Liturgy Alive of 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Greetings

The Lord God loves all that exists
and he is merciful to all.
He overlooks our sins, so that we can repent.
May our Lord, the lover of life, be always with you.

R/ And also with you.

Introduction by the Celebrant

A. I Must Stay In Your House Today

What a consolation and encouragement for us that the Lord Jesus wants to be our guest, our friend, our companion on the road! And this holds true whoever we are, whatever we have done wrong. The Lord Jesus sees us and knows us and he wants to stay with us today, now, in our actual situation. In this Eucharist we

ask him that we may become more aware of his offer and accept it with great joy.

B. A Small Person

There are people who keep searching for higher values in life. Perhaps one is only half satisfied with the kind of life one is leading, or feels guilty about his or her way of life. The Gospel of today shows us a small man, literally and morally, in search of the Lord. To his surprise, Jesus sees the hunger in the man's heart

and turns to him. Jesus wishes to encounter him. If we ourselves recognize our smallness, the Lord will show himself to us, and invite himself to go with us and to stay with us. He will make us great in love and goodness.

Penitential Act

The Lord overlooks our sins,
so that we can repent and live.
Let us commend ourselves to his mercy.
(pause)
Lord Jesus, you are kind
and full of compassion:
Lord, have mercy. *R/ Lord, have mercy.*
Jesus Christ, you support all who fall
and raise up all who are bowed down:
Christ have mercy. *R/ Christ, have mercy.*
Lord Jesus, you are slow to anger
and you are good and loving to all:
Lord, have mercy. *R/ Lord, have mercy.*
Lord, lover of life,
let us live in your forgiving love;

restore us and lead us to everlasting life. *R/ Amen.*

Opening Prayer

Let us pray to God
that Jesus may be close to us and change us
(pause)
Lord God, lover of life,
we are small before you
because we are aware that we are sinners.
We bless you for the joy and the forgiveness
that you let your Son Jesus bring to your people.
Let him be very close to us,
so that he may change our lives and mentality.
May he dispose us to share with our brothers and sisters
your mercy and forgiving love.

We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. *R/ Amen.*

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Introduction: God, The Lover Of Life

The patient, merciful God gives the sinner a chance to repent, for he loves people. Even his punishments are "educational," intended not to condemn but to correct and to lead to conversion.

General Intercessions

With trust, let us pray to God who is kind and full of compassion and let us say: *R/ Give us a new heart, Lord.*
- The Lord is merciful to all: that he may not walk on our road of life without encountering us, let us pray: *R/ Give us a new heart, Lord.*
- The Lord is powerful: that his grace may touch and heal us, let us pray: *R/ Give us a new heart, Lord.*
- The Lord closes his eyes to our sins: that he may not walk by without changing us, let us pray: *R/ Give us a new heart, Lord.*
- The Lord loves every living being: that he may not fail to lift us up, let us pray: *R/ Give us a new heart, Lord.*
- The Lord loves life: that he may give us the life of the Spirit, let us pray: *R/ Give us a new heart, Lord.*
- The Lord raises all who are bowed down: that he may give us the courage to help spare people from injustice and exploitation, let us pray: *R/ Give us a new heart, Lord.*

Lord our God, you are good to all and faithful to your people. Lift us up, help us in our need. We ask this through Christ our Lord. *R/ Amen.*

Prayer over the Gifts

Merciful Father,
your Son Jesus did not shun or condemn
outcasts and sinners.
He shared their table as he eats with us.
In his presence they found the courage
to stand up and walk straight.
Let your Son strengthen us to go his way
to the poor, the unwanted, social lepers,
that they may see your goodness in us
and recover faith in you.
May we thus proclaim your Good News to the poor
and walk in the footsteps

of Jesus Christ our Lord. *R/ Amen.*

Introduction to the Eucharistic Prayer

God does not keep us imprisoned in our sins. Through Jesus he takes us back into his friendship and trusts us enough to make us his Church. For all this we thank our Father.

Invitation to the Lord's Prayer

In the name of Jesus the Lord
we ask our heavenly Father
to forgive us as we forgive those who hurt us.

R/ Our Father...

Deliver Us

Deliver us Lord from the pride
that makes us admire ourselves
as to how great we are,
and makes us look down on others.
Make us look forward to the coming of him
who makes us great in your eyes,
our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

R/ For the kingdom...

Invitation to Communion

This is Jesus our Lord,
who tells us that today

he will stay at our houses.
Happy are we
that we can welcome him
and receive salvation from him.

R/ Lord, I am not worthy...

Prayer after Communion

Lord God, merciful Father,
often we meet people who crave for a smile,
or wait for a kind word,
who look for a sign of friendship and sympathy.
Do not allow us to pass them by
with unseeing eyes.
Give us sharp ears and sensitive hearts
to hear and understand
their silent plea for help,
as Jesus did, your Son,
who lives with you and with us

now and for ever. *R/ Amen.*

Blessing

Genuine love is gratuitous,
a free, undeserved gift.
This is why God, the source of all true love,
is responsive to people's miseries.
His Son came to forgive our sins
and to put us back on the way of life and love
simply because he loves us.
Should our Christian communities, then,
not care more for marginal people
with the same kind of generous love
that God has shown to us?
May you do so with the blessing of Almighty God:
the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. *R/ Amen.*

Go in peace and love one another. *R/ Thanks be to God.*