

# Liturgy Alive of Saint John Mary Vianney, Priest

Saint JOHN MARY VIANNEY, Priest

Memorial

August 4

## Introduction

Here we have a priest, a humble country man, with very limited abilities for book learning, yet a contemplative, open to the Spirit and things supernatural, a real man of God. He was made the parish priest in a God-forgotten little town, where he could do little wrong. And no wrong he did. After a few years everyone knew where the little town of Ars was, and the learned and the great as well as the poor and the little one came to seek his counsel, absolution and help. When his ordination was discussed, he said: "If Samson could defeat and kill a thousand Philistines with a donkeys' jawbone, who knows what the Lord could do with

a whole donkey like me?"

## Opening Prayer

Lord our God,  
thank you for giving us  
St. John Mary Vianney  
as the patron saint of parish priests.  
Give to all priests the zeal,  
the wisdom and the compassionate heart  
of this humble, self-forgetting man.  
Let them be great in goodness  
and give them open arms for sinners.

We ask you this through Christ our Lord.

## Prayer over the Gifts

Tender and compassionate God,  
your give us Jesus' food and drink  
to sustain us on the road of life.  
See how many people today  
are needy and rudderless.  
Give them shepherds to guide them in life  
and to nourish them with your living word  
and with the food of everlasting life.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

## Prayer after Communion

Lord our God,  
your son Jesus still goes around today  
to our cities and towns far and near.  
Let his word be to all of us  
Good News of liberation  
from the diseases of our hearts and bodies  
and make us pass on this message  
to the people around us,  
at least by the way we live it.

We ask you this through Christ our Lord.