

# Liturgy Alive of Easter Feria

## Introduction

“I have come that they may have life—life in abundance,” says Jesus, the Good Shepherd. He is the door to all. In the first reading, Peter defends his action of baptizing the pagan Cornelius on the same grounds: also pagans are called to accept the Gospel and the Holy Spirit comes down on them too, although apparently the same Christians seem to have understood the case of Cornelius and his household as an exceptional instance. Is the Church—are we—open to accept all? What do we do to make this a reality? Remember, Jesus had come to bring life to all.

## Opening Prayer

Lord our God, Father of all,  
you sent your Son, Jesus Christ among us  
to reveal to us that you care about people  
and that your love extends to all,  
without any distinction of race or culture.  
Give us a great respect for all people,  
whatever way they come,  
and let your Church embrace all cultures,  
that Jesus may truly be  
the Lord and Shepherd of all,  
now and for ever.

## General Intercessions

- Lord Jesus, let our Church keep its gates wide open for all, from however far come those who are attracted by your voice, we pray:
- Lord Jesus, make our communities open its bolted doors to strangers and to people who are different, we pray:
- Lord Jesus, do not allow us to close our ears and hearts to people who cry out to us their pains and their needs, we pray:

## Prayer over the Gifts

Lord, our God,  
in these signs of bread and wine,  
we recognize your care for all  
and we welcome your Son, Jesus Christ.  
Give us, the Holy Spirit of your Son,  
that our love may become  
as wide as the world,  
and that all people may share  
in the life and joy you offer to all  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

## **Prayer after Communion**

Lord God, source of all life,  
we thank you for the presence  
of your Son, Jesus Christ, in our midst.  
Do not allow us to withhold  
his Word and his person  
from all who hunger for him,  
whether they know it or not.  
Let us be his word and his body  
to the world of today,  
that our words and deeds  
may echo his voice  
and that we may be the door to you,  
our God, for ever and ever.

## **Blessing**

Let Jesus not be a stranger to us but someone whose voice we recognize when he calls out to us in the needy, in loners, in people who have not experienced much justice and love. May Almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.