

Liturgy Alive of Feria

Opening Prayer

Lord our God,
you have made us like parts of a body
dependent on one another.
Teach us to love one another,
for only when we are united
can we live in hope and joy
and persevere in trials.
Only when we are one can we relieve the suffering
that oppresses many of our neighbors far and near.
Give us this unity in love
that unites us beyond the boundaries of death
with you and one another,

through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Introduction

We belong together as members of the same body of Christ, each with one's gifts and talents, with one's own contribution to make for the well-being of the whole and for the service of others, in the solidarity of one common destiny in Christ. We are like guests at the same table, where there is room for everyone, also for those who are the last and the least in our merely human system of values. We belong together at the same table.

Gospel Introduction

Today's Gospel has partly the same theme as that of yesterday: that in the kingdom of God, we have to open our homes and hearts to the poor, the neglected, the people without name or fame. This is why we take the messages of the first reading.

General Intercessions

- That the Church may not only love the poor and care for them but speak out with courage when they are trampled upon, we pray:
 - That in the poor, the sick, and the handicapped, we may recognize and welcome the suffering Lord Jesus himself, we pray:
- That the poor and the suffering may not become embittered when freedom and dignity are slow to come, but that they keep believing in people's capacity for love and God's justice and care, we pray:

Prayer over the Gifts

God, our Father,
we thank you for your invitation
to break bread with your Son
and to celebrate his memory
around this table.
Dispose us to share the bread
of our food and of ourselves
with all those you love,
that we may be your one community
of service and mutual love.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

Prayer after Communion

Lord our God, in your kindness,
you have again given us the food of life
of your Son, Jesus Christ.
As we have shared this meal,
keep us united with you and one another.
Let the Spirit of Jesus live in us,
that we may support one another

on the way to lasting happiness
which begins here on earth
and goes on for ever and ever.

Blessing

Extend hospitality to strangers, bless those who persecute you, Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another. Quite a task! May Almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.