

Liturgy Alive of Feria

Opening Prayer

Lord our God,
we say that authority means service,
but we experience that it is very hard
to make this beautiful principle work.
Keep always before our eyes
the example of your Son Jesus Christ.
His authority was healing and saving,
respectful of people and yet committing us
to get out of our mediocrity.
May all authority among us
be humble, dedicated, self-effacing,
willing to serve to the end,
and patterned after that of Jesus,

your Son and our Lord for ever.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Introduction

Don't you worry when the end time will come, Paul tell his Thessalonians. There is nothing to fear, just be always ready for the Lord's coming.

Gospel Introduction

The people and Jesus' own disciples were often struck by the authority of Jesus. Here was someone higher than a mere human being. There was authority in his teaching - he had something to say that challenged men and confronted them with themselves and with God. He had authority over the law, which he wanted to trim from its man-made trappings. By his authority he overcame the powers of evil and sin. He claimed to judge people. He used his authority for the good of people - it was a power of salvation. Yet it was a power that came in humility and weakness, an authority of service that brought faith, that gave hope, that expressed and created love. And

when the time came, he used it to lay down his life and to take it up again, to pass it on to his disciples, and then to leave.

General Intercessions

- That the Church may speak with authority about Jesus because it knows him by living his life, we pray:

- That we may be close to Jesus because we try to respond deeply to his challenge of loving people, we pray:

- That the world may be a little better because we try to live according to the good news of Jesus, we pray:

Prayer over the Gifts

Lord our God,
by the authority you gave to your Son,
this bread and wine will become for us
his body and blood, our food and drink.
Let him share his power with us
that our cowardice may turn into courage

and that we may become liberated people
free to serve and to love
and to verify with our lives the truth

of the good news that he is our Lord for ever.

Prayer after Communion

Lord our God,
your Son Jesus Christ left his authority
to his apostles and disciples
as a unifying bond and a legacy of service.
Grant that your Church may use his power
to bind people together and to heal their wounds,
to speak in the name of those without voice,
and to lead us forward to the genuine freedom

that you brought us in Christ our Lord.

Blessing

May our authority as Christians consist in doing good and serving people in love. May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.