



"Return to God with a sincerely contrite heart
to obtain his mercy"

Joel 2,12-18

LITURGICAL CELEBRATION FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

For the ambience, prepare the Holy Cross and ashes.

MONITION:

Sisters let us allow the symbolic rite of the imposition of ashes this Ash Wednesday to remind us that "we are dust and unto dust we will return". As we enter the door of Lenten season may the penitential Psalm for today "be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned" (cf. Ps 51) be our song and lead us to a renewed commitment to prayer, resolute to make a greater effort of penance, fasting and loving attention to our brothers and sisters.

Let us invoke the intercession of Francisco Palau who taught us that prayer and sacrifices are the invincible weapons of the holy Church, that our little efforts may bear fruit and direct us to love and to serve concretely the Church: God and neighbor.

And to begin this moment of prayer let us listen to the song...

Song - English: IN MY HEART

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YOzKGTroENE>

Song - Spanish: MIÉRCOLES DE CENIZA

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rpNDe40IXAk>

PRAYER:

Spirit of God, who led Jesus into the desert to fast and pray, lead us as we enter this time of Lent. Give us courage to examine our hearts with honesty; give us strength to deal with what we find, we need to change and improve; give us love to forgive ourselves and each other, so that, in peace and joy, we may celebrate at Easter the death and resurrection of Jesus and all that it means for each of us. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Return to the Lord, your God, for God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing (Joel 2: 13).



FIRST MOMENT: We gather together for the cleansing of our hearts...

Let us have a moment of silence and deep examine of conscience as an individual and as a community.

Instrumental music: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RjATm12qJaY>

Spontaneous prayer, acknowledging our sins, praying for God's mercy, healing and forgiveness.

ANTIPHON: Our heart is made by the hands of God to love and to be loved and it will only live through love.

ANTIPHON: Nuestro Corazón está fabricado para amar y ser amado, Y solo vive de amor y solo vive de amor.

PRAYER FOR HEALING

God of healing,
God of wholeness,
we bring our brokenness,
our sinfulness,
our fears
and despair,
and lay them at your feet.

God of healing,
God of wholeness,
we hold out hearts and hands,
minds and souls
to feel your touch,
and know the peace
that only you can bring.

God of healing,
God of wholeness,
this precious moment
in your presence and power
grant us faith and confidence
that here broken lives
are made whole.

CANTO: Marco Barrientos- Perdón (Leche y Miel Producciones)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DwvGwALD7xw>

GLORIA...

ANTIPHON: Our heart is made by the hands of God to love and to be loved and it will only live through love.

ANTIPHON: Nuestro Corazón está fabricado para amar y ser amado, Y solo vive de amor y solo vive de amor.

SECOND MOMENT

PALAUTIAN TEXT: MR 7:7

My God, my Lord! Unhappy me; I am a wretched sinner; Lord pardon my ingratitude. Yes, your daughter is my daughter, Oh eternal Father. And you, Oh Jesus, your spouse is my beloved spouse: save me, my Lord. I am a flesh of your flesh and bones of her bones, blood of her blood; save me and I shall be saved, by saving me you save your Spouse. Holy Church, save me and I shall be saved! By saving me you save yourself, because I am your flesh, I am your bones, I am your blood. Do not abandon these flesh and dry bones brought to life by your Father. These people are your members, they are your body; save them from decay of guilt and sin.

PAUSE.

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL:

Song - English:

Create in me a clean heart. Put a new and right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Song - Spanish:

La bondad y el amor del Señor, dura por siempre (2x)

BIBLICAL TEXT: Mt. 6:2 – 4

When you do acts of kindness, don't have it trumpeted before you; that is what hypocrites do in the synagogues and the streets, that they may be praised by others. The truth is, they've already received their reward in full. But when you do acts of kindness, don't let your left hand know what your right hand is doing; your good deeds must be done in secret, and your God – who sees all that is done in secret – will repay you.

PAUSE.

THIRD MOMENT:

INVITATION TO IMPOSITION OF ASHES:

Sisters, as we receive the ashes on our foreheads, we affirm that in the life-cycle, we are continually dying to the old ways and rising to newness. Though change is sometimes difficult, our faith helps us to break through what seems like disaster - to live with new life. May we all find that new life as we journey to Easter! As these ashes are placed on our heads, let it be a sign of our repentance and willingness to change our lives for the better, to make us really women of faith, weaving new relationships as our desire and prayer.

Instrumental Music:

All pause for silent prayer ...

Pray for personal and communitarian reconciliation. After some moment of silence, each one will give a sign of peace to each other by putting ashes to one another forehead and having dyad for mutual peace and reconciliation, until everybody in the community were able to touch each other's forehead and dialogue for forgiveness and resolution.

Once the imposition of ashes is done, the community will recite together the FAST LIFE.



THE FAST LIFE

Fast from judging others;
Feast on Christ dwelling in them.
Fast from fear of illness;
Feast on the healing power of God.
Fast from words that pollute;
Feast on speech that purifies.
Fast from discontent;
Feast on gratitude.
Fast from anger;
Feast on patience.
Fast from pessimism;
Feast on hope.
Fast from negatives;
Feast on encouragement.
Fast from bitterness;
Feast on forgiveness.
Fast from self-concern;
Feast on compassion.
Fast from suspicion;
Feast on truth.
Fast from gossip;
Feast on purposeful silence.
Fast from problems that overwhelm;
Feast on prayer that sustains.
Fast from anxiety;
Feast on faith.

-Author Unknown

FOURTH MOMENT

Petition and supplication for the needs of the Church with Mary.

Song to Mary: Be with us Mary along the way

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OoFpDV9ozBA>

Canto a Maria: Junto a ti Maria

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CZNWAWall-o>

INTERCESSION:

All glory and honor to God with Mary our Mother, our intercessory in the throne of God and our way to be closer to her Son Jesus Christ our Lord and brother. Let us lift our voices in prayer: ***Bless your people, Lord.***

Lord, guide the minds and hearts of peoples leading our world,
— may they seek the common good to end the pandemic.
Bless your people, Lord.

Renew the life and mission of our Congregation in every continent we are present especially as you bless the fruit of the recent General Assembly of our Congregation,
— may we give clear witness to the holiness of the Church.
Bless your people, Lord.

You have made all men and women in your image,
— may they always uphold human dignity.
Bless your people, Lord.

Lead back to your friendship and truth all who have gone astray,
— teach us how to help them.
Bless your people, Lord.

Grant that the dead may enter into your glory, especially for those who died of covid 19
— to praise you for ever.
Bless your people, Lord.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING PRAYER:

Abundant God, may your healing love turn us from sin and keep us on the way that leads to you. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.