

Liturgy Alive of Feria

Opening Prayer

Lord, our God,
you invite us, disciples of your Son today,
to be wholly converted to the Gospel
and to help extend your kingdom.
Give us hearts open to the Good News
and the generosity to share it
with people of our day.
We ask you this through Jesus Christ,
your Son and our Lord,
who lives with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, for ever and ever.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Introduction

A word about the books of Samuel. After the confused times of the settlement in Palestine comes a more stable era with the kings. This period is important because the very vague "salvation" described earlier,—a land of their own for the Hebrews, their growth as a people—turns now into messianism on the basis of the kingship of David: an ideal king will come in whom the promises will be fulfilled. Jesus, descendant of David, will found the eternal kingdom promised to David. In today's reading in Year II, Samuel appears as the prophet who reluctantly prepares the foundation of a Hebrew kingdom. Only a king can unify and defend the people.

General Intercessions

— For the Church dear to us, that the Lord may help it to keep renewing itself, so that it may stay on the road of the Gospel and that people can live the Gospel as Good News, we pray:
— For those who leave their nets to follow Jesus the Lord, that they may live the Gospel so as to make it visible and tangible, we pray:

— For all of us in our communities, that the Lord may help us to take the Gospel seriously and to live it in close union with the Lord, we pray:

Prayer over the Gifts

Lord, our God,
in these gifts of bread and wine,
we place our goodwill
to follow your Son
wherever he calls us.
Let our encounter here
with your Son and with each other
mark a new beginning for us
of unity and loyal love,
that the seed of your kingdom
may grow among us

through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Prayer after Communion

Lord, our God,
we know what you can do
with weak, fallible people.
In the strength of your Son,
help us to do what surpasses our forces:
to be your people
and to be to the world
the sign that you love everyone
and that friendship and justice
are no empty words for you and for us.

We ask you this through Christ, our Lord.

Blessing

The time is now. Repent and believe the Good News. Come and follow me. Be my disciples. Jesus spoke these words long ago. He addresses them here and now to us. May you heed these words, with the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.