

# Sunday and Feast Day Liturgical Notes for Priests and Deacons

## Suggestions for Leading Worship



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**RE:** Liturgical Suggestions for the 27th Sunday of Ordinary Time – Cycle B

**Sunday date:** October 3-4, 2009

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Dear Fathers and Deacons,

### An Overview...

A variety of ways of considering being in “right” relationship are imaged in the Scriptures for this weekend. While in our contemporary world, men and women are often cast in competitive or exploitative roles, the reading from the Book of Genesis considers woman as complement to man. Man is unable to be fulfilled by all the creatures around him – they are no support for him. In fact, man is fulfilled only by encountering another human person who has the capabilities of union with man physically, emotionally, spiritually. And this person is called woman.

St. Mark’s Gospel provides a teaching on love and marriage, particularly the ultimate vocation of the Christian which is living in right relationships with others centered on the virtue of love. Humans are to complement each other in existence and to see self-sacrificing relationships which is the hard work of what “to love” means. Jesus moves marriage out of the confines of a contract and considers marriage as a covenantal relationship which reflects the active grace of God in all relationships that express this vocation.

### **Some Faith Sharing Questions...**

1. How is marriage viewed in our culture today? What does your experience tell you? What does your faith add to this view?
2. In what ways are you challenged in your friendships to reflect a vocation to love in the name of Christ?

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

1. Reflecting the theme of the letter to the Hebrews, you may consider the *Rite of Blessing and Sprinkling with Holy Water* as you speak of the covenantal renewal of baptism. Should you use the Third Penitential Rite, consider the 4th set of invocations given in the *Missal...* "You came to reconcile us to God and to one another; You heal the wounds of sin and division; You intercede for us with your Father"
2. Consider using the Alternative Opening Prayer as it reflects the major theme from the Letter to the Hebrews
3. Choose between Sunday Ordinary Time Prefaces II, III, and IV, which each reflect an aspect of the Gospel thematic which is the loving plan of God for all creation.
4. Solemn Blessing Ordinary Time IV speaks of being freed from anxiety and strengthened in God's love.

## **SAMPLE INTERCESSORY PRAYERS FOR THE 27th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

*Priest:* With God as our strength, we offer our needs to the Father...

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

1. For an awareness of the presence of God that comes to us through the Church; for our common life in our parish community as we walk day by day, we pray to the Lord...
2. For all married couples, that they may express ever more fully the generous love of God, especially by joyfully accepting the great blessing of children, we pray to the Lord...
3. For the people of the world who share a longing for peace, security and happiness in life; may God strengthen those who struggle against tyranny and oppression, we pray to the Lord...
4. For protection from natural disasters, particularly in our state and region during this hurricane season, we pray to the Lord...
5. For those who live in pain; for those who are filled with fear and worry about their health, their security, their families, their jobs; may God console and bring peace to minds and hearts, we pray to the Lord...
6. For all who have died; for their peace and for those who mourn them, we pray to the Lord...

In peace and in silence, we offer to the Father other, personal prayers of need...

*[pause; the presider alone concludes]*

*Priest:* Father of all hope,  
listen to our prayers  
and grant what we need this day and always,  
for we pray through Christ, our Lord.  
Amen.