

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.