

Liturgy Alive of Feria

Opening Prayer

God our Father,
we have accepted your invitation
to follow your Son as his disciples.
Let your Spirit give us the wisdom and the strength
to take our faith seriously
and to accept our task in life
with all its consequences.
Let the Spirit help us to go your Son's way
without fear or discouragement,
for we are certain that Jesus will lead us to you,

our loving God, for ever and ever.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Introduction

To the reasoning of his friends that God must be punishing him for his sins, Job answers that he is innocent, that he cannot answer why he suffers, but that God is wise and that he, Job, can only appeal to him for mercy.

Gospel Introduction

Jesus gave himself totally to his mission. He asks the same radical commitment to the kingdom of God of justice and love not only of his apostles but also of all who "follow" him - of us. A "radical" commitment is asked, that is, going to the roots in the depths of our being; it must be consistent, it is a commitment that does not look back but that has its eyes on both the present and the future.

General Intercessions

- For the Church, that Christ may become more visible in its will to serve God and people in its loving concern for the poor and its continuous conversion to the Gospel, we pray:
 - For all Christians, who claim to follow Christ, that they may live up without fear to the demands of the Gospel and bear witness to the crucified Lord, we pray:
- For those who suffer in their bodies and their hearts, for those who work for justice in the world and for peace among people, that they may find strength in their unity with Christ in his passion and his death, we pray:

Prayer over the Gifts

Lord our God,
in these gifts of bread and wine,
we bring ourselves before you
and you let your Son give himself to us.
May we learn from him
to make ourselves free and available
to people and to you
and to seek your will in all we do.
Help us to follow your Son
in his trials and in his glory,

now and for ever.

Prayer after Communion

Lord our God,
in this Eucharist, you have enlightened us
with the word of wisdom of your Son
and given us the bread that gives us the strength
to follow him without hesitation.
Keep breathing on us
the wisdom and strength of your Spirit,
that we can go with Jesus

through the desert of pain and the cross,
for the sake of bringing life and joy
to our brothers and sisters in need
and for giving glory to you,

our God, for ever and ever.

Blessing

Jesus tells us today: "Follow me." We have accepted his invitation. Then, we have also to accept the consequences. We have to learn to love without end, to forgive without delay, to give ourselves also when not pleasant. May Almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.