

# Liturgy Alive of Feria

## Opening Prayer

Lord our God,  
you are the origin and purpose of all,  
the meaning of our existence  
and the goal of all we do.  
We pray today:  
draw us out of our little self-created worlds  
and open us to you and your kingdom.  
Be yourself the precious pearl of our lives  
and let each person around us be  
the oyster shell in which we find that pearl.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

## Liturgy of the Word

### First Reading Introduction

In defending his ministry, Paul boasts of all he has done and suffered in the service of the Gospel of the young Christian communities. These sufferings affect and hurt him, for they bring out his human frailty. But he goes on single-mindedly, because God is his strength and his treasure, the light brightening his whole being.

# Gospel Reading Introduction

What are the things that preoccupy us, that are constantly on our minds? The answer to this question will indicate what our values are, "where our heart is." For many high-minded and dedicated Christians, these values will rarely be as crude as mere pleasure seeking and a hunger for material wealth and comfort, though these too, are not always ruled out completely. But what about the ambition for power and promotion, the tendency to dominate others and to shape others in our own image and likeness rather than God's? What about making ourselves the center of the world? Where do we look for "the one thing necessary?"

# General Intercessions

- For those who worry much about money, that they may learn to be concerned about those who lack the bare essentials, we pray:
  - For those who have become the victims of greed and intolerance, that good people may restore their faith in God and humankind, we pray:
- For all of us, that we may be grateful that God has given us faith in him and in his love and mercy, we pray:

## Prayer over the Gifts

Lord our God,  
you let us gather around the table  
of your Son, Jesus Christ.  
The Eucharist is for us  
a great and precious treasure.  
Let us appreciate Jesus' presence  
and let it always enrich us  
with a deep sense of his nearness.  
Let us learn from him  
to be present to one another.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

## Prayer after Communion

Lord our God,  
from the words and the presence of Jesus,  
we learn that nothing is more precious  
than your love for us  
and the kingdom you want to build with us.  
Be our joy and our treasure.  
We thank you that you have found us.  
Let us always keep finding you  
in the different ways you manifest yourself,  
in the goodness of people  
and in the treasures of our faith.

Thank you through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Blessing**

Our prayer and our whole worship is a service of God and neighbor, not service of oneself in the sense of showing off and boasting of what we do for God and neighbor. That is worship in spirit and truth. May God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.