

# Liturgy Alive of Feria

Saint MONICA, Memorial

August 27

## Introduction

A convinced Christian, Monica was married to a short-tempered, philandering husband. She succeeded in converting both him and her mother in law. Her son, Augustine, belonged to the Manichean sect and his moral conduct caused her much anxiety and shame. Yet Monica could finally win him to the faith by her prayers and penance – and what a man and Christian Augustine became! His mother's tears had brought him to life in Christ (hence the gospel). Thus she was twice his mother. Her life was that of a lot of women – trials in marriage, worries about difficult children. But she knew that faith in Christ makes everything possible.

## Opening Prayer

Almighty, eternal God,  
to give a human life to their children  
is the great task you entrust to mothers.  
We thank you today for St. Monica,  
who prayed to you for her Son Augustine  
that he might find Jesus.  
Grant to all parents  
that they may help their children live and grow  
in the life and the future

of Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Prayer over the Gifts

Lord God,  
let this bread and wine be the signs  
that with your Son Jesus Christ  
we care about your kingdom among people.  
Help us through your Son  
to lead one another forward  
on the way to you.  
May he live in all of us,  
  
for he is our Lord for ever.

## Prayer after Communion

Lord our God,  
we thank you for Jesus Christ  
and for the many men and women  
to whom he meant enough  
to dedicate themselves to their neighbor  
for his sake.  
Let them inspire us today  
to care for those around us.  
Help us to believe firmly enough  
in the mystery of your Son's resurrection  
to rise above our petty selves  
and to help others overcome  
their fears and their servitudes  
  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.