

# Liturgy Alive of Feria

## Opening Prayer

Lord our God,  
we seek the road to peace  
of Jesus Christ your Son.  
Let us be your chosen people  
recognizing day after day  
the time of your visitation.  
Let this very day be the time  
when we are open to your coming  
in the words you speak to us,  
in the people we meet,  
in those who cry out for compassion  
and a bit of warmth.

We ask you this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

### Liturgy of the Word

#### First Reading Introduction

The priest and leader Matthias turns down the honors and power promised him if he renounces his faith and offers sacrifice in honor of King Antiochus IV Epiphanes of Syria. He starts the open revolt of the Jewish people, a revolt that is both religious and political.

## Gospel Introduction

Luke wrote his gospel when the Temple had already been destroyed. How come that the Jewish people, God's own, who had been so zealous to fight for loyalty to the God of the covenant, did not recognize Christ, the expected one? It is not up to us to condemn, as Christians have often done in the past. With Jesus we weep over the city and its people and pray and work that Jews too may find their Messiah. And in the meantime, let us too know the paths of peace of God's people, and recognize the time the Lord visits us.

#### General Intercessions

— Lord, we regret and ask pardon that at times we have been negligent and cold to your love; forgive us, we pray:

— Lord Jesus, that those who have heard your call to follow you and refused to respond may again be ready to journey with you, we pray:

— Lord Jesus, that our communities may again heed your call to be one of heart and mind, we pray:

#### Prayer over the Gifts

God our Father,  
as a pledge of our faithfulness  
to the bonds of the covenant  
we bring bread and wine before you.  
Accept us with your Son,  
and keep us united in him  
as the people you love.

This we ask in the name of Jesus the Lord.

#### Prayer after Communion

God our Father,

your Son wept over the people  
from which he was born  
and which he loved with all his heart.  
Let him not weep over us  
but by the strength of this eucharist  
make us seek what brings us your peace:  
you and your kingdom  
of integrity and goodness.  
Grant us this through your faithful servant,

Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### **Blessing**

We are asked to recognize the coming of the Lord not in a long ago past but now, today, in our lives and our communities. May God give you this grace and bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.