

Sunday and Feast Day Liturgical Notes for Priests and Deacons

Suggestions for Leading Worship



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RE: Liturgical Suggestions for the 29th Sunday of Ordinary Time – Cycle B

Sunday date: October 17-18, 2009

Dear Fathers and Deacons,

An Overview...

Within the Scriptures today there are images and realities which are described which are hard to hear in today's world: becoming a slave of someone. How often do people in our day spend hours thinking up fancy titles for jobs which appear to be menial? In the time of Jesus many people were horrified to think they could be a member of the servant class. Once a servant slave, always a servant slave. One did not rise out of his or her cultural placement or class.

With this image and reality firmly in mind, Jesus in the Gospel confronts the hearer with Zebedee's sons, James and John, in particular. Jesus criticizes their desire for prominence and tells them that the way to salvation is not that way. He establishes a new set of standards by which to live. Suffering comes from facing the challenging assumption of society where Christian values are held in little regard.

Faith Sharing Questions...

1. Where does "pride" fit in your life?
2. Under what conditions do you ever feel like you are someone's slave? How do you square that feeling with how Jesus described "slave" in the Gospel?

Some Other Considerations as You Prepare...

1. A Sample Penitential Rite: “You humbled yourself to come among us as a man; You call us to lives of service for your Gospel; You give us yourself to heal and strengthen our weakness”
2. The First Opening Prayer would be appropriate reflecting the Father as our source of power and inspiration.
3. The Preface for Sundays of Ordinary Time I uses imagery of service, with the humiliation of Jesus as our model.
4. Solemn Blessing Ordinary Time V is recommended.

Looking Ahead...

1. The association of *National Pastoral Musicians* is offering a WEBINAR on “Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship” on November 12, 2009. The presenter will be Mr. Steven Janco, a pastoral musician liturgist who is nationally known for his compositions and his workshops. Mr. Janco was in our diocese two years ago to do a workshop for pastoral musicians. For more information go to <http://www.npm.org>
2. In two weeks the Church observes the Solemnity of All Saints, followed by the Commemoration of All Souls. Since in south Louisiana visiting of cemeteries and blessing of tombs is often done, you will want to be prepared for this.

SAMPLE INTERCESSIONS FOR THE 29TH ORDINARY SUNDAY, CYCLE B

Priest: Let us turn to God who is filled with compassion:

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

1. For the clergy and other ministers of the Church; may those who serve her offer their lives in the spirit of the Gospel for the sake of the world, we pray to the Lord...
2. For peace and hope in the world; may hatred and the violence of warfare end, we pray to the Lord...
3. For those who live lives of fear and hopelessness, especially the poor and the exiled, we pray to the Lord...
4. For our Parish and the life of faith we share; may we be bound in common love and service in the manner of Christ, we pray to the Lord...
5. For all who have died in peace; may they and those who mourn them be consoled, we pray to the Lord...
6. In peace and in silence, we offer to God our more personal needs and concerns.

[pause; the presider alone concludes]

Priest: Loving Father, you know our needs
and you hear our prayers.
Grant our desires and lead us with your compassion.
We pray through Christ our Lord.
Amen.