

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 Ninth Sunday of Ordinary Time – Cycle A

Sunday date: May 31-June 1, 2008

Dear Fathers and Deacons,

An Overview for this Sunday...

Since the second century Matthew has been the most influential gospel for Church life and practice. Just as Moses left to the community of Israel five books of the Torah to guide their lives, Matthew's Jesus gives five great discourses [chapters 5-7, 10; 13; 18; 24-25] which provide guidance and hope to Christians. One of Matthew's characteristics is to provide illustrations for the lessons he offers. This weekend's Gospel provides demonstrating belief in deeds as well as words, in actions as well as theory. What is at stake is the integrity of the believer and how his/her actions reflect the faith acquired.

Faith Sharing Questions...

1. When the storms of life have blown through your life, did you find God in the midst of these events?
2. The Opening Prayer for Mass this weekend begins with these words: *Father, Your love never fails ...* Do you believe that statement? How is it true?

Some Considerations As You Prepare...

1. If you choose to use the third form of the Penitential Rite here are some sample invocations: “Lord Jesus, you are the foundation of our hope...; Christ Jesus, you are the source of our life and desires...; Lord Jesus, your Word sustains us in life and death...”
2. The First Opening Prayer is the more recommended.
3. For the concluding prayer of the Intercessory Prayers, consider using the Opening Prayer again.
4. Sunday Preface VI for Ordinary Time is recommended.
5. The Post-Communion Prayer is unusually long this week. However, it offers a close link between worship and daily life.
6. Use the simple form of blessing to conclude.

Looking Ahead...

1. For those involved in Catechumenal Ministry, there will be a Study Day on *Catechumenal Team Formation and Sponsor Formation* offered on Saturday, June 28 at the St. Thomas More Activity Center, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. For more information see the website <http://christianformationbr.org>
2. Warn the parishioners responsible for your church décor that the last weekend in June (June 28-29) the usual Ordinal Sunday is replaced by the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul. The liturgical color for the solemnity is red, and the importance of the feast is impressive.

The connection between St. Peter and his successor the bishop of Rome of course is obvious every year; this year the connection with St. Paul is especially to be highlighted, since on June 29 a special “Year of St. Paul” has been inaugurated in the Church. Perhaps some thought could be given to special Scripture study sessions in the parish, focusing on St. Paul and at least some of his writings.

SAMPLE INTERCESSORY PRAYERS FOR THE 9TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Priest: Embracing the faithfulness of God, we entrust our prayers to Him:

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

1. For the Church to live out wisely the grace of discipleship in word and deed, we pray to the Lord...
2. For an end to conflict and violence caused by hatred and prejudice in every nation; for God's peace to create new hope, we pray to the Lord...
3. That our state and coastlands may be freed from the ravages of storms and flooding, we pray to the Lord...
4. For all who suffer from anxieties about money, food, jobs, unhappy marriages, loneliness; may God's faithful love bring comfort and new hope, we pray to the Lord...
5. For those who have died in faith; for the dead whose faith is known to God alone, we pray to the Lord...
6. In peace and in silence, we pray to the Lord for our own needs...

[pause, the presider alone concludes]

Priest: Father, your love never fails.
Hear our call for help.
Keep us from danger
and provide for all of our needs.
We ask this through our Lord, Jesus Christ,
Your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever.
Amen.