

Liturgy Alive of Feria

Opening Prayer

Lord our God,
we are your people on the march
who try to carry out the task
of giving shape to your kingdom of love and peace.
When we are discouraged and afraid,
keep us going forward in hope.
Make us vigilant in prayer,
that we may see the signs of your Son's coming.
Let Jesus walk with us already now
on the road he has shown us,
that he may lead us to you,

our living God for ever and ever.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Introduction

In 539 B. C., King Darius had taken the great city of Babylon that had driven the Jews into exile. Likewise, the new Babylon, the city of Rome that was persecuting the young Church, will fall and Christians will openly sing the praise of God.

Gospel Introduction

The destruction of Jerusalem and the signs of disaster in nature are for us signs of the trials of the Christian life and of the difficult coming of God's kingdom among people. But let us not forget that we ourselves too delay this kingdom, by our selfishness, our hunger for power, all the evil we cause one another. Yet our meager efforts will help to bring salvation nearer. With the help of Christ present among us, we can grow in love, forgiveness, compassion, and peace. We should keep our heads raised in hope.

General Intercessions

– Lord Jesus, when we are confused and discouraged, tell us: "Stand up and raise your heads, because your salvation is near," we pray:

– Lord Jesus, make us people of hope, not of fear, we pray:

– Lord Jesus, we pray for people who despair of themselves and of the meaning of life; give them courage and hope, we pray:

Prayer over the Gifts

Lord our God,
as a pledge of your promises
you give us your Son Jesus Christ
in these signs of bread and wine.
We do not ask you for a life
without problems and risks
but for your Son's vision
of a world in which you are present
and for your Son's courage
to answer with our own lives
your call to build up a new world

in Christ Jesus our Lord,

Prayer after Communion

Lord our God, merciful Father,
you have spoken to us your word of hope
and renewed our strength
with the bread of life of your Son.
Free our faith from banality and routine
and send us out with your Son
to restore integrity and love
and the trust that with him
we can give shape to a future
beyond all human expectations,

for the future belongs to you, our living God.

Grant us this through Christ our Lord.

Blessing

Keep your heads high in hope was the message of today. Keep hoping when there are wars and violence. Keep hoping when there is much injustice. Keep hoping when there is much hatred and discrimination. Keep hoping, for there is a future. Christ is with you, and with him we can do away with evil in us and in our world. Keep your heads high, and may God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.