

## **HOLY SATURDAY - APRIL 11, 2020**

### **PNCC WORSHIP FOR THOSE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE HOLY SATURDAY LITURGY DUE TO COVID 19**

Blessed be the Holy and Undivided Trinity, now and forever. Amen.

Dear Father in heaven, thank You for bringing me safely to the beginning of a new day. Keep me safe throughout the day from temptation, sin and evil. O Lord, by Your help and guidance may my thoughts, words and all that I do be in accordance with Your holy will. Amen.

#### **ACT OF CONTRITION**

O God, from the depth of my heart I am sorry for sinning against You. Through my sins I have turned away from You, displeased You and offended You. I promise to confess my sins, to do penance and with Your grace to amend my life by following You closely and keeping Your commandments.

#### **PRAYER OF NEW LIGHT**

Lord, our God, almighty Father, Eternal Brightness, You are the Creator of all light. Grant that, inflamed and enlightened by the fire of Your life, we may see You in eternity. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

#### **THE EXULTET: PRAYER TO BLESS THE PASCHAL CANDLE - ADAPTED FOR FAMILY PRAYER AT HOME**

Rejoice now, all you heavenly choirs of angels. Rejoice, all creation around God's throne, for this mighty King is victorious. Sound, O trumpet, tell of our salvation. Rejoice too, O earth, you are made brilliant by such splendor.

Rejoice, for you have been illumined. Darkness everywhere has been overcome by the brightness of this everlasting King. Rejoice, O holy Church! You are made radiant by so great a Light. Let this place ring out with rejoicing, with the song of all Your people. And you, my dearest friends, who are offering this worship join in prayer to our almighty God.

Let us ask that He show us mercy; so that, by the outpouring of His celestial brightness, He may awaken in us a longing for eternal light. We ask this through Jesus Christ, His Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with Him in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

We do well always and everywhere, with all the ardor of our hearts and minds, to proclaim the invisible, almighty Father and His only-begotten Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ.

For this is the paschal feast in which the true lamb was slain, whose blood hallowed the door posts of the faithful. This is the time in which You, O God, brought our ancestors, the children of Israel, dry-shod through the Red Sea in the flight from Egypt.

This is the time in which the light of the pillar of fire destroyed the darkness of sin.

This is the time in which those who believe in Christ everywhere are restored in grace and united in holiness.

This is the time in which Christ burst the bonds of death, triumphed over evil, and rose from the grave in victory.

For Christ is yesterday Alpha and today Omega, the beginning and the end. His are the times and the ages, to Him be glory and dominion forever.

Therefore, heavenly Father in memory of so great a mercy, accept the gift of incense which Your holy Church brings before You at the hands of Your servants in the solemn offering of this gladsome light which represents for us our Lord, Jesus Christ. By His holy and glorious wounds, may He guard and preserve us for You.

And so, heavenly Father, we pray that the Paschal candle, consecrated in honor of Your name, may be a sign of the end of the darkness of sin. Receive its pleasing fragrance and mingle it with the lights of heaven.

And on the day of our release from this world, may that Morning Star which never sets, Jesus Christ, Who came from the grave and shed His serene light upon humanity, find its flame still burning in our hearts. Then, may we with all Your faithful people one day arrive in Your heavenly kingdom. We ask this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

### **EXHORTATION PRAYERS**

Lord, our God, by the strength of Your will You called the world into existence, breathed life into all creatures and gave us the gifts of mind and heart to know and love You. As we follow the light of Christ, strengthen our wills against temptation and enlighten our minds so that we may come to know and love You more deeply. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen,

Almighty God, You revealed Yourself through the prophets, but most completely in Jesus Christ, through Whom You have refashioned us for Yourself. As we journey through this life, may we never stray from the road that leads to You and may we always remain united to You. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Lord God, You are absolute power and eternal Light. With unceasing direction and grace look upon Your Church, the means of our salvation. May the whole world witness what you accomplish through Your Church, raising up the humble and making all things new. May all humanity come to know that all things return to Him from Whom they have their beginning: Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

Almighty, eternal God, You desire that all nations of the world be united in One Church with Jesus Christ as her High Priest. May every nation manifest that which is most praiseworthy in service to You and Your Holy Church. We ask this in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who lives and reign with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

### **PRAYERS AS WATER IS BLESSED – ADAPTED FOR FAMILY PRAYER AT HOME**

Like a deer that longs for running waters, so my soul longs for You, my God.  
My soul is thirsting for the Lord. When shall I see Him face to face? – *Psalm 42:1-2*

Almighty, eternal God, look kindly on Your people who thirst for the water of regeneration. Satisfy that thirst of faith in the mystery of holy Baptism and with the Spirit of adoption. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You in the unity with the Holy Spirit, on God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God, we do well always and everywhere to give You thanks through Jesus Christ, our Lord. By Your invisible power You pour into us sacramental graces. You never cease to give us Your gifts, even though we are unworthy to receive them or to perform Your Mysteries.

Lord, our God, at the very beginning of the world, Your Spirit moved over the waters and blessed them from which later all else issued forth. In Your mercy, hear our prayers. Look upon us and grant that we may do everything in this same Spirit.

May the life-giving Spirit empower this water for the regeneration of humanity. May He render it life-bearing through the mystery of God's grace and unity, so that they, who shall be conceived and made holy in the pure depths of these waters, may become new creatures through a heavenly birth.

May this holy and innocent creature, this water, become a living fountain, a regenerating water, a purifying stream, so that all who shall be washed in this saving bath may obtain remission of their sins.

For this reason, creature of water, blessed by the living God, the true God, the holy God, by that God, Who in the beginning separated you from the land by His Word, Whose Spirit moved over you. He made you flow from the fountains of paradise and commanded you to water the whole earth with your four rivers. In the desert He bestowed sweetness upon you, when you were bitter, for the refreshment of the people. He brought you out of the rock to quench the thirst of the people.

Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who changed you into wine manifesting His power in Cana in Galilee; Who walked on you; Who was baptized in you by John at the Jordan; Who from His side brought you forth mixed with blood; Who commanded His disciples to baptize in water anyone who would believe in Him. For He said: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

With the breath of Your mouth, O Lord, bless these pure waters that they may effect the purification of the soul.

May the power of the Holy Spirit descend into the waters of this font and make the whole substance of this water fruitful for regeneration.

Here may the stains of all sin be blotted out. Here may nature, created in Your image, be restored to the honor of its first condition and cleansed from all defilement.

May all who receive this sacrament of regeneration be born again into a new life.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You in the unity with the same Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## **REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISMAL VOWS:**

In this most sacred time, we recall the death and burial of our Lord Jesus Christ. In return for His great love, we keep watch. And, celebrating His glorious resurrection, we are filled with joy that knows no end. As the Apostle Paul teaches, by our baptism we have been buried with Christ into death. As Christ has risen from the dead, by our baptism we too are raised up to walk in newness of life. We know that by baptism our old self has been crucified with Christ, so that we may no longer be slaves to sin. Let us remember, then, that we have died to sin, and are to live for God, in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Now that we have completed our preparation during this Great and Holy Lent, let us reaffirm the promises of our baptism, by which we once renounced all evil and turned our backs to that world which is the enemy of God, and promised to serve God faithfully in the Holy Catholic Church.

I renounce the evil one.

I renounce all evil works.

I renounce all pomp, lies, and hypocrisy.

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only-begotten Son, our Lord, Who was born and Who suffered for us.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting.

Our Father...

And may almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who regenerated us through the water and the Holy Spirit, and Who has redeemed us from sin, guard us with His grace to everlasting life in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Sprinkle me, O Lord, with hyssop and I shall be purified; wash me and I shall be whiter than snow. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence; do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

May the light of Christ's holy Gospel illumine your way of life. Keep in deepest respect your holy Baptism which united you with Jesus Christ, made you a part of His Holy Church, and brought you into the Communion of Saints. Observe the Commandments of God, and when our Lord comes to us as the Bridegroom of His Church, may you meet Him together with all the Saints in the heavenly court, and live for ever and ever. Amen.

## **CONCLUDING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Blessed are You, God our Father. By Your great mercy we have been born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and to an inheritance which cannot spoil, decay or fade away. We give You thank for the kingdom, the power and the glory are Yours now and for ever. Amen.

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**PRAYER IN TIME OF NATIONAL ANXIETY**

Let us pray.

I come to You, Lord, in this time of uncertainty and confusion that has gripped our nation. I pray that our leaders and representatives in government are filled with Your peace, strength and courage. May your gifts of wisdom and understanding, fortitude and counsel be sought and utilized by them for the well-being of our country. By their belief and trust in You may they provide capable leadership, promote unity and peace, and be attentive to the concerns of our people. May Your Church provide support and comfort; and help strengthen our hope for peace through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

**REGINA CAELI - ASKING THE INTERCESSION OF OUR BLESSED MOTHER**

Queen of Heaven, rejoice. Alleluia.

For He, whom you did merit to bear. Alleluia.

Has risen as He said. Alleluia.

Pray for us to God. Alleluia.

V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary. Alleluia

R. For the Lord has truly risen. Alleluia.

Let us pray.

O God, Who gave joy to the world through the Resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, His mother, we may attain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

In the name of the ✠ Father and of the Son of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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**PRAYERS FOR EASTER FOOD**

O God, Who by Your servant Moses did command Your people in their deliverance from Egypt to kill a lamb in the symbol of Jesus Christ, our Lord, and did prescribe that its blood be used to mark their door-posts, we ask You to bless and sanctify this flesh food which we are to receive, and grant that being nourished we willingly perform all those duties which You do assign to us. We ask this through the resurrection of the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You forever and ever. Amen.

Lord, Jesus Christ, bread of angels, true bread of everlasting life, we ask You to bless this bread as You did bless the five loaves in the desert and grant that Your faithful people who thankfully partake of it, may have health of soul and body. For You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

We ask You, O Lord, let Your blessing come upon these eggs, that Your faithful people who thankfully partake of them, may find them healthful food in honor of the resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who with the Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns God, forever and ever. Amen.

Almighty and Everlasting God, Creator of all things, humbly we implore You to bless and sanctify this Easter food which we receive from Your bounty, and grant that it be for the strengthening of body and soul. We ask this in the Name of Your Son Jesus Christ, Who with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns God, forever and ever. Amen.

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*Compiled from 2006 PNCC Missal and the 2010 PNCC Prayer Book  
by Very Rev. Robert M. Nemkovich Jr.  
Chairman, PNCC National Liturgical Commission  
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