

# Liturgy Alive of Feria

## Opening Prayer

Lord our God,  
you know what we need  
even before we can ask you.  
We are sure of this  
on account of the human experience  
of Jesus, your Son, who was one of us.  
And so we pray:  
Don't take it amiss  
when we use too many words  
to cover the emptiness of our hearts,  
and teach us through your Spirit in us  
to ask for the things that matter,  
you and your kingdom,  
that will last for ever and ever.

## First Reading Introduction:

Paul pleads to the Corinthians to remain faithful to Christ, who had chosen him to be his apostle and had sent him to Corinth.

## Gospel Reading Introduction:

In the words of Jesus, Matthew gives us today a catechesis on prayer. The reason and basis of our prayer should not only be merely that we need something and we should not think that our prayer is more powerful when we use a stream of words. We pray because Jesus asks us to and because we have trust in our Father who knows what we need even before we ask him. In our prayer, we should also place first things first: God and his kingdom, which is manifested and communicated to us by bread, forgiveness, and protection.

## General Intercessions

- For members of contemplative orders, that they may be very attentive to the needs of the Church and of the world and pray for them, we pray:
- For all of us, that we may seek God's will in our prayer rather than ours, we pray:
- For all of us again, that the Lord may give us a spirit of prayer and intimacy with God, we pray:

## Prayer over the Gifts

Father in heaven,  
we are certain that you will always hear us  
on account of your Son in our midst.  
With him we pray  
that we may recognize you

and praise your name,  
that your kingdom may grow among us  
and that we may do your will loyally  
together with Jesus Christ, our Lord.

### **Prayer after Communion**

Father,  
your Son Jesus, alive among us now,  
insists that we forgive one another.  
Help us to forgive the way you pardon  
completely and without regret  
because you have forgiven us much  
and paid yourself the penalty for our sins  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Blessing**

Prayer for us is not a flight from life or from commitment to people but a plea to God to give us the courage to face reality and to care for people. May God give you this insight and strength and bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.