

Holy Hour for Life and Liberty

[The following Holy Hour is a model based on the ritual book *Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist Outside of Mass*, which should be followed in all respects. The Scripture passages below are the Mass readings for October 20, 2012. **This Holy Hour may be used throughout the year by substituting the Mass Readings of the day.** A resource by the USCCB Committee on Divine Worship entitled *Thirty-One Questions on Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament* may also be helpful in planning.]

Procession

After all have assembled, a priest or deacon, wearing cope and humeral veil, brings the Blessed Sacrament to the Altar in a monstrance, a song may be sung. He may be accompanied by altar servers with candles.

Opening Song:

<i>O SALUTARIS Hostia</i>	O SAVING Victim opening wide
<i>Quae caeli pandis ostium.</i>	The gate of heaven to all below.
<i>Bella premunt hostilia;</i>	Our foes press on from every side;
<i>Da robur, fer auxilium.</i>	Thine aid supply, Thy strength bestow.

<i>Uni trinoque Domino</i>	To Thy great name be endless praise
<i>Sit sempiterna gloria:</i>	Immortal Godhead, One in Three;
<i>Qui vitam sine termino,</i>	Oh, grant us endless length of days,
<i>Nobis donet in patria. Amen.</i>	In our true native land with Thee. Amen.

The Blessed Sacrament is placed on the altar. The presiding minister then kneels before the altar and incenses the Blessed Sacrament. The opening song is concluded and a period of silent prayer follows.

Opening Prayer

The presiding minister then goes to the chair, where he prays:

Presiding Minister:

Heavenly Father,
in this great sacrament
we come into the presence of Jesus Christ, your Son.

out of love for you, Father, and for us,
in his perfect obedience to your will that all men and women be saved,
Jesus freely chose to suffer and die for our sins,
revealing the immeasurable value of every human life.
Grant that we may freely choose to die to our self-interest
and obey your holy will by defending the lives of the innocent
and defending the faith and freedom you have bestowed on us, your children.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

Reading 1

EPH 1:15-23 LFM 472

A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians.

Brothers and sisters:

Hearing of your faith in the Lord Jesus
and of your love for all the holy ones,
I do not cease giving thanks for you,
remembering you in my prayers,
that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory,
may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation
resulting in knowledge of him.
May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened,
that you may know what is the hope that belongs to his call,
what are the riches of glory
in his inheritance among the holy ones,
and what is the surpassing greatness of his power
for us who believe,
in accord with the exercise of his great might,
which he worked in Christ,
raising him from the dead
and seating him at his right hand in the heavens,
far above every principality, authority, power, and dominion,
and every name that is named
not only in this age but also in the one to come.
And he put all things beneath his feet

and gave him as head over all things to the Church,
which is his Body,
the fullness of the one who fills all things in every way.

Responsorial Psalm

PS 8:2-3AB, 4-5, 6-7 LFM

R. You have given your Son rule over the works of your hands.

O LORD, our LORD,
how glorious is your name over all the earth!
You have exalted your majesty above the heavens.
Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings
you have fashioned praise because of your foes.

R. You have given your Son rule over the works of your hands.

When I behold your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars which you set in place?
What is man that you should be mindful of him,
or the son of man that you should care for him?

R. You have given your Son rule over the works of your hands.

You have made him little less than the angels,
and crowned him with glory and honor.
You have given him rule over the works of your hands,
putting all things under his feet.

R. You have given your Son rule over the works of your hands.

Gospel Acclamation

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

[Insert day's Gospel Acclamation verse.]

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

Lk 12:8-12 LFM

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to his disciples:

“I tell you,
everyone who acknowledges me before others
the Son of Man will acknowledge before the angels of God.
But whoever denies me before others
will be denied before the angels of God.

“Everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven,
but the one who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit
will not be forgiven.

When they take you before synagogues and before rulers and authorities,
do not worry about how or what your defense will be
or about what you are to say.

For the Holy Spirit will teach you at that moment what you should say.”

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

At the conclusion of the last reading a priest or a deacon preaches the homily, followed by an extended period of silent prayer.

Homily

The Presiding Minister may offer insights on the value of human life and importance of religious liberty, based on these readings and on the lives of three new American saints (to be) canonized by Pope Benedict XVI on Sunday, October 21, 2012. [Homily points provided.]

Period of Silent Reflection and Adoration

Intercessions

Standing at the chair, the presiding minister invites the people to pray:

Presiding Minister: God is the author of life. In him we place our trust and hope as we pray:

Deacon or Other Minister:

For every woman whose heart is broken by the sin of abortion:
for the courage to accept God's mercy, healing, and peace;
We pray to the Lord:

For our President and all who work with him:
that God might fill their hearts with a love
for the weakest, the littlest and the most defenseless of our citizens;
We pray to the Lord:

For our lawmakers:
that they may have the wisdom and courage to uphold conscience rights
and protect all people
from being forced to violate their moral and religious convictions;
We pray to the Lord:

For those called to heal and cure the sick and suffering:
that they may be free to follow their faith,
while fulfilling their professional duties;
We pray to the Lord:

For conscience rights and religious liberty:
that all people of good will may work together
against the increasing threats to these fundamental rights;
We pray to the Lord:

For Catholic families:
that out of love for their children,
parents will learn, live and pass on to them
Catholic moral teaching on the sanctity of life, sexuality and marriage;
We pray to the Lord:

For all churches, agencies, employers, healthcare providers and individuals:
that they may be free from government mandates
that would compel them to compromise their beliefs;
We pray to the Lord.

For those who have grown very old,
and suffer the losses and pains of old age:
that God might give us the grace to love and cherish them;
We pray to the Lord:

For those who work to promote the Gospel of Life
by prayer, by witness and by action:
that God might bless them for their goodness;
We pray to the Lord:

Presiding Minister: Through the intercession of Mary Immaculate, the Virgin of Guadalupe, we ask that our voices be heard, as we say together this prayer for life and liberty:

All: O God our Creator,
from your provident hand we have received
our right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.
You have called us as your people and given us
the right and the duty to worship you, the only true God,
and your Son, Jesus Christ.
Through the power and working of your Holy Spirit,
you call us to live out our faith in the midst of the world,
bringing the light and the saving truth of the Gospel
to every corner of society.
We ask you to bless us
in our vigilance for the gift of religious liberty.
Give us the strength of mind and heart
to readily defend our freedoms when they are threatened;
give us courage in making our voices heard
on behalf of the rights of your Church
and the freedom of conscience of all people of faith.
Grant, we pray, O heavenly Father,
a clear and united voice to all your sons and daughters
gathered in your Church
in this decisive hour in the history of our nation,
so that, with every trial withstood
and every danger overcome—
for the sake of our children, our grandchildren,
and all who come after us—
this great land will always be “one nation, under God,
indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Benediction

The presiding minister goes to the altar, genuflects, and then kneels. As he kneels, “*Tantum ergo*” or another suitable Eucharistic song is sung and he incenses the Blessed Sacrament.

<i>Tantum ergo Sacramentum</i>	Down in adoration falling,
<i>Veneremur cernui:</i>	Lo! the sacred Host we hail,
<i>Et antiquum documentum</i>	Lo! o'er ancient forms departing
<i>Novo cedat ritui:</i>	Newer rites of grace prevail;
<i>Praestet fides supplementum</i>	Faith for all defects supplying,
<i>Sensuum defectui.</i>	Where the feeble senses fail.

<i>Genitori, Genitoque</i>	To the everlasting Father,
<i>Laus et iubilatio,</i>	And the Son Who reigns on high
<i>Salus, honor, virtus quoque</i>	With the Holy Spirit proceeding
<i>Sit et benedictio:</i>	Forth from each eternally,
<i>Procedenti ab utroque</i>	Be salvation, honor, blessing,
<i>Compar sit laudatio. Amen.</i>	Might and endless majesty. Amen.

After the hymn is finished, he rises and sings or says:

Presiding Minister: You have given them Bread from Heaven.

All: Having all sweetness within it.

Presiding Minister: Let us pray.

After a brief period of silence, the presider continues:

Lord Jesus Christ,
you gave us the Eucharist
as the memorial of your suffering and death.
May our worship of this sacrament of your body and blood
help us to experience the salvation you won for us
and the peace of the kingdom
where you live with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

After the prayer, the presider puts on the humeral veil, genuflects, and takes the monstrance. He makes the sign of the cross with the monstrance over those gathered, in silence.

Reposition

After the blessing the Blessed Sacrament is removed from the monstrance and brought to the place of reservation. Meanwhile, the presiding minister may lead those assembled in the Divine Praises. Each acclamation is repeated by all, together.

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.

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

After the Divine Praises are finished, the hymn is sung, and the presiding minister and the servers bow to the altar and leave.

Closing Song “Holy God, We Praise Thy Name”