

# Liturgy Alive of Feria

## Opening Prayer

Lord our God,  
your Son Jesus Christ became a child of people.  
He made children the privileged symbol  
of the truly adult disciple.  
May we have the openness and receptivity  
of the child: humble, authentic,  
and open to your love and to your gifts.  
For only then will you fill our emptiness  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Liturgy of the Word

### First Reading Introduction

Today's chapter of Zechariah is a later addition by his disciples. It pictures the restoration of a remnant, with faithful people, young and old, in the streets of Jerusalem, and God living among them.

### Gospel Introduction

Childlike, but not childish... We are God's children, yet not infants. We have to grow up constantly to the maturity of Christ, to remake with the help of the Spirit, our unity, the center of ourselves.

## General Intercessions

- For those who are the greatest in the Church, that they may serve with great dedication and without looking down on them the weakest, the poorest, those wounded in life, we pray:

- For the mighty of this earth, that they may care about the rights, the dignity and the well-being of especially the lowliest under their charge, we pray:

- For those who work in lowly jobs shunned by others, for those who have unhealthy and dangerous tasks, for those who care for the old and the handicapped, that we may appreciate them and that the Lord may reward them, we pray:

## Prayer over the Gifts

Lord God, we come before you  
with our human wisdom:  
self-assured, sophisticated, and world-wise.  
Make us see, Lord,  
that we have to accept your wisdom,  
the wisdom of trust and simplicity,  
the wisdom that is hard to fully accept,  
the wisdom of Jesus crucified.  
Only then are we ready to accept  
a God who became man and dwells among us.  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and our Lord.

## Prayer after Communion

Our God and Father,  
we are your sons and daughters, your children,  
and you are our Father.  
May we all grow up  
to the full maturity of Jesus Christ,  
for this is your wish, Father,  
that we retain the openness to you of the child,  
yet that we reach the full adulthood  
of Jesus Christ. God like you,  
yet your loyal Son and fully human.  
He is our Savior for ever.

**Blessing**

"Whoever welcomes a child in my name welcomes me, says Jesus." Let us love children and learn from them; forget the ridiculous competition to be the greatest. May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.