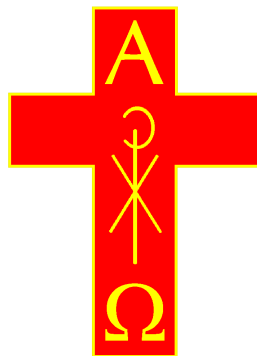


# **A Rite of Prayers before the Reserved Sacrament**

*Prepared by the  
Society of Catholic Priests  
European Province*



*This Rite of Prayers before the Reserved Sacrament is designed to be led by a lay person before the location of the Reserved Sacrament in church. When the service begins, perhaps signified by a bell, people may choose to kneel or stand. The Lord's Prayer may be prayed, followed by:*

Leader: Like as the hart longs for flowing streams, so longs my soul for you,  
O God: Lord, have mercy.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: O send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me:  
Christ, have mercy.

**All: Christ, have mercy.**

Leader: May we come to your altar, O God, the God of our salvation:  
Lord, have mercy.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: May the God of love bring us back to himself, forgive us our sins, and assure us of his eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## **Reflection**

*All sit.*

*There is a time of led or silent reflection before the Reserved Sacrament. This could be accompanied by music. This time is for devotion; for being with the Lord, for listening to Him, for worshipping Him.*

*The Leader may choose to begin or end this period of silence with a scriptural sentence such as:*

Jesus said, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'

## **Prayers**

*The prayers could be formal intercessions or a period of open prayer started and ended by the Leader allowing anyone to offer a short intercessions.*

*The Leader may introduce the prayers with:*

For where two or three are gathered together in my name, I am there among them.

*The prayers may end with the following acclamation:*

Leader: I am the bread of life, anyone who comes to me shall not hunger,  
anyone who believes in me shall never thirst.

**All: Alleluia. Lord, give us this bread always.**

Leader: The bread of God comes down from heaven, and gives life to the world.

**All: Alleluia. Lord, give us this bread always.**

Leader: Anyone who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life  
and I will raise them up on the last day.

**All: Alleluia. Lord, give us this bread always.**

Leader: It is the Spirit that gives life; the flesh is of no avail.  
The words I speak, they are spirit and they are life.

**All: Alleluia. Lord, give us this bread always.**

**Ending**

*A hymn may be sung. People may choose to stand.*

Leader: The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ?  
The bread that we break, is it not a sharing in the body of Christ?  
Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body,  
for we all partake of the one bread.

May the Father, who fed his children with manna in the wilderness,  
strengthen us in our pilgrimage to the Promised Land.

**All: Amen.**

Leader: May the Son, who gave his flesh for food and his blood for drink,  
keep us in eternal life and raise us up on the last day.

**All: Amen.**

Leader: May the Holy Spirit, who leads us into all truth, help us discern  
the Lord's body and empower us to proclaim his death until he comes.

**All: Amen.**

Leader: Let us bless the Lord in the Most Holy Sacrament.

**All: Thanks be to God.**