BEHOLD THE WOOD OF THE CROSS - A Service of Prayer, Recognition and Hope

We will be following a pattern based on the worship of the Taizé Community, one of whose aims has always been to make Christian worship as simple and uncluttered as possible.

GATHERING

As the people arrive have the cross on the plaza, they encounter the cross.

Pictures of victims will be placed at each Station of the Cross along with quotes from victims.?

Before service readers are seated in place near ambo. (Tom Dente)

A few people representing the Church, the Body of the Christ, that is, carrying the pain of the abuse scandal will carry the cross in and put in place. For example, the Cardinal, a laywoman, a layman, a priest, a religious, a young person will carry in the cross and place it in the sanctuary.

Carrying the Veneration Cross

- 1. Cardinal Joe Tobin
- 2. Fr. Michael Sheehan
- 3. Joan Schultz
- 4. Donna Ciangio, OP
- 5. Asterio Velasco
- 6. Sister Ebere Amakwe
- 7. Julie Devoti

The priests, deacons should not be vested and should not sit as a group and have no reserved area. They should sit mixed in with the laity to show the unity of the Church. We are all in this together and we need to support each other.

As the cross is carried in there should be silence permeated only by a tolling of the bells. Cantor should signal everyone to Stand

9/11 Firebell -

The cross is put in place.

Cardinal Tobin will prostrate himself and pray in silence for a while.

All others kneel.

Cardinal stands. ALL STAND - Cantor can signal

Taize piece is sung (Bless the Lord my soul), then IOO vigil lights are put in place on the altar rail. 50 on each side.

Music stops once candle bearers are in pews.



The cardinal stands and prays then all are seated.

PRAYER

(Let us pray is **not said.)**

Lifted up among us, O God, is Jesus the crucified: sign of your steadfast love and pledge of your will to save. To those who look upon the cross with faith grant healing of soul, strengthening of Spirit and life eternal.

Levantado entre nosotros, Señor, es Jesús, el crucificado: el signo de Tu amor constante y la promesa de Tu voluntad de salvar.

A aquellos que miran a la cruz con fé concédeles el sanamiento del alma el fortalecimiento del espíritu y la vida eterna.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen (ICEL Sacramentary)

FIRST READING

From the 2018 letter of Pope Francis to the People of God:

The pain of the victims and their families is also our pain, and so it is urgent that we once more reaffirm our commitment to ensure the protection of minors and of vulnerable adults.

We have realized that these wounds never disappear and that they require us forcefully to condemn these atrocities and join forces in uprooting this culture of death; these wounds never go away. The heart-wrenching pain of these victims, which cries out to heaven, was long ignored, kept quiet or silenced.

But their outcry was more powerful than all the measures meant to silence it, or sought even to resolve it by decisions that increased its gravity by falling into complicity. The Lord heard that cry and once again showed us on which side he stands.

Mary's song is not mistaken and continues quietly to echo throughout history. For the Lord remembers the promise he made to our fathers: "he has scattered the proud in their conceit; he has cast down the mighty from their thrones and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty" (Lk 1:51-53).

We feel shame when we realize that our style of life has denied, and continues to deny, the words we recite.

El dolor de las víctimas y sus familias es también nuestro dolor, por eso urge reafirmar una vez más nuestro compromiso para garantizar la protección de los menores y de los adultos en situación de vulnerabilidad.

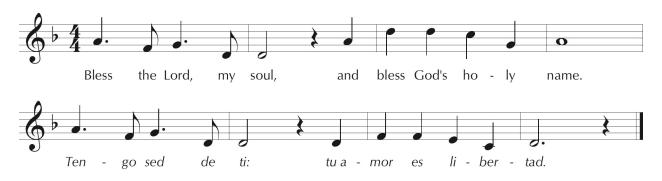
El dolor de estas víctimas es un gemido que clama al cielo, que llega al alma y que durante mucho tiempo fue ignorado, callado o silenciado.

Pero su grito fue más fuerte que todas las medidas que lo intentaron silenciar o, incluso, que pretendieron resolverlo con decisiones que aumentaron la gravedad cayendo en la complicidad. Clamor que el Señor escuchó demostrándonos, una vez más, de qué parte quiere estar.

El cántico de María no se equivoca y sigue susurrándose a lo largo de la historia porque el Señor se acuerda de la promesa que hizo a nuestros padres: «Dispersa a los soberbios de corazón, derriba del trono a los poderosos y enaltece a los humildes, a los hambrientos los colma de bienes y a los ricos los despide vacíos» (Lc 1,51-53), y sentimos vergüenza cuando constatamos que nuestro estilo de vida ha desmentido y desmiente lo que recitamos con nuestra voz.

SILENCE 20 seconds of silence

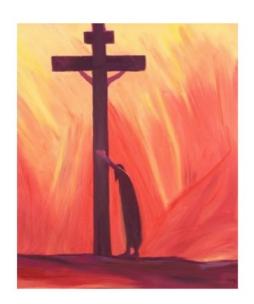
RESPONSE



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Speaker 1 guest

SILENCE extended silence



SECOND READING

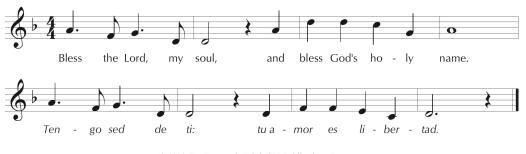
Brothers and sisters, listen to the word of God according to John:

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

"No one has gone up to heaven except the one who has come down from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life."

SILENCE 20 seconds of silence

RESPONSE



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Speaker 2 Cardinal Tobin

SILENCE extended silence

Song: Litany for Healing

Creator of the stars of night,
Your people's everlasting light,
Jesu, Redeemer, save us all,
And hear Your servants when we call.

A way beyond these painful days, To heal these victims, Lord we pray. Enflame our lives with fires of love, With healing mercies from above.

Renew the church now wracked by sin. With Holy Justice let us win The hearts of faithful led astray. In strife, confusion, make Your way.

Dispel the darkness, enter in.

Make clean our hearts, forgive our sin.

Make us Your sacrifice of love

The hope of victims, Christ Your Son.

To God the Father, God the Son, And God the Spirit, Three in One, Laud, honor, might, and glory be From age to age eternally. Amen.

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Intercessory Prayer



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For the victims of abuse at the hands of members of the clergy, may they find healing, support, and peace within the Catholic community.

5 second pause

For the families of abuse victims, that their compassionate concern may affect healing and that their strong advocacy may bring about change within the Church and society.

5 second pause

For all victims of abuse who have died from suicide as a result of overwhelming anxiety, may they find solace in the embrace of our loving God.



Por los que han abandonado su fe debido al escándalo, para que encuentren la presencia de Cristo en sus vidas y sepan que siempre son bienvenidos en la casa del Señor.

5 second pause

Por los miembros del clero que han sido encontrados culpables de abusar de los niños, para que hagan reparación de su pecado y busquen la misericordia de Dios.

5 second pause

Por todos aquéllos cuyas voces no fueron escuchadas o creídas cuando eran niños, para que sepan que la Iglesia está llena de dolor y arrepentimiento.



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For Pope Francis, for the bishops of the United States, and all the bishops of the world, that they may respond to this crisis with transparency and reform.

5 second pause

That all members of the Church may commit themselves to protecting children and the most vulnerable in our communities.

5 second pause

That the full, conscious and active participation of the people of God may be effective in influencing change in the governance of the Church.

5 second pause

That members of law enforcement continue to be vigilant in helping victims of abuse.



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THE LORD'S PRAYER

With God there is mercy and fullness of redemption; let us pray as Jesus taught us:

PRAYER

May abundant blessing,
O Lord, we pray,
descend upon your people,
who stand before your cross in
hope: may pardon come, comfort
be given,
holy faith increase,
and everlasting redemption be
made secure.

Que bendicíon abundante, Señor, rogamos, descienda sobre Tu puebo parado ante Tu cruz con esperanza: que el perdón venga, el consuelo se de la fé sagrada aumente y la redención eterna se haga segura.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

MARIAN HYMN

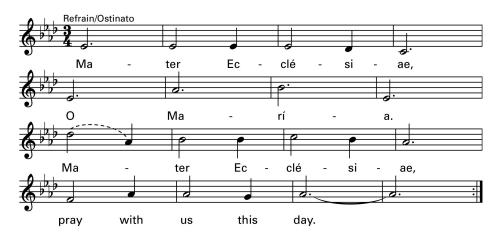
MATER ECCLESIAE

Ricky Manalo

MATER ECCLESIAE

(Mother of the Church)

Ricky Manalo



Verses: Cantor

- With Mary we pray to our God. To God, the Creator of all: receive our prayer.
- 2. With Mary we ask of our God.
 Through Jesus, our life and our hope:
 receive our prayer.
- 3. With Mary give praise to our God. In God's Holy Spirit: receive our prayer.
- 4. With Mary we sing to our God. To God be glory and praise: receive our prayer.
- 5. With Mary proclaim to our God. Through Jesus, our Saving Lord: receive our prayer.
- With Mary rejoice in our God. In God's Living Spirit: receive our prayer.

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Cardinal leaves sanctuary in silence. No procession. No song or music. Simply the tolling of the bells!

And all, after genuflecting to the Cross, depart in silence.