

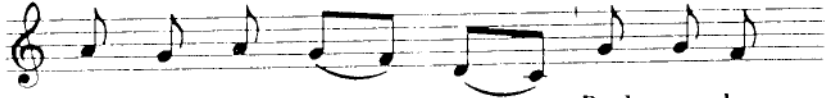
*Prayer Service in Honor of the
Passionist Tri-Centennial
1720 - 2020*



*November 21, 2020
St. Joseph Monastery
Whitesville, KY*

Entrance Procession:

**Look Down from Heaven,
Paul Our Holy Founder**



1. Look down from heav en, Paul, our ho -
2. Like the deer seek - ing cool re - fresh -
3. With will - ing glad - ness, as a loy -
4. O, Al - might - y God, Fa - ther, Son,



1. ly found - er, While your life's won -
2. ing wa - ters, You longed for Christ's
3. al sol - dier, You walked where Christ
4. and Spir - it, To You be all



1. ders we are now re - call - ing. Lead us
2. cross there to find re - demp - tion. Trans - formed
3. led, faith - ful im - i - ta - tor; Won - drous
4. praise, to You be all hon - or. Grant us



1. your chil - dren, heav - en's crown to strive
2. by his grace, a - lone with him rest -
3. in vir - tue, you mir - rored forth un -
4. that one day we re - joice in heav -



1. for, all hope sur - pass - ing.
2. ing, strong a - gainst e - vil.
3. dimmed God's Son af - flict - ed.
4. en with Paul our fa - ther.

Melody: Gregorian chant

Prayer to St. Paul of the Cross:

(all pray together)

Lord God, you gave our Father, Saint Paul of the Cross, a knowledge of the unfathomable riches of the mystery of the cross, and the gift of perfect love for your Son. As we celebrate the wonders of your power, revealed in our Founder, grant that we may learn from his example and be protected by his prayers. 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.

(Please be seated.)

The first and second readings are excerpted from the Spiritual Diary of St. Paul of the Cross, written during his 40 day retreat, Nov. 22, 1720 through Jan. 1, 1721. This year we are celebrating the Tri-Centennial of the Passionist Congregation, dated from this retreat 300 years ago, for it was during this intense experience of prayer that Paul received the foundational graces of the Passionist charism and the vocation to found the Congregation.

First Reading:

Diary of St. Paul of the Cross, December 6, 1720; November 28, 1720

St. Paul of the Cross received many of his most important inspirations in the context of the Holy Eucharist. In this reading we catch a glimpse of him at prayer after Holy Communion as he begged God to help him found the Passionist Congregation. We also witness how the Lord began to answer that prayer.

Response:

Psalm 63: 2-9, by Fr. Reginald Haller, OP

(all sing refrain; please remain seated)



My soul is thirst-ing for you, O Lord my God.

O God, you are my God for you I long,
for you my soul is thirsting;
my body pines for you,
like a dry, weary land without water.
So I gaze on you in the sanctuary,
to see your strength and your glory. **(Refrain)**

For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise;
so I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands!
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy. **(Refrain)**

On my bed I remember you,
on you I muse through the night,
for you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice!
My soul clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast. **(Refrain)**

Second Reading:

Diary of St. Paul of the Cross, December 7, 1720; December 8, 1720

In this reading, we witness the tenderness and fervor of St. Paul of the Cross' love of Jesus Crucified and of his fellowmen. He yearns that all could know God's love and respond in kind. Paul's own loving union with Jesus goes beyond words and is so deep that he is able to name the Lord "my Spouse Jesus."

Response:

*Mystical Poem of St. Paul of the Cross
translated by Mother Mary Agnes Roche, CP*

(all sing together; please remain seated)

In pure faith's dim vision only / Soul enamoured finds true joy
In the ever-present Being / Where it cleanses all alloy.
Burning sweetly in that furnace / Held by hope above earth's plane,
Humbled in His holy presence / Sweet abandonment she claims.

As her ever-blessed portion / There, reposing in His love,
Heart and life and all she offers, / Brave detachment as a dove.
Whole, entire upon the altar, / To the Spouse herself she gives,
Lost within that Sea unbounded / She finds rest and for Him lives.

O, that in this fire so holy, / I by Love might be consumed,
And by this be changed entirely / To Christ's Passion be transformed!
Ah, that His most sacred suffering / Could be always in my heart!
Ah, could I be ever praying, / Burning love my only part!

Gaze upon your Savior Jesus, / Love's sweet victim crucified,
Lovingly He pleads for comfort, / For your love He sweetly died.
"Have you understood My pleading, / Have you learned the lesson well?
Look upon your Jesus dying, / Live in Me, My Heart your cell!"

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia.

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,
because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

Alleluia, Alleluia.

Gospel:

John 19: 17-30

The spiritual home of every Passionist is at the foot of the Cross. The account of Jesus' Crucifixion according to St. John beautifully highlights many key aspects of Passionist spirituality.

Sermon

Response:

Jesus, My Love, by Richard Rolle

(sung by the Nuns; please remain seated)

Jesus, for us didst hang on Rood,
For Love Thou gavest Thine Heart's Blood,
Love made of Thee our souls' True Food,
Thy Love has brought us to all good.

Jesus, my Love! Of Heart so free,
All this didst do for love of me,
What shall I for this offer Thee?
Naught dost Thou crave but love from me.

Jesus, My God, my Lord, my King,
Would'st have of me none other thing
Save but true love and heart's longing
And tears of love, and true mourning.

Jesus, my Love, my Joy, my Light,
I would Thee love as is Thy right,
Grant me to love with all my might
And mourn for Thee by day and night.

Jesus, grant me such love of Thee
That all my thought on Thee may be,
Turn Thou Thine eyes, I pray, on me,
And graciously my sorrow see!

Litany of the Passionist Saints and Blessed:

Please kneel as we pray for the inspiration that comes from those who have gone before us. They show us in their lives the imagination of the Father, the love of Christ and the wisdom of the Holy Spirit.

Lord, have mercy on us,
Christ, have mercy on us,
Lord, have mercy on us,
Christ, hear us,

Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, graciously hear us.

Holy Mary and St. Joseph,
All you holy Angels and Archangels,
All you holy Apostles and Evangelists,
All you Saints and Martyrs,
All you holy Founders and Foundresses,

Pray for us.
Pray for us.
Pray for us.
Pray for us.
Pray for us.

St. Paul of the Cross,
St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother,
St. Gemma Galgani,
St. Vincent Mary Strambi,
St. Maria Goretti,
St. Innocencio Canoura,
St. Charles of Mt. Argus,
Bl. Isidore de Loor,
Bl. Dominic Barberi,
Bl. Lorenzo Salvi,
Bl. Bernard Silvestrelli,
Bl. Eugene Bossilkov,
Bl. Niceforo & Companions,
Ven. Mary Crucified,
Ven. Maria Magdalena,
Ven. Addolorata,

Pray for us.
Pray for us
Pray for us.
Pray for us
Pray for us
Pray for us
Pray for us
Pray for us.
Pray for us.
Pray for us
Pray for us.
Pray for us
Pray for us
Pray for us
Pray for us
Pray for us

Ven. Leonarda,
All you holy men and women,

Pray for us
Pray for us.

That all Passionists might live our consecration, faithful to the charism of our founder, and may be renewed in our proclamation of the infinite love of our Crucified Savior, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That the grateful remembrance of the Passion of Jesus will be a source of comfort and strength to all Christians, and inspire them with a loving acceptance of their daily cross, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For this community of Passionist Nuns of St. Joseph Monastery, that Our Crucified Lord will strengthen and sustain our contemplative life at the foot of His Cross; and for His abundant blessings on our Passionist Oblates, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For many good and holy vocations to the Passionist Congregation throughout the world, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Let us pray: Lord, may the prayers of all the saints of the Congregation of the Passion unite to help us. May we faithfully follow their example under the banner of the Cross, and seek always to spread Christ's kingdom by prayer and apostolic work. 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.**

Blessing with the Relic of St. Paul of the Cross

Recessional Song:

(sung by the Nuns; please stand)

Salve, Sancte Pater

by Fr. Ladislau Ravasi, CP

Salve, Sancte Pater, columna et decus nostrum, tuum da filiis spiritum, da perseverantiam, libera nos a malis, defende nos in proelio, voca nos in patriam.

(Hail, Holy Father [Paul of the Cross], our pillar and glory. Give your spirit to your children, give us perseverance, free us from evil, defend us in battle, summon us into our heavenly homeland.)



300 years ago

in December 1720, the fire of the Holy Spirit kindled in St. Paul of the Cross the charism of our Passionist Congregation.

250 years ago

in May 1771, that flame leapt up in the first monastery of Passionist Nuns in Tarquinia, Italy.

75 years ago

in October 1946, five Passionist Nuns brought the flame to a new monastery here in Owensboro, KY.

25 years ago

in December 1995, eighteen Nuns with hearts on fire relocated our Owensboro monastery to this location in Whitesville.

Thank you for celebrating with us today!



*Cherish
the
Flame*

1771 **250** years 2021

Passionist Nuns ♦ Contemplative Life

www.passionistnuns.org