

# Liturgy Alive of Easter Feria

## Introduction

In carrying out his mission of proclaiming the Gospel, Paul and Barnabas with him, is persecuted, stoned, driven from one place to another. He doesn't give up; he continues founding local communities and giving them a basic structure of leadership, so that they can function on their own. He has even the courage to "put fresh hearts into the disciples" and to acknowledge that God has accomplished great things in them.

Likewise, before his passion and death, Christ speaks of peace and encourages the apostles not to be troubled or afraid. Nothing will keep him from carrying out his mission of love. No one can rob us of our interior peace, serenity, and freedom if we are united with God in love.

## Opening Prayer

Lord our God, almighty Father,  
you have absolute power over the world,  
and yet you respect the freedom of people,  
even of those who persecute your faithful.  
Make us realize that our faith  
does not protect us against the evil  
which people bring upon one another,  
but that you want us to build according to your plan  
a kingdom of justice, love, and peace.  
Help our faith to stand the test  
when our meager efforts fail.  
We ask you this through Christ, our Lord.

## General Intercessions

- That Christians who are persecuted may learn from Christ to pray for their persecutors and to forgive them, we pray:
- That through trials and adversity, we may grow as human persons and as Christians, we pray:
- That we may always retain our serenity and peace of heart in suffering and contradiction, because we know God is with us, we pray:

## Prayer over the Gifts

Lord God, loyal Father,  
your Son Jesus Christ,  
retained his inner freedom and peace  
at the moment of his passion and death,  
because he was faithful to his mission of love.  
Let him give us in this Eucharist  
the same loyalty and love,  
that the hardships of life

may not trouble our hearts  
but keep us firmly anchored in you  
who are our God forever.

### **Prayer after Communion**

Lord our God, God of peace,  
through your Son Jesus Christ,  
you bring us peace, a kind of peace  
which the world cannot give  
and which no earthly power can take away.  
Let us live in union with you,  
that this peace of your Son  
may be with us always  
and that we may have the quiet strength  
to put fresh hearts in our brothers and sisters,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

### **Blessing**

“Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not let them be afraid, for peace I leave with you, my peace I give you.” This is the assurance Jesus gives us. We are in God’s hands. May Almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.