

## **Transitus of Bl. Mother Klara Louise Szczęсна**

The Transitus is celebrated on the eve of the feast of Blessed Mother Klara, on the evening of February 6<sup>th</sup>. The service begins at the altar in the convent chapel. The relics of the Blessed and a large candle are placed before the altar. The superior of the house presides over the prayers.

**S:** In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**A:** Amen.

**S:** Dear Sisters, we come today to recall the last moments of the earthly life of our Blessed Klara Ludwika Szczęсна. We do this not out of sadness, but with thanksgiving for the life and work of our Blessed Mother; to reflect on our own life and vocation; to implore, that our Congregation will grow in graces and in renewal of our charism, and be enriched with new and holy vocations. Let us pray also for the needs of all the faithful, that thanks to graces granted through Blessed Klara Szczęсна, she would be granted the glory of saints in the Church. To commemorate the great works of God that have taken place through the life and work of Mother Klara, we will light this candle. May it remind us of the burning zeal and fervor of our Blessed, and in a moment of silence, let us open our hearts and implore her intercession for sanctity of our life.

One of the Sisters walks up the altar and lights a candle. A moment of silence follows, after which the Superior begins the prayer:

Almighty God, source of life and holiness, I thank you for the graces bestowed on Blessed Klara Szczęсна, who trusted You completely and dedicated her life for the glory of the Most Sacred Heart of Your Son. + In Christ, hidden in the Most Blessed Sacrament, she found the strength and light to discern the intentions of His Heart and to undertake sacrificial service to her neighbor, giving an example of faithful love and humility. \* Teach us to imitate

her in her love for the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, \* and through her intercession, hear our prayers and grant us the graces for which we humbly ask of you through Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

**A:** Amen.

All are seated. The readings from Sacred Scripture follow and an account of the death of Bl. Klara Louise is read.

## **FIRST READING**

**1 J 4:7-16**

*God loved us first*

A reading from the First Letter of the Apostle St. John

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is of God; everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Whoever is without love does not know God, for God is love. In this way the love of God was revealed to us: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might have life through him. In this is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as expiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also must love one another. No one has ever seen God. Yet, if we love one another, God remains in us, and his love is brought to perfection in us. This is how we know that we remain in him and he in us, that he has given us of his Spirit. Moreover, we have seen and testify that the Father sent his Son as savior of the world. Whoever acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God remains in him and he in God. We have come to know and to believe in the love God has for us.

The word of the Lord.

**A:** Thanks be to God.

## PSALM RESPONSE

Ps 103 (102), 1b-2. 3-4. 6-7. 8 i 10 (R.: see 17a)

**Refrain:** God is gracious towards those who fear him.

Bless the Lord my soul, \*  
All my being bless his holy name.  
Bless the Lord, my soul \*  
and do not forget all his gifts.

### **Refrain**

He pardons all your sins \*  
and heals all your ills.  
Who redeems your life from the pit, \*  
and crowns you with mercy and compassion.

### **Refrain**

The Lord does righteous deeds, \*  
brings justice to all the oppressed.  
He made known his ways to Moses, \*  
to the Israelites his deeds.

### **Refrain**

Merciful and gracious is the Lord, \*  
slow to anger, abounding in mercy.  
He has not dealt with us as our sins merit \*  
nor requited us as our wrongs deserve.

### **Refrain**

**ACCOUNT OF THE FINAL DAYS OF LIFE  
AND THE MOMENT OF DEATH  
OF BLESSED MOTHER KLARA SZCZĘSNA**

On January 11, 1916 sick, bedridden, and suffering, Mother Klara, asked Bishop Sebastian Pelczar, present in Krakow, for confession. After confession with Father Founder, she was calm and happy, received Holy Communion daily, and her rosary never left her hand. With the Sisters keeping vigil at her bed, she did not have any conversations so as to keep the religious silence. One of the Sisters had seen Mother in a dream saying goodbye to the Sisters. When this Sister visited Mother Klara, she told her: "I would like to go already to heaven, but whatever is God's will." When the Sisters wanted to pray a novena with Mother for her health, she replied to them, "Oh, you do not need to pray for health, just that the holy will of God would be fulfilled perfectly". A few days before her death, she was greatly strengthened and consoled by a vision. From her words, it appears that St. Joseph, her most beloved patron, had come to her. Also, a few days before her death Fr. Daniel Bieleń gave her the holy sacraments. Two days before her death, on Sunday and Monday, she remained without Holy Communion as she had gotten a paralysis of the esophagus and could take only a few drops of water. She said: "When I will recover, then again, I will be able to receive the Lord Jesus." On the eve of death, pointing with her hand to the sky, she said: "I would like to be there already." That day, Mother was visited by the Superiors from the military hospitals who only greeted the sick and did not engage in conversation because of her serious condition. At night Mother asked the Sister staying with her: "Have these two Sisters arrived with everything, is the war over?" At 4:00 in the morning to the Sister ending her duty, Mother said: "God bless you!" On the day of her death, Monday, February 7, 1916, Mother showed no signs of getting worse, she felt somehow better. In the morning, Dr. Majewski came who had been treating her for a long time. At one point, she asked when she could get up, because she felt stronger.

About 12 o'clock, the bell rang, the Sisters ended examination of conscience and went to dinner in the refectory. At that time, the heart attack occurred. Mother Klara Louise Szczesna has died a holy death. She suffered very much, but to her last breath, she demonstrated a truly holy patience. Continually, with the acts of prayer, she united her sufferings with the sufferings of our Lord Jesus. A true Mother, loving her Congregation very much.

All are seated for a moment of silence, followed by singing or reciting three times the antiphon, "O holy soul."

O holy soul! All the citizens of heaven go out to meet you, the angels rejoice, and the most glorious Trinity invites you: Stay with us forever. (3x)

After the song, prayer follows:

**S:** We greet you, O blessed Mother Klara. We come before your holy relics to ask for your special intercession. We beg you to obtain graces for the holy Church the pastors, priests, consecrated persons and all those who come to your place calling upon your intercession. With your powerful help, protect the Congregation of the Sacred Heart Sisters - your spiritual daughters. Obtain for superiors an openness to the Holy Spirit; pour into the hearts of their subjects the grace to trust in God's will, and for all Sisters, a lively faith; strengthen them in their vocation and in love for the Congregation, for its charism and for each other. By your intercession may God move the hearts of girls to courageously follow in your footsteps along the way of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Let the graces implored by you contribute to this, that we will do everything for the Heart of Jesus and for your speedy canonization. Amen.

All kneel and recite the litany:

## LITANY TO BL. KLARA SZCZĘSNA

Lord, have mercy on us - Christ, have mercy on us.  
Lord, have mercy on us, Christ hear us - Christ, graciously hear us.  
God the Father of Heaven, - have mercy on us.  
God the Son, Redeemer of the world, - have mercy on us.  
God the Holy Spirit, - have mercy on us.  
Holy Trinity, One God, - have mercy on us.  
Holy Mary, most perfect Servant of the Lord, - pray for us.  
Holy Father Joseph Sebastian, - pray for us.  
Blessed Mother Klara, - pray for us.  
Humble Servant of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus,  
Apostle of the Divine Heart doing all for Its glory,  
Zealous and persevering in adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament,  
United with God in prayer and daily life,  
Sensitive to the inspirations of the Holy Spirit,  
Full of trust in Divine Providence,  
Beloved daughter of Mary Immaculate,  
Zealous devotee of Saint Joseph,  
Faithful daughter of the Church,  
Zealous in work for the glory of God and the salvation of people,  
Co-foundress and Mother of the Sacred Heart Sisters religious family,  
Faithful to the grace of vocation,  
Permeated with the spirit of expiation,  
Totally dedicated to your Divine Spouse,  
Living faithfully the Franciscan spirit of poverty,  
Captivated by religious obedience,  
Example of Franciscan humility and simplicity,  
Solicitous for the sisters entrusted to your care,  
Guardian of sisterly unity,  
Prudent spiritual guide,  
Living rule of the Sacred Heart Sisters' way of life  
Ardent in receiving the cross and suffering,

Sensitive to the poverty and moral destitution of girls,  
Dedicated to the service of the sick and the poor,  
Belonging to the Lord in life and in death  
Our intercessor before the Divine Heart,

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,  
spare us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,  
graciously hear us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have  
mercy on us.

**S:** Pray for us, Blessed Mother Klara.

**A:** That after your example we may be zealous apostles of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

**S:** Let us pray.

Almighty God, source of life and holiness, thanks to your grace, Blessed Klara Szczęsna, with absolute trust, consecrated her life for the glory of the Most Sacred Heart of your Son, and by her sacrificial service to the most needy, gave us an example of faithful love and humility. With confidence, we ask that through her intercession we may give witness to your eternal love before the world. Who live and reign forever and ever.

**A:** Amen.

**S:** May the All Powerful God, grant us a restful night and a peaceful death.

**A:** Amen.

**OR:**

**S:** Let us bless the Lord

**A:** And give Him thanks.

The Superior invites the gathered Sisters for a personal meeting with Bl. Mother Klara by approach and kissing of the relic. After veneration of the relic, Night Prayer (Compline) can be recited in common.