

# Liturgy Alive of Tuesday 17th Week in Ordinary Time

Saint IGNATIUS of LOYOLA, Priest

Memorial July 31

## Introduction

While recuperating from a wound incurred as a soldier, Ignatius read the lives of saints because there was nothing else to read. He reflected further on the purpose of his life, made pilgrimages, and decided to serve God. The "company" he founded was to be at the disposal of the Pope to serve the most urgent contemporary needs of the Church. In his time the Jesuits were instrumental in counteracting heresies, reforming the Church, and starting overseas missions. To him, action was always to be based on reflection and prayer. This is sound advice also to us today.

## Opening Prayer

Lord our God,  
like St Ignatius we have accepted your invitation  
to follow you Son Jesus as his disciples  
and to do everything we do  
for your greater honor and glory.  
Give us the strength of your Spirit  
not to seek ourselves  
and to accept our task in life  
with all its consequences.  
For we are certain Jesus will lead us to you,

our loving God for ever and ever.

## Prayer over the Gifts

Lord God, our Father,  
in this eucharist may the Lord Jesus  
bring us so close to him  
that he makes us willing to accept from him  
any task you want to give us.  
Let service to the Church and its needs  
be our main preoccupation  
and may we always render this service  
for the greater glory of God.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

## Prayer after Communion

Lord our God,  
in the eucharist you have enlightened us  
with the word and the body of Jesus.  
Let Jesus give us his Spirit of discernment  
that we may see clearly the task ahead of us  
and commit ourselves to it with wisdom  
and total dedication,  
without hesitation or fear.  
For it is your work we do,  
our living

God, for ever and ever.