

# Liturgy Alive of Feria

Saturday, 22nd Week in Ordinary      Time

## The      LAW has to SERVE PEOPLE

### Opening      Prayer

Lord      our God,  
Jesus your Son came not to abolish the law  
but to fill it with the dimensions of love.  
Do not allow commandments and rules  
to stand between you and us nor between people,  
but let them lead us gently,  
as good educators, to you and to our neighbor  
and teach us to go beyond the law  
in generosity and serving love.  
Make us free with the freedom brought us  
by your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

### Liturgy      of the Word

#### First      Reading Introduction

Paul reminds his Colossians      that before their conversion they were estranged from God. Now  
that they      have been reconciled with God and one another, they should remain steadfast      in  
the faith that has made them holy.

#### Gospel Introduction

A frequent sign      of their own insecurity is that people seek security in laws and traditions.  
The more they insist on these, the more they try to bend people to these,      the greater their  
insecurity. Laws are supposed to be in the service of      the community, not vice versa. They may  
never become a block or a screen      between people. They are not absolutes but servants of people.

#### General      Intercessions

- That      Christians may regard the commandments as doors to freedom from sin      and evil  
and ways to serve God and people, we pray:
- That      lawmakers everywhere make laws that are humane and serve the good of      all in the  
community, we pray:
- That      we may seek security in love of God and the service of people, we pray:

#### Prayer      over the Gifts

God      our Father,  
in these signs, your gifts to us

and the fruit of our work,  
we make ourselves available to you.  
Do not allow us to seek false security  
in observing the letter of the law  
but help us to seek the insecurity and risk  
of committing ourselves to you and people,  
as Jesus did, your Son,  
who lives with you and with us  
now, and we hope and pray, for ever.

**Prayer      after Communion**

Lord      our God,  
in this eucharist we have celebrated  
the memorial of your Son's death and rising.  
He followed the law of the heart  
and made love the heart of all laws.  
Let the bread of life of your Son  
make our love inventive and creative  
in the service of people  
and help us to follow the directives  
of our hearts and consciences,  
in the Spirit of Jesus Christ,  
your Son and our Lord for ever.

**Blessing**

Christ      has made us free. Let us not give up that freedom by slavishly sticking      to practices  
and traditions that do not reflect the gospel. May almighty      God bless you, the Father, and the  
Son, and the Holy Spirit.