

# Liturgy Alive of Feria

**Memorial of St. Vincent De Paul, Priest**

**Memorial**

*September 23*

**Introduction**

We commemorate today St. Vincent de Paul (1581–1660), a man with a heart. All his life, he was a friend of the poor and the suffering. To evangelize rural areas, he founded the Congregation of the Mission or Lazarists and for the benefit of the proletarian masses the Daughters of Charity, to whom he gave as their convents the streets

of the city, the houses of the poor and the rooms of hospitals. He did also much for improving the education of future priests in the seminaries. The Church of France owes very much to this man of vision for its revival in the 17th century. He is the patron saint of works for the poor.

## **Opening Prayer**

Lord our God,  
in a man of vision, St. Vincent de Paul,  
we see your deep concern for the poor  
and for the needs of the Church of his time.  
Make us too, poor and free,  
let us weep with those who mourn,  
hunger and thirst with those  
who seek what is right and just,  
that we may understand deeply  
the needs of those who are in need.

Grant us this through Christ, our Lord.

## **Prayer over the Gifts**

Our God and Father,  
here are bread and wine,  
simple food and the drink of joy,  
By this gesture of offering,  
we assume our responsibility for the poor.  
With your Son, let us never remain indifferent  
to the human and spiritual misery  
of our brothers and sisters in need.  
Accept the poverty of our hearts  
and be our lasting riches,

through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

## **Prayer after Communion**

God, Father of the poor,  
your Son has been here among us  
and he has knocked at the doors of our hearts.  
We have welcomed him,  
but it was he who gave us to eat.  
May we keep receiving him  
and making him feel comfortable  
every time someone begs for help  
or when in need, is too timid  
to express where it hurts.  
We ask you for this sensitivity

through Jesus Christ, our Lord.