

# Sunday and Feast Day Liturgical Notes for Priests and Deacons

## Suggestions for Leading Worship



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**RE:** Liturgical Suggestions for the Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Cycle B

**Sunday date:** August 15-16, 2009

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Dear Fathers and Deacons,

### An Overview...

*(From Living Liturgy, J. A. Zimmerman et al. Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press)*

It is easy to get caught up in definitions and interpretations of the Eucharistic mystery. The sublime simplicity and beauty of this Gospel text reminds us that Jesus takes the ordinary human act of eating and shows us that this familiar action is the very way we can come to eternal life. The act— eating — is the same: the food differs. The food Jesus offers is from heaven and that upon which we feast is no less than Jesus Himself.

Jesus is the source of our life. At the same time we can never forget that our communion with Jesus nourishes us to share that life with others. In this way we ourselves become bread for the life of others. The real scandal of this Gospel is that we ourselves become the bread of life for others by eating and remaining in Jesus. Our intimacy with Jesus calls us to the same intimacy with others. This kind of intimacy does not end but continues to everlasting life.

### **Questions for Sharing Faith...**

1. How do I remain in Jesus, and how does Jesus remain in me?
2. How does partaking in Christ's Body and blood deepen my relationship with God?  
How does my sharing in the Eucharist deepen my relationship with others?
3. What value do I place on eternal life? How do I demonstrate this in my daily living?

### **Some Other Considerations as You Prepare...**

1. Sample Third Form of the Penitential Rite:

*Priest:* Our God nourishes us with bread from heaven. Let us prepare to receive this great gift by offering ourselves to God, so that we can give fitting praise and thanksgiving. . .

*Deacon:* Lord Jesus, you are the Bread that comes down from heaven; Lord, have mercy...

Lord Jesus, you give us your flesh and blood as nourishment for our life's journey; Christ, have mercy...

Lord Jesus, you invite us to remain in you and share in your divine life; Lord, have mercy...

2. Either of the two Prefaces for the Holy Eucharist will be appropriate for the next three weekends.
3. You may wish to revisit the hymnody you utilized for the Solemnity of Corpus Christi in planning for this weekend and the next two weekends.

## Sample Intercessory Prayers for the 20th Ordinal Sunday, Cycle B

*Priest:* Let us call on the living God, whose Son has spoken the Word of life and whose wisdom has set the table.

*Deacon* (or other Reader if there is no deacon):

1. That the Church may be seen by the world as the house of wisdom, where the simple are welcomed to share the feast of faith and charity, we pray to the Lord.
2. That our priests and seminarians may more deeply appreciate the gift of their vocation and boldly proclaim the Gospel through their daily nourishment of the eucharist, we pray to the Lord.
3. That nations may look to Christ, the living bread, to satisfy their longing for a peace that will last and for a justice that will never fail, we pray to the Lord.
4. That God may protect communities along the Gulf Coast during this hurricane season, and that He may shed the light of grace on anyone still recovering from past storms, we pray to the Lord.
5. That we who share God's many gifts through service within and beyond our parish may nurture others and inspire them to walk in the way of wisdom, we pray to the Lord.
6. That this Eucharistic assembly may be filled with the Spirit and strengthened for witness as we sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs, we pray to the Lord.
7. That our beloved departed who ate the bread from heaven in this life, may live forever as Christ promises, we pray to the Lord.

*Priest:* Here in our midst, O Good and gracious God,  
Wisdom has built herself a house,  
She has set her table and mixed her wine:  
The flesh and blood of Christ become our food and drink.  
Fill us with your Spirit,  
with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs,  
so that we may be a canticle of praise to you,  
and, for our brothers and sisters, a feast of joyful love.  
We ask this through Christ, our Lord.  
Amen.

*(From Prayers for Sundays and Season, Year B, P. Scagnelli, Chicago, IL: LTP, 1996)*