Closing Rites for the Great Jubilee 2000

Excerpts from Celebrations and Prayers for the Holy Year as composed by The Central Committee for the Great Jubilee of the Year 2000

Vigil of Prayer for the Passage to the Year 2001

"Jesus Christ our Hope"December 31, 2000

Introduction

This celebration is presented to particular Churches in order to assist the faithful in inaugurating the third millennium by setting their trust and hope in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Redeemer. The vigil will celebrate our Lord Jesus who, in bringing to completion the old law, in the gift of his life and death on the Cross, in his glorious rising and in the gift of the Holy Spirit, is the source and inexhaustible font of this hope that never disappoints us. The biblical readings, prayers, songs and signs of the celebration have been chosen in order to revive in the participants a faith in the design of the Father, that in his son Jesus Christ, not withstanding the limits of creation and of history, is bringing to conclusion the work begun two thousand years ago. The celebration consists of four great ritual sequences: the lucenarium, the proclamation of the Word of God, the offering of incense, the prayer of thanksgiving and supplication. Two are able to form the opening of the celebrations:· with the entrance procession and· with the solemn entrance In the sacristy of the stational church or, as necessary, in the sacristy of the principal church, there should be prepared:· liturgical vestments; a cope if the celebrant chooses to wear one; · a processional cross with candles;· the Book of the Gospels;· the thurible with incense;· lamps or candles for the faithful. The structure of the celebration may differ according to circumstances. This outline for the 31 December 1999 is offered as a suggestion. The scriptural texts on the next page may be used as judged appropriate. Scriptural Texts and Acclamations

I rejoiced when I heard them say: "Let us go to God's house." (Psalm 122: 1)

City of God, open your gates, source of our joy! (See Psalm 87: 2, 6-7)

God made the sun and the moon to mark the passage of time. (See Psalm 104: 19)

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14)

"Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!" (Luke 1:42)

"Blessed is the womb that carried you and the breasts at which you nursed." (Luke 11: 27)

The Son of God, our brother. (See Romans 8:29)

O Word of the Father and Beloved Son. (See John 3:16, Matthew 12: 18, Isaiah 42:1)

Your word is a sharpened two-edged sword. (See Revelation 1: 16; 2:12)

O God of justice and of mercy. (See Psalm 33: 5)

You have changed my mourning into dancing. (See Psalm 30: 12)

The Spirit of God is upon you ransom of the oppressed, and sight for the blind, you strengthen the heart of the wearyyou who proclaim a year of grace. (See Luke 4: 1-18, Isaiah 61: 1-2)

A new millennium of our hope. (See Romans 15:13)

Father of lights prepares every good gift for his children. (See James 1: 17)

O breath of God, O driving wind. (See Genesis 2: 17, Acts 2:2)

O fire of Jesus, Holy Spirit. (See Luke 12: 49)

Come, renew the face of the earth. (See Psalm 104: 30)

Come, fill the universe with your presence. (See Wisdom 1: 7)

To you whom we love, Father Most Holy! (See John 17: 11, 16:27)

To you, O Christ, the Light of the World! (See John 8:12)

To you who consoles, O Living Water! (See John 14: 16 and 26, 15: 26, 16: 7, 7:38-39)

To you be the glory, for ever and ever!

Other Texts

The following texts may be used in the course of the Vigil of Prayer for the Passage to the Year 2001.

1. InvitatoryThe following invitatory Psalm may be used to open the vigil.

Psalm 40Come let us adore Jesus the Lord,born of the Virgin Mary, hope of the world.

I waited, I waited for the Lordand he stooped down to me;he heard my cry.He drew me from the deadly pit,from the miry clay.He set my feet upon a rockand made my footsteps firm.

Come let us adore Jesus the Lord,born of the Virgin Mary, hope of the world.

He put a new song into my mouth,praise of our God.Many shall see and fearand shall trust in the Lord.Happy the man who has placedhis trust in the Lordand has not gone over to the rebelswho follow false gods.

Come let us adore Jesus the Lord,born of the Virgin Mary, hope of the world.

How many, O Lord my God,are the wonders and designsthat you have worked for us;you have no equal.Should I proclaim and speak of them,they are more than I can tell!

Come let us adore Jesus the Lord,born of the Virgin Mary, hope of the world.

You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,but an open ear.You do not ask for holocaust and victim.Instead, here am I.In the scroll of the book it stands writtenthat I should do your will.My God, I delight in your lawin the depth of my heart.

Come let us adore Jesus the Lord,born of the Virgin Mary, hope of the world.

2. Hymn One of these scriptural acclamations, or a suitable hymn may be chosen.

Sound the trumpet of the Great Jubilee,Proclaim that Jesus has set us free! Lv 25: 8-10, Gal 5: 11

Christ, Yesterday and Today, the Beginning and the End.Christ, the Alpha and the Omega, to him be glory for ever! Rev 1: 17, 22: 13

Proclamation of the Word of God

3. First ReadingThe root of Jesse will be raised up as a sign for all the people

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah. Isaiah 11: 1-10

A shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom. The spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him: a spirit of wisdom and of understanding, a spirit of counsel and of strength, a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the LORD, and his delight shall be the fear of the LORD. Not by appearance shall he judge, nor by hearsay shall he decide, but he shall judge the poor with justice, and decide aright for the land's afflicted. He shall strike the ruthless with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked. Justice shall be the band around his waist, and faithfulness a belt upon his hips. Then the wolf shall be a guest of the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the young lion shall browse together, with a little child to guide them. The cow and the bear shall be neighbors, together their young shall rest; the lion shall eat hay like the ox. The baby shall play by the cobra's den, and the child lay his hand on the adder's lair. There shall be no harm or ruin on all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be filled with knowledge of the LORD, as water covers the sea. On that day, the root of Jesse, shall be set up as a signal for the nations, the Gentiles shall seek him out, for his dwelling shall be glorious.

The word of the Lord.Thanks be to God.

4. Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 72

Lord, You are salvation and peace for all people.

O God, give your judgment to the king,to a king's son your justice,that he may judge your people in justiceand your poor in right judgment.

Lord, You are salvation and peace for all people.

May the mountains bring forth peace for the peopleand the hills, justice.May he defend the poor of the peopleand save the children of the needy and crush the oppressor.

Lord, You are salvation and peace for all people.

He shall endure like the sun and the moonfrom age to age.He shall descend like rain on the meadow,like raindrops on the earth.

Lord, You are salvation and peace for all people.

In his days justice shall flourishand peace till the moon fails.He shall rule from sea to sea,from the Great River to earth's bounds.

Lord, You are salvation and peace for all people.

Before him his enemies shall fall,his foes lick the dust.The kings of Tarshish and the sea coastsshall pay him tribute.

Lord, You are salvation and peace for all people.

The kings of Sheba and Sebashall bring him gifts.Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,all nations shall serve him.

Lord, You are salvation and peace for all people.For he shall save the poor when they cryand the needy who are helpless.He will have pity on the weakand save the lives of the poor.

Lord, You are salvation and peace for all people.

From oppression he will rescue their lives,to him their blood is dear.Long may he live,may the gold of Sheba be given him.They shall pray for him without ceasingand bless him all the day.

Lord, You are salvation and peace for all people.

May corn be abundant in the landto the peaks of the mountains.May its fruit rustle like Lebanon;may men flourish in the cities like grass on the earth.

Lord, You are salvation and peace for all people.

May his name be blessed for everand endure like the sun.Every tribe shall be blessed in him,all nations bless his name.

Lord, You are salvation and peace for all people.

Blessed be the Lord, God of Israel,who alone works wonders,ever blessed his glorious name.Let his glory fill the earth.

Lord, You are salvation and peace for all people.

5. Prayer

God of the living, renew in usthe knowledge that the birth of Jesus, your Son,has planted a seed upon the earth, the seed of justice, of meekness and of peace,through which you desire us to work with you to transform the world according to your design.Through Christ our Lord.Amen.

6. Second Reading

1 Samuel 2: 1-10The joy and the hope of humility is in God

As Hannah worshiped the LORD, she prayed:

"My heart exults in the LORD, my horn is exalted in my God.I have swallowed up my enemies;I rejoice in my victory. There is no Holy One like the LORD;there is no Rock like our God.

"Speak boastfully no longer, nor let arrogance issue from your mouths.For an all-knowing God is the LORD,a God who judges deeds. The bows of the mighty are broken,while the tottering gird on strength. The well-fed hire themselves out for bread,while the hungry batten on spoil.The barren wife bears seven sons, while the mother of many languishes. "The LORD puts to death and gives life;he casts down to the nether world; he raises up again. The LORD makes poor and makes rich,he humbles, he also exalts. He raises the needy from the dust;from the ash heap he lifts up the poor,To seat them with noblesand make a glorious throne their heritage.He gives to the vower his vow,and blesses the sleep of the just."For the pillars of the earth are the LORD'S,and he has set the world upon them. He will guard the footsteps of his faithful ones,but the wicked shall perish in the darkness.For not by strength does man prevail; the LORD foes shall be shattered.The Most High in heaven thunders;the LORD judges the ends of the earth,Now may he give strength to his king, and exalt the horn of his anointed!"

The word of the Lord.Thanks be to God.

7. Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 40 My hope is in the Lord, for he has heard my cry.

I waited, I waited for the Lordand he stooped down to me;he heard my cry.He drew me from the deadly pit,from the miry clay.He set my feet upon a rockand made my footsteps firm.

My hope is in the Lord, for he has heard my cry.

He put a new song into my mouth,praise of our God.Many shall see and fearand shall trust in the Lord.Happy the man who has placedhis trust in the Lordand has not gone over to the rebelswho follow false gods.

My hope is in the Lord, for he has heard my cry.

How many, O Lord my God,are the wonders and designsthat you have worked for us;you have no equal.Should I proclaim and speak of them,they are more than I can tell!

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You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,but an open ear.You do not ask for holocaust and victim.Instead, here am I.In the scroll of the book it stands writtenthat I should do your will.My God, I delight in your lawin the depth of my heart.

My hope is in the Lord, for he has heard my cry.

8. Prayer

Let us pray.

Father, sustain us with the force of your lovethat we might walk with Christ, the Lord of all time. Strengthen our hope, mature the fruit of faith deep within us,that we might welcome with thankfulness the gifts you have lavished upon us along the way.Through Christ our Lord.Amen.

9. Third Reading

Romans 8:12-30In hope we have been saved

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans.

Brothers and sisters, we are not debtors to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

For those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, "Abba, Father!"

The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if only we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us.

For creation awaits with eager expectation the revelation of the children of God; for creation was made subject to futility, not of its own accord but because of the one who subjected it, in hope that creation itself would be set free from slavery to corruption and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God.

We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains even until now; and not only that, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

For in hope we were saved.

Now hope that sees for itself is not hope. For who hopes for what one sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait with endurance.

In the same way, the Spirit too comes to the aid of our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit itself intercedes with inexpressible groanings. And the one who searches hearts knows what is the intention of the Spirit, because it intercedes for the holy ones according to God's will.

We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, so that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those he predestined he also called; and those he called he also justified; and those he justified he also glorified.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

10. Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 98Sing a new song to the Lord, who comes to judge the world with justice.

Sing a new song to the Lordfor he has worked wonders.His right hand and his holy armhave brought salvation.

Sing a new song to the Lord, who comes to judge the world with justice.

The Lord has made known his salvation;has shown his justice to the nations.He has remembered his truth and lovefor the house of Israel.

Sing a new song to the Lord, who comes to judge the world with justice.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.Shout to the Lord, all the earth,ring out your joy.

Sing a new song to the Lord, who comes to judge the world with justice.

Sing psalms to the Lord with the harpwith the sound of music.With trumpets and the sound of the hornacclaim the King, the Lord.

Sing a new song to the Lord, who comes to judge the world with justice.

Let the sea and all within it thunder;the world, and all its peoples.Let the rivers clap their handsand the hills ring out their joy

Sing a new song to the Lord, who comes to judge the world with justice.

Rejoice at the presence of the Lord for he comes to rule the earth.He will rule the world with justiceand the peoples with fairness.

Sing a new song to the Lord, who comes to judge the world with justice.

11. Prayer

Let us pray.

O Christ, radiant morning star,incarnation of infinite love,source of all salvation and life,the whole Church cries out to you,prepared as a bride for her wedding: Come, Lord Jesus,the only hope of this world !You who live and reign for ever and ever.Amen.

12. Gospel

Luke 12: 35-48 You are ready with burning lamps of oil

A Reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke:

Jesus said to his disciples,"Gird your loins and light your lamps and be like servants who await their master's return from a wedding,ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks. Blessed are those servants whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival. Amen, I say to you, he will gird himself, have them recline at table, and proceed to wait on them. And should he come in the second or third watch and find them prepared in this way, blessed are those servants.

Be sure of this: if the master of the house had known the hour when the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."

Then Peter said, "Lord, is this parable meant for us or for everyone?"

And the Lord replied, "Who, then, is the faithful and prudent steward whom the master will put in charge of his servants to distribute the food allowance at the proper time? Blessed is that servant whom his master on arrival finds doing so. Truly, I say to you, he will put him in charge of all his property.

But if that servant says to himself, 'My master is delayed in coming,' and begins to beat the menservants and the maidservants, to eat and drink and get drunk, then that servant's master will come on an unexpected day and at an unknown hour and will punish him severely and assign him a place with the unfaithful.

That servant who knew his master's will but did not make preparations nor act in accord with his will shall be beaten severely; and the servant who was ignorant of his master's will but acted in a way deserving of a severe beating shall be beaten only lightly.

Much will be required of the person entrusted with much, and still more will be demanded of the person entrusted with more.

The Gospel of the Lord.Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Rite for the Closing of the Great Jubilee of the Year 2000 in Particular Churches

January 5, 2000

The following Rite for the Closing of the Great Jubilee of the Year 2000 in particular churches concerns the churches of the Roman rite. They may be appropriately adapted by local churches.

If desired, the Eastern Churches may adapt the rite of closing in harmony with their own particular liturgical practices, while preserving the nucleus and essential orientation of their proper rite.

The Day

The Holy Father John Paul II in his bull Incarnationis Mysterium (IM) has established that the closing of the Jubilee Year take place on the Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the year 2001 (See IM 6). In the particular churches, the closing of the Jubilee should take place in the evening hours of January 5th (see Calendar of the Jubilee Year 2000).

The Ritual Form and Nature of the Celebration The celebration of the Eucharist is the appropriate ritual for the closing of the Jubilee Year. Thus the Eucharist of the Epiphany, celebrating the memorial of the manifestation of the Lord, is an event rich in the mystery of salvation and can serve as an expression of thanksgiving for the gift of the Jubilee Year and of putting into practice the pastoral initiatives which matured during the Jubilee Year both for individual Christians and for the Church as a whole.

The Place of the Celebration In order that the Eucharist of the closing of the Great Jubilee may be uniquely and truly celebrated as the central act of closing of the Jubilee Year, it should take place in the cathedral, or, according to the norms and directives of the Code of Canon Law, in the co-cathedral.

The Station According to tradition, the community of the faithful will be invited to gather in a church or some other designated place from which the procession will depart for the cathedral church. The church where the procession begins should be sufficiently large, and neither too far from nor too close to the cathedral, but at such a distance that a true procession can be carried out.

Three moments constitute the station: the opening of the celebration, the procession and the entrance into the cathedral.

Opening of the celebration: The opening consists of an opening song or antiphon, the greeting and the opening remarks, the praying of the stational collect and the invitation of the deacon to walk toward the cathedral.

The procession: During the procession, the Litany of the Saints may be sung as well as particularly appropriate Psalms such as Psalm 47 (All peoples, cry to God with shouts of joy), Psalm 96 (O sing a new song to the Lord), or Psalm 97 (The Lord is king).

In the procession, maximum attention is given to the Book of the Gospels as it is carried by the deacon. The Book of the Gospels is a sign of Christ who is manifested to all the people as he walks among them. The Book of the Gospels is also a sign of his Word, which is the light and guide for his disciples.

Entrance into the cathedral: During the procession to the principal door of the cathedral, the entrance song or antiphon is sung (The Lord our God comes) with Psalm 72 (O God, give your judgment to the king).

Sprinkling with Blessed Water The immemorial baptismal character of the solemnity of the Epiphany may be appropriately expressed in this celebration by the rite of sprinkling with blessed water, which takes the place of the penitential rite.

Proclamation of the Date of Easter

Similarly, and if it is opportune according to tradition, the proclamation of the date of Easter may be sung after the Gospel in this Mass. The date of Easter is announced as that point at which all other celebrations of the liturgical year culminate.

Expressions of Thanksgiving and Dismissal

After the distribution of communion and a brief prayer in silence, the bishop may give a kind of memorial or comments of a liturgical nature in which he remembers the particular events of the Jubilee Year and the spiritual blessings to the diocese resulting from its celebration. Finally, he invites all to give thanks to the Lord. The Magnificat, the song of thanksgiving of the Daughter of Zion and of the Church, may appropriately be sung in thanksgiving for the great things which the Lord has done and continues to do for his people (Lk. 1:49).

Following the Prayer After Communion, the bishop may remark in a second set of brief comments that the chronological year of the Great Jubilee has ended. However, he should also state that the "year of grace" which Jesus opened in the synagogue at

Nazareth (see Luke 4:16-21) has not ended and will never end. The bishop might also recall at this time the notable events of the Jubilee Year just passed.

The diaconal dismissal should assume the form of an "invitation to mission."

For more information, please contact the USCC Secretariat for the Third Millennium and the Jubilee Year 2000, 3211 Fourth St., NE, Washington, DC 20017, Phone: 202-541-3244, jubilee@nccbuscc.org.

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