**Relics of St. Bernadette – Torchlight Procession**

**OLV Church - 26 September 2024**

**Prelude Ave Maria (Giulio Caccini)**

**Introduction**

We continue our pilgrim journey of hope with St. Bernadette of Lourdes as we walk in the Torchlight Procession tonight. We will sing together, we will listen with open hearts to the scripture and reflections.

We will pray the Rosary – the Mysteries of Light.

These mysteries are drawn from the Gospels and describe significant events in the public life of Jesus – the Light of the World. We now pray these mysteries as we, with Mary, contemplate the face of Christ.

**Song The Bells of the Angelus (Lesbordes)**

**All sing:**

The bells of the Angelus call us to pray  
With sweet tones announcing the sacred Ave.  
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria,  
Ave, Ave , Ave Maria.  
  
An angel of mercy, led Bernadette's feet,  
Where flows the deep torrent, Our Lady to greet.

Ave, Ave, Ave Maria,  
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.

**The First Mystery of Light – The Baptism in the Jordan**

**Scripture**

*As soon as Jesus was baptised he came up from the water, and suddenly the heavens opened, and he saw the spirit of God descending like a dove and coming on him and a voice spoke from heaven “This is my Son, my beloved, my favour rests on him”. Pause*

At our baptism we were given a mission too as the Spirit of the Lord launched us out into the deep. As we contemplate this mystery we ask to be renewed in our commitment to be ambassadors for Christ today.

Lord Jesus, teach us your love and draw us to your light.

**Decade**

**Song Come to Water (Marie Dunne CHF)**

**All sing: Come to the water you who are thirsty,**

**Come to the water of life.**

**Though you have nothing, I am your all,**

**I will hear you when you call.**

**The Second Mystery of Light – The Wedding at Cana**

The Wedding Feast of Cana is a celebration of trust when Mary encourages the people to do as Jesus tells them. By this sign Jesus opens the hearts of those around him to believe in him.

***Scripture***

*There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee. The mother of Jesus was there and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited. His mother said to the servants do whatever he tells you. There six stone water jars standing there meant for the ablutions that are customary among the Jews each could hold twenty of thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants ‘Fill the jars with water’ and they filled them to the brim. ‘Draw some out now’ he told them ‘and take it to the steward’. They did this. The steward tasted the water and it had turned into wine. Pause*

We often look for signs and wonders as proof of the presence of Jesus today. Miracles can happen when we take into our hearts the words of Mary – *Do whatever he tells you.*

Jesus, encouraged by Your mother the first believer, you opened the hearts of Your people to faith at Cana. May we have the courage to trust in You especially at times of doubt and hesitation.

**Decade**

**Song Ave Maria (Maria Parkinson)**

**All sing:**

As I kneel before you, as I bow my head in prayer  
Take this day make it yours and fill me with your love

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum, benedicta tu.

All I have I give you, every dream and wish are yours  
Mother of Christ, Mother of mine, Present them to my Lord.

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum, benedicta tu.

**The Third Mystery of Light – the Proclamation of the Kingdom of God.**

The kingdom of God is a kingdom of reconciliation – where the blessed are those who are gentle, peacemakers and those who suffer for what is right. The work of building up the kingdom is for all of us – today and everyday.

**Acclamation Jubilate Deo (J-P Lécot)**

**All sing: Jubilate Deo, Jubilate omnis terra, Jubilate Deo.**

**Scripture**

*After John had been arrested Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God – ‘the time has come’ he said ‘and the kingdom of God is close at hand – repent and believe the Good News’.*

Jesus, we know from your own words those who you call blessed. Help us to respond to your call to conversion, so that we may build up your kingdom here and now, creating a blessed place for all

**Decade**

**Acclamation Jubilate Deo (J-P Lécot)**

**The Fourth Mystery of Light – The Transfiguration**

What took place on Mount Tabor was a moment of revelation and light, a moment of joy for the disciples, who exclaimed: “Master it is wonderful to be here”, but also a moment to prepare them for the journey of the cross.

**Scripture**

Jesus *took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzling white, whiter than any bleacher could make them. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, ‘This is my Son the beloved. Listen to him.*’

Sometimes the clouds in our lives prevent us from seeing the light of God’s help breaking through in moments of sadness and pain. In moments of joy we can be forgetful too of those less fortunate than ourselves.

Lord, may your light be there to strengthen us in times of darkness, help us to listen to you and to reach out to those less fortunate than ourselves.

**Decade**

**Song Lumen Christi (J-P Lécot)**

**All sing: Lumen Christi, Alleluia! Amen!**

**The Fifth Mystery of Light – The Institution of the Eucharist**

At the Last Supper, Jesus left us a wonderful legacy of love and sacrifice. It continues in the Masses celebrated all over the world today. In the Eucharist Jesus offers us his body and blood for our nourishment under the signs of bread and wine.

**Scripture**

*‘And as they were eating he took some bread, and when he had said the blessing he broke it and gave it to them. ‘Take it,’ he said ‘this is my body.’ Then he took a cup, and when he had returned thanks he gave it to them, and all drank from it, and he said to them, ‘This is my blood, the blood of the new covenant, which is to be poured out for many’.*

When we receive at the Eucharistic table we say ‘Amen’ to the sacrifice of love offered to us we say ‘Amen’ to a life of imitation of that love – we say ‘Amen’ to a life of service to our brothers and sisters.

Jesus, you give us the gift of your body and blood to nourish and sustain us. As we share in the cup of life and the bread of salvation may we follow your example of love and service. Christ be with me – Christ before me…

**Song Críost Liom (Bernard Sexton)**

**Decade**

**Song Holy Mary Full of Grace (Paul Décha)**

**All sing:** When creation was begun, God had chosen you to be,

Mother of his blessed son, Holy Mary full of grace.

Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.

When creation was restored You were there beside the Lord whom you cherished and adored,

Holy Mary full of grace. Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.

**Song Laudate Mariam (Jean-Paul Lécot)**

**All sing: Laudate, Laudate, Laudate Mariam**

**Laudate, Laudate, Laudate Mariam**

**Song Salve Regina (Plainchant)**

**Song A Hymn for Bedtime (Ian Callanan)**