

Sunday and Feast Day Liturgical Notes for Priests and Deacons

Suggestions for Leading Worship



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

Sunday or Feast Day date: February 7-8, 2009

Dear Fathers and Deacons,

An Overview...

This week, Mark's Gospel presents Jesus as more than a miracle worker. Mark is describing Jesus from the vantage of the resurrection, recounting His earthly life so as to allow the Church to realize what was only understood by a few during Jesus' ministry: i.e., God's power was at work in Jesus.

The construction of the Gospel and its length demonstrate that Mark is not trying to give biographical detail but rather emphasis on the events from Jesus' entry into Jerusalem to the commissioning of the disciples post-resurrection. Jesus consistently is asking for faith on the part of those who witness Him, not only when a miracle has occurred, but when His ways do not correspond with our powers of reason or usual way of thinking. He does not fit our easy categories.

Some Faith Sharing Questions...

1. What do Jesus' miracles mean to your faith in Him?
2. What strikes you about the report that *the demons knew Jesus*?
3. What was the most significant insight you have about this Gospel?

Some Other Considerations as You Prepare...

1. For the Third form of the Penitential Rite, petitioners based on the sixth set in the *Sacramentary* would be recommended: “You raise all to life in the Spirit; You bring about forgiveness of sin; You feed us with your Body and Blood as strength and food for the community of faith”
2. The Alternative Opening Prayer better supports the imagery of the Gospel.
3. Preface V or VI for Sundays of Ordinary Time are recommended.
4. Solemn Blessing recommended is Ordinary Time I or V

SAMPLE INTERCESSORY PRAYERS FOR THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME – CYCLE B

Priest: With hope in God's providence, we offer our prayers to the Lord...

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

1. For the work of the Church in reconciling the world to Christ, we pray to the Lord...
2. For our country and its leaders, and for the leaders of all nations; may they be one in seeking the common good for the world, we pray to the Lord...
3. For those who are suffering from a loss of income; for those who have lost their jobs; for those who are poor and without adequate housing; that all these might not lose hope, we pray to the Lord...
4. For those who live with chronic pain; for those who are facing surgery; for God's healing to save them, we pray to the Lord...
5. For those who have died and for all who mourn the dead, we pray to the Lord...
6. In peace and in silence, we offer our other prayers of need to the Lord...

[pause; the presider alone concludes]

Priest: Loving God,
you know the prayers of your faithful people.
Grant our needs, we ask,
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.