

# Liturgy Alive of Feria

## Opening Prayer

God, merciful Father,  
you know what is in our hearts.  
Whether our intentions are good or selfish,  
we leave everything  
to your compassionate judgment.  
But this we ask of you:  
Confirm us in the will  
to serve you and our people  
in loyalty and love  
and for the rest, we are in your hands,  
for you are our God and Father  
  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Liturgy of the Word

### First Reading Introduction

Paul writes to Titus that Christ has given himself for the Church. The community should bear witness to this by the kind of life people lead, each according to one's state in life.

# Gospel Introduction

The words of Jesus in the gospel of today seem to be directed more to the Pharisees and scribes, who claimed to be servants of God, than to the apostles. They were self-assured servants; they computed their merits for what they had done for God and asserted their right to his rewards. Perhaps the apostles too were not always too modest in their claims as companions of Jesus. All should put their trust in God and leave everything to him. Not what we have done for God counts, but what he does for us in his mercy. We are in his hands.

# General Intercessions

– Lord, let rewards and honors come to us as surprises, rather than as something we deserve, we pray:

– Lord, for us and all who are baptized, that we may follow Christ, your perfect servant, and that with him we may serve rather than demand to be served, we pray:

– That leaders in the Church and in the world may serve the interests of their people rather than their own, we pray:

## Prayer over the Gifts

God, our Father,  
we have often been useless servants  
who have not done what you expected of us.  
And yet you invite us to your table  
and serve us the best food and drink,  
your Son Jesus Christ.  
Make us trustworthy and loyal  
like your faithful servant,  
  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Prayer after Communion

God our Father,  
without any merit on our part,  
you have called us to be

your sons and daughters  
through your loyal Son and servant Jesus Christ.  
Give us the humble strength  
not to consider this gift from you  
as a title to privileges and awards  
but a trust and a responsibility  
to serve you in people  
and to make your love known to all.

We ask you this through Christ our Lord.

#### **Blessing**

We should not boast to God of what we have done for him. Everything we could do was a gift from him. So let us thank God. May he bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.