

Liturgy Alive of Thursday of the Fourth Week of Lent

Introduction

From today on and in the Holy Week, the opposition between the Jewish leaders and Jesus is growing. People always tend to adore their own god—a god or gods made in their own image and likeness, rather than accepting in humility, conscious of our limitations, that we are made in the image and likeness of God.

But we are fortunate enough to have Christ—as the Hebrews had Moses—a mediator who pleads for us, whom we can easily accept and identify with because in him, we can recognize one of us, who opts for people, who defends us, who is involved with us in spite of our failures.

Opening Prayer

Lord, our God, we know,
perhaps more in theory than in practice,
that you are with us,
that you are our God and we your people.
Forgive us Lord, when we fashion
our own gods made in our own image –
honor, power, prestige,
things to which we are attached and enslaved.
Remind us again and again,
that you are our loyal God,
who made us in your own indelible image
and who shows us your perfect likeness
in Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord.

General Intercessions

- For priests and religious, that the Lord may give them the strength and the joy to be shining lights of all they stand for, we pray:
- For those who have become unfaithful to their baptismal promises, that they may find the way back to the Lord, we pray:
- For Christians, that their lives may bear witness to the compassion and goodness of the Lord, we pray:

Prayer over the Gifts

God, your Son is still alive among us
in this Eucharistic celebration.
Make us realize
that despite our false attachments,
our hesitation and cowardice,
he opts for us, he is involved with us,
he is your sign among us

that you still accept and love us.
God, thank you for Jesus, your Son,
who stays with us and shares our destiny,
now and for ever.

Prayer after Communion

Lord, our God,
we thank you for giving us Jesus
as your living sign among us
of your strong and faithful love.
May we too, Lord,
everyone of us who claims to be
a disciple of Jesus Christ,
take the risk of being to our brothers and sisters
a firm support, a true sign
of your everlasting love.
May this be the way we testify
that Jesus is alive among us,
now and for ever.

Blessing

May the good you do, even when done in all simplicity, bear witness that the Lord is alive among us.
May Almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.