

Sunday and Feast Day Liturgical Notes for Priests and Deacons

Suggestions for Leading Worship



Office of Worship
P.O. Box 2028
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-2028
Phone: 225-242-0120
Fax: 225-336-8731
E-Mail: tranzino@diobr.org

RE: Liturgical Suggestions for the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time – Cycle A

Sunday date: November 15-16, 2008

Dear Fathers and Deacons,

An Overview...

There is a new orientation begun with this Sunday and next Sunday's Gospel stories. In the prior *Lectionary*, the Sundays leading to Advent took on a more future-oriented focus, with judgment as the predominant theme. These next two Sundays still give two aspects to the issue of judgment. Advent will come right behind these two Sundays telling us again, you *know neither the day nor the hour...*

This Sunday's story of the three sums of money speaks of industry and looking toward the future of the investment [*perhaps a timely issue with the current financial crisis in our country*]. Matthew is pointing beyond being level-headed with finances toward the status of the Church community then [and now]. There is emphasis on the active involvement of the individual in encouraging and fostering growth in faith. The gifts which are given to each community require attention if they are to be nurtured, matured and productive for the benefit of all.

Faith Sharing Questions...

1. Where do you find God in the Gospel story? What implications come from that?
2. What does it mean to you that you will be judged on how well you have increased your faith?

Some Other Considerations As You Prepare...

1. The tone of the liturgy is moving toward Advent [although we are NOT in the season of Advent quite yet. Pay attention to the eschatological images that are in the prayers: *kingdom, promise, future, coming, glory, lasting, forever, longing, Lord, return, wait consummation, ready.*
2. Penitential Rite sample: "Lord Jesus, you are the eternal Son of the Father; Christ Jesus, in your Word is our salvation; Lord Jesus, we await your coming in glory."
3. Use the Alternative Opening Prayer as it better reflects the Gospel passage.
4. Sunday Preface IV for Ordinary Time images the eventual return of the Lord.
5. Consider using the fourth form of the introduction to the Lord's Prayer.
6. Before the Final Blessing, consider using one of nos. 4, 8 or 16 of the Prayer over the People.

Looking Ahead...

1. Be sure to announce the time of your parish's Thanksgiving Liturgy.
2. Make sure your Advent wreath and other décor materials are ready.
3. The annual collection for the national Campaign for Human Development is held next weekend, on the Solemnity of Christ the King.

Sample Intercessions for the 33rd Ordinal Sunday

Priest: With a longing for our future in Christ, we offer these our prayers:

Deacon (or other reader if there is no deacon):

1. For a bountiful harvest amidst the mission fields of the Church; that all will be receptive to the Gospel of God's salvation in Christ, we pray to the Lord...
2. For our country and our new leadership in government; for the wisdom of God's Spirit to guide the actions of all in public office for the benefit of the common good, we pray to the Lord...
3. For a deeper longing for the presence of God in our day to day living, we pray to the Lord...
4. For those who live with the stress of chronic pain; for those who are anxious about their possessions so that they have no peace; for those who live in doubt of God's faithful love; for God's peace upon them all, we pray to the Lord...
5. For those who have died [particularly those in our parish's *Book of Remembrance*]; may these and all who sleep in Christ rest in peace, we pray to the Lord...
6. In peace and in silence, we offer our prayers to the Lord...

[pause; the presiding priest alone concludes]

Priest: Loving God,
we entrust these prayers to your goodness and mercy
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.