

Liturgy Alive of Thursday after Ash Wednesday

Introduction

Faithfulness is not easy except if we are intensely committed to a person we love. If we are loyal, we share in the joys and trials of the other person and we never lose our serenity or basic happiness. This is also true in our relationship with God, which we live most intensely if we are strongly dedicated to Christ. We follow him in his passion to rise with him in joy. For if we are with him, even death brings life and happiness.

Opening Prayer

Lord, our God,
you love us and you invite us
to share in your own life and joy,
through a personal decision.
Help us to choose you and life
and to remain ever loyal
to this basic option
by the power of Jesus Christ, your Son,
who was loyal to you and to us,
now and for ever.

General Intercessions

- That God may give us every day the courage to follow him, also when the choice between good and evil is difficult, we pray:
- For the People of God, the Church, that we may have the insight and the bravery to accept the reform needed to be true to Christ, we pray:
- For the good people, who help others in their difficulties, that their good deeds may bring them closer to the Lord, we pray:

Prayer over the Gifts

Lord, our God,
Jesus went the way of the cross
because he was loyal to you
whatever the cost.
May we be loyal with him
and accept crosses that come our way in life
without rebellion or discouragement.
May Christ give us this strength now,
that we may live with him for ever.

Prayer after Communion

Lord, our God,
by the strength of this Eucharist,
we return to our work and to people.
Help us to live our faith consistently,
as Christ wants us to live it,
without compromise or bargaining.
May Christ give us this strength
of being loyal to his person,
now and for ever.

Blessing

Those who accept the difficulties of life to serve God and people, “who lose their life for my sake,” as Jesus says, are taking up their cross and following Christ. May Almighty God bless them and us, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.