

## **Liturgy Alive of Monday, 19th Week in Ordinary Time**

### **Opening Prayer**

Lord our God,  
you are present among us in secret, incognito,  
with the everyday appearance  
of an ordinary person.  
God, give us eyes of faith  
to see that you are among us  
in the person of Jesus your Son  
in this eucharist,  
in the joys and sorrows of life,  
in the people we meet in the street.  
Make us attentive to your presence  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Liturgy of the Word**

#### **First Reading Introduction**

A mixed assortment of slaves had been made into a people, obtained freedom, and was on its way to a land of its own. People without hope had been given dreams of a great future. All this because there was a God "foolish" enough to attach himself to these people and to love them without any merit on their part. This love was a call, waiting for a response of life-long fidelity to God's ways.

#### **Gospel Introduction**

The gospel gives us the image of God-in-civilian Jesus, God's Son, a man who pays his taxes even when he is not obliged to. It may be a hint for us not to ask for privileges because we are Christians and to act and live as free people, who at times - or often - choose to do what we are not obliged to do, especially in the form of help.

#### **General Intercessions**

- For the Church, that it may not be ashamed of preaching the crucified Christ and of being self-effacing with him, we pray:

- For all of us, that we may never put the law above people but practice first the great commandment of loving one another, we pray:

- For our Christian communities, that we may welcome strangers and foreigners and make them our friends in the name of God who has befriended us, we pray:

#### **Prayer over the Gifts**

God, our Father,

you are our God of glory,  
and yet you let your Son come among us  
in the simple signs of bread and wine.  
Stay among us  
and make us also reflect your presence  
in all simplicity  
by making you available to people  
in our goodness and compassion,  
by the power of Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Prayer after Communion**

Lord our God,  
you know how complicated we can be,  
and yet, your glory is among us  
in all that is simple and commonplace:  
in water and oil, bread and wine,  
a gesture of forgiveness and reconciliation.  
God, we thank you for your goodness.  
And may our hearts and gestures  
be as simple as your presence,  
that in a tear or a smile  
we may reveal your Son in our midst,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Blessing**

We are free sons and daughters of God and we cherish this freedom. Yet we do not want to be a clan separate from others or people seeking privileges. We want to be united with all and to serve them. May almighty God bless you, the Father and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.