

## **Liturgy Alive of Sunday of Week III, Lent**

### **Greeting (See Second Reading)**

The love of God has been poured out into our hearts  
by the Holy Spirit  
who has been given to us.  
May that love of God be always with you.

### **Introduction by the Celebrant (Two Options)**

#### **A. A Deep Personal Encounter**

Often we are not willing to listen to people who judge us or who look down on us. The people we can easily listen to and whom we can encounter from person to person are those who do not criticize us but respect us. Even though we have not always been the persons and Christians we should have been, we know that Jesus always treats us with respect and sees the potentials for good in us. Let us ask our Lord in this Eucharist that we may treat one another with the same esteem as he shows us.

(or)

#### **B. Living Water**

The liturgy of today reminds us strongly of our baptism. It is the water that began to quench our thirst for all that is good and worthwhile, above all for God himself. It is the water that never dries up; for baptism is not just a ritual but life, a new way of living, a lasting attachment to the person of Christ and a union with the community of the Church. It is the life of Christ that keeps growing in us. Jesus himself nourishes this life here in the Eucharist. Let us ask him to keep giving us this living water and to make us share it with others.

### **Penitential Act**

We let the spring of God's love  
dry up in us when we sin.  
Let us ask the Lord to forgive us.

(PAUSE)

Lord Jesus, spring of living water,  
give us always that water that purifies our heart:

Lord, have mercy. R/ Lord, have mercy.

Jesus Christ, spring of living water,  
give us the water that makes our faith grow:

Christ, have mercy. R/ Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, spring of living water,  
give us the water that quenches our thirst  
for the fullness of your life and love:

Lord, have mercy. R/ Lord, have mercy.

Have mercy on us, Lord.

and give us the living water  
of your gentle forgiveness.

Water your life in us  
and let it well up to everlasting life. R/ Amen.

### **Opening Prayer (Two Options)**

#### **A. A Deep Personal Encounter**

Let us pray to God our Father  
that Jesus may be the source of life to all

(PAUSE)

Creative and forgiving Father  
you let people experience your mercy  
when they encounter your Son, Jesus Christ.  
Attune us to his voice speaking to us,  
your word of forgiveness and love.  
Dispose us to meet him from person to person,  
that he may quench our thirst for life  
and that we may live in joy and courage  
and become more like him day after day.  
May all drink from the living water of his love.  
Grant this through Christ our Lord. R/ Amen.  
(or)

#### **B. Living Water**

Let us pray to God  
that the life of Christ in us  
may be rich and full

(PAUSE)

Father of life  
and giver of all that is good,  
we want to drink your life to the full.  
Let Jesus, your living Word,  
speak to us from heart to heart.  
Give us an unquenchable thirst  
for the things that matter:  
for faith and for meaning in our lives,  
for hope in a better world  
filled with your justice and peace,  
for a spirit of committed love  
that knows how to share itself.  
Generously give us all these  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. R/ Amen.

#### **First Reading Introduction: Water Flowing From The Rock**

Thirst is the most painful trial of travelers in the desert. God is, to his people on the march, the rock on whom they can rely on and the source of life-giving water.

## **Second Reading Introduction: The Love Of God Has Been Poured Out Into Our Hearts**

Through Christ, who died for us, God has poured out into our hearts everything that we thirst for: faith, hope in God's future, the Spirit of love.

## **Gospel Introduction: Give Me Your Living Water**

Jesus enters into a personal dialogue with the Samaritan woman. He reveals himself to her as the giver of living, ever-running water, that is, the giver of new life to us.

## **General Intercessions**

Let us pray in spirit and in truth to God our Father, the source of all life, and let us say: R/ Lord of life, hear our prayer.

- When we are in trouble, that someone may come along and talk to us, let us pray: R/ Lord of life, hear our prayer.
- When we meet someone in trouble, that we may sit down by his or her side and listen with understanding and patience, let us pray: R/ Lord of life, hear our prayer.
- When we gather around the Lord's table, that his Word may be living water to us, let us pray: R/ Lord of life, hear our prayer.
- When we search to renew our lives this Lent, that we may learn to live in the spirit of Jesus, let us pray: R/ Lord of life, hear our prayer.
- When we try to pray in spirit and in truth, that we may not forget others, let us pray: R/ Lord of life, hear our prayer.
- When we live in unjust situations, that we may speak out and stand up for the weak and downtrodden, let us pray: R/ Lord of life, hear our prayer.
- When we are surrounded by the poor, that we may generously share with them, let us pray: R/ Lord of life, hear our prayer.
- If we are a real Church community, that we may become to all who are thirsty a fresh source of living water, let us pray: R/ Lord of life, hear our prayer.

Father, all good things come from your hand. Show us new ways to you and to one another and let us encounter one another, as you encounter us in Jesus Christ our Lord. R/ Amen.

## **Prayer over the Gifts**

Lord our God,  
in these signs of bread and wine  
Jesus your Son comes among us.  
May he still our hunger  
and quench our thirst  
for a deeper faith and hope.  
May we in our turn,  
as a living Christian community,  
become a stream of living water  
to everyone and all,  
to satisfy their thirst for truth,

for freedom and justice  
and for everlasting joy,  
on account of Jesus Christ our Lord. R/ Amen.

### **Introduction to the Eucharistic Prayer**

God our Father has satisfied our hunger and thirst for all that is true and good by giving us Jesus. Let us thank him with all our hearts.

### **Introduction to the Lord's Prayer**

Let us pray to our Father  
in the words of Jesus, his Son,  
and ask him to give us all we need  
on our way to eternal life.

### **Deliver Us**

Deliver us Lord, from every evil  
and grant us peace in our day.  
Open our eyes to our shortcomings  
and wake us up from our self-complacency,  
that we may follow your Son without fear  
on the way to you and to all in need.  
May we thus hasten the coming in glory  
of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

### **Invitation to Communion**

This is Jesus our Lord, who tells us:  
Whoever drinks the water  
that I shall give  
will have a spring inside him or her,  
welling up for eternal life.  
Happy are we to be invited  
to drink of this water of life  
and never get thirsty again.

### **Prayer after Communion**

Lord, God of life,  
when the Samaritan woman learned who Jesus was,  
she believed in him  
and her life was changed.  
Your Son has spoken to us here  
and revived our strength.

May we also learn who is speaking to us  
in the people who cry out for help.  
May we recognize your Son in them  
and walk by their side on the way to you,  
our Father for ever and ever. R/ Amen.

### **Blessing**

In this Eucharist  
God has again quenched our thirst  
by giving us his Son Jesus.  
Now we are strong enough again  
to go our difficult way in the desert,  
a way of renewal and conversion  
to God and to others.  
Let our thirst never be satisfied  
unless we become to one another  
a drink of refreshing water.  
May God give you strength and bless you:  
the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. R/ Amen.  
May the Lord go with you  
to love him in all you meet. R/ Thanks be to God.