

# Liturgy Alive of Monday 15th Week in Ordinary Time Year - 1

## Opening Prayer

Lord our God,  
we have accepted your invitation  
to follow your Son Jesus, as his disciples.  
Let your Spirit give us the wisdom and strength  
to take our faith seriously  
and to accept our task in life with all its consequences.  
Let your Spirit help us to follow your Son  
without fear or discouragement,  
for we are certain that Jesus will lead us to you,  
our loving God, for ever and ever.

## Liturgy of the Word

### **First Reading Introduction: Come, let us deal shrewdly with them to stop their increase.**

In year I, the first readings of the weekdays of the 15th week to Friday of the 17th week of Ordinary Time are taken from the Book of Exodus. They are of primary importance for the religious history of humanity and of God's adventure with his chosen people. Terms like slavery and oppression in the religious sense, Passover, Passover Lamb, salvation through water, covenant, the making of a people and nation, the Promised Land, the Law and the Ten Commandments, are themes fundamental for Christianity too. The first reading in Year I shows us the slavery and oppression of the Hebrews, the core of the People of God, in Egypt.

### **Gospel Reading Introduction: I have come to bring not peace, but the sword.**

Christ could bring us life and grace because he suffered for us. He could rise because he was crucified and died on a cross. No easy life is promised to his disciples. Suffering and the cross are their share too. In God's plan, this is the way to life. It's not too comfortable, but these are God's terms.

## General Intercessions

- That those whom the Lord calls to special ministries in the Church may follow him resolutely; that all of us may unwaveringly commit ourselves to Jesus and to people as Jesus commits himself to us, we pray:
- That the leaders of nations may be committed to the good of their people, in justice and a spirit of service, we pray:
- That our prayers and worship of the Lord may commit us more to the causes we pray for, we pray:

## Prayer over the Gifts

Lord our God,  
in these gifts of bread and wine,

we bring ourselves before you  
and you let your Son give himself to us.  
May we learn from him to make ourselves free  
for people and for you  
and to seek your will in all we do.  
May we follow in his trials and in his glory  
your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

### **Prayer after Communion**

Lord our God,  
in this Eucharist you have enlightened us  
with the word and wisdom of your Son  
and given us his nourishing, strong bread  
to follow him without hesitation.  
Fill us with the wisdom and power of your Spirit  
to go with Jesus without hesitation  
through the desert of pain and the cross,  
for the sake of bringing his life and joy  
to our brothers and sisters in need  
and for giving glory to you, now and for ever.

### **Blessing**

Be free. Be true and honest with yourselves, be honest with God and faithful to Jesus and his message, even if it causes conflicts with people dearest to you. May Almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.