

Liturgy Alive of Feria

Opening Prayer

Lord our God,
Jesus your Son, has broken down
the barriers dividing peoples and nations,
but why are we still so far apart,
even within our own households?
He has brought us close by his blood,
but why does his one body remain a dream
far removed from reality?
God, let us not be aliens to one another,
bring us together, help us to demolish
the walls of hatred and exploitation,
of distrust and power that divide your people,
that we may be all one

in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Introduction

We should pay special attention to today's beautiful first reading. Paul speaks directly about the wall of separation between Jews and non-Jews, which Christ has destroyed. All are called to be one in him. In this mission month, we could ask ourselves how many are still outside God's covenant, how many do not yet belong to the one single body of Christ?

General Intercessions

—That Churches that follow Christ as their Lord may always stress more what unites us than what divides us, we pray:
—That all the peoples of the earth may hear where the Lord Jesus can be found and come to know his name and to pray to him, we pray:

—That among the People of God, there may not be aliens and strangers, but only people who are different and yet who accept one another, we pray:

Prayer over the Gifts

God, you bring us together
around a piece of bread
and a cup of wine.
Let this bread and wine come alive,
give us Jesus, your Son
that we may no longer be foreign visitors
of this place and to one another,
but members of your own household,
and citizens of the kingdom
of peace, truth, and justice

of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Prayer after Communion

Lord our God,
however different we are,
whatever separates us here in your Church
and in the world at large,
you have given us the body and blood of your Son
to bring us all together.
Let Jesus be the cornerstone
on which we all build.
Let your Spirit make us the living stones
of the house in which you live

as our God, for ever and ever.

Blessing

We are "all members of the household of God," says Ephesians, not only to Jewish and ex-pagan Christians, but to us all here, however, different we may be in personality, origin, profession, whatever. We are all one in Christ. May we become more one with the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.