

Liturgy Alive of Feria

Opening Prayer

God, our Father,
sickness, pain, and suffering upset us,
for we are afraid of them.
And yet, you let your Son be
a man of sorrows familiar with infirmity;
his heart reached out especially
to the sick, the poor, and all who suffer.
Do not allow us to cover our faces
on seeing them in pain and distress,
but move us by your Spirit of love
to recognize your suffering Son in them
and to serve him with gentle care,

for he is our Lord, now and for ever.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Introduction

James gives us today his famous text on anointing the sick. The sick person is the responsibility of the community. "I was sick and you visited me," says the Lord of the true Christian. In our difficult pastoral setting, the sick are not given all the attention they deserve by the community, particularly the poor and the lonely. Sickness is a very sensitive moment in a person's life, when a visit in the name of the Lord will do a lot of good.

Gospel Introduction

"Christ's reception of children cannot be regarded as a recommendation of infantilism or a vain search for primeval innocence. He recommends the adult attitude which acknowledges limitations and accepts dependence upon God with interdependence between people... The child, who acts with all his being, is in the final analysis more human and more integral than the thinker who becomes entangled in arguments and in worry about motives." Guide to the Christian Assembly II, p. 327.

General Intercessions

- That our sick people may entrust themselves to Jesus, our Lord, who bore our infirmities and endured our sufferings, we pray:
 - That relatives, friends, and neighbors may call the attention of our priests and ministers when someone is sick in the parish, we pray:
- That in our community, the people may visit the Lord in those who are sick, we pray:

Prayer over the Gifts

To the table of your Son, we have brought
your own good gifts, Lord our God,
as signs that everything comes from your hands.
Prepare us to accept in life
joys and sorrows, health and sickness,
days of laughter and times of affliction.
Through your Son who suffered for us,
we offer you our crosses and ask of you
for the strength to bear them with him.
For we place all our trust in you

through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Prayer after Communion

God our Father,
we have shared the table of him
who tasted the depths of human ills,
your Son, Jesus Christ.
When sickness and suffering remind us
of the limitations of human life,
help us seek healing and wholeness in him.
Give us the courage to uplift him in the sick,
by a quiet visit, an endearing present,
a word of assurance, a prayer of hope.

We ask you this through Christ, our Lord.

Blessing

Let us never forget the sick and the infirm! In them we visit and care for no less than the Lord Jesus himself. May God bless all the sick and you who visit them; the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.