

## **Liturgy Alive of Feria**

### **Opening Prayer**

Lord, our God,  
in your bewildering wisdom,  
you let us stand at times  
all alone before you with our miseries  
and we barely know where you are.  
Give us then the courage  
to keep our trust in you alive,  
as people without pretensions,  
humble, without illusions,  
but aware that you too have a Son,  
who all alone and disfigured,  
died one day on a cross for us,  
Jesus Christ, our Lord.

### **Liturgy of the Word**

#### **First Reading Introduction**

Today, we hear the closing words of the book of Job. In his sufferings he has voiced his complaints, his friends have tried to justify God, but Job cannot understand fully; finally, his eyes have seen, he accepts that God is greater and wiser and that God knows best. We should understand better than Job, for we have seen the suffering face of the crucified Christ.

#### **Gospel Introduction**

In the gospel the disciples, and Jesus with them, rejoice that people have been liberated from the power of evil in the name of Jesus.

#### **General Intercessions**

- For the poor and the suffering, for the victims of injustice and exploitation, for the lonely and the desperate, that we may not only show them compassion but help them to lighten their burdens, we pray:
- For the dying in their hour of struggle, that by his agony in the garden, the Lord Jesus may be their strength, we pray:
- For all of us, that we may learn to accept our crosses and carry them with Jesus, we pray:

#### **Prayer over the Gifts**

#### **Our God and Father,**

we bring before you this bread and wine  
to be one with Jesus, your Son.  
With him, may we not insult those who suffer

with hollow, pious words  
but stay by their side,  
perhaps in silence listening to their complaints  
and just let them feel  
that we are there,  
with Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Prayer after Communion**

Father of our Lord, Jesus Christ,  
in this Eucharist, your Son has been among us  
as the person who died one day for us,  
but who lives now a life of glory.  
In him, we hope and trust  
that no pain is suffered in vain,  
but that our mourning, our sickness or misery  
may make life more bearable and worth living  
to someone whom perhaps we may not know,  
on account of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

### **Blessing**

The mystery of suffering and evil remains a problem. To many of its questions, we have no answer and a superficial reference to the cross does not satisfy. We know that God wants our happiness. We also know that there is much suffering, much of it caused by people to other people. We keep believing in God's love, with the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.