

Sunday and Feast Day Liturgical Notes for Priests and Deacons

Suggestions for Leading Worship



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RE: Liturgical Suggestions for the 13th Sunday of Ordinary Time – Cycle B

Sunday date: June 27-28, 2009

Dear Fathers and Deacons,

An Overview...

St. Mark's Gospel this weekend proposes the joining of two miracle stories: the first being the raising of Jairus' daughter and the other about the cure of the woman with a hemorrhage. Two points are stressed. The first is the woman's touching of Jesus, which provokes her healing. In Jesus the power of God is at work. The second point the Lord makes, though, is a newer point in the Gospel: it is not just being touched by Christ that heals. It is the faith of the woman that healed her. Faith in Christ is necessary for the healing of those in need in their earthly life and this remains a condition for the Church in every age as well,

Faith Sharing Questions...

1. When in your life have you needed the healing power of Jesus?
2. What do you think "faith in Jesus" really means?
3. What do you know about the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick? Why do you think the Church has such a Sacrament?

Some Other Considerations as You Prepare...

1. Consider using the eighth set of the third form of the Penitential Rite: “Lord Jesus, you healed the sick; Lord Jesus, you forgave sinners; Lord Jesus, you give us yourself to heal us and bring us strength.” Or, alternatively, here is another model: “Lord Jesus, you free us from the darkness and hatred of sin; You call us to live in your light; You form our lives in your love
2. Yet the Rite of Blessing and Sprinkling could be most appropriate, given the darkness-light baptismal imagery found in both Opening Prayers, and the Cycle B Gospel about the raising of Jairus’ daughter to new life.
3. The Opening Prayer speaks of being called from darkness to light and is appropriate for the Scriptural emphasis.
4. Preface for Sundays of Ordinary Time I or V would stress the baptismal imagery; Preface for Ordinary Time II would also speak of the resurrection as the heart of the mystery of salvation.
5. The Solemn Blessing for Ordinary Time III reflects the main Scriptural focus.

Looking Ahead...

1. This week, Monday, June 29 is the Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul. It is also the 19th Anniversary of Bishop Robert Muench’s episcopal ordination.
2. Our national Independence Day occurs on Saturday July 4. Obviously some consideration of and reference to our country’s welfare would be appropriate at this weekend’s liturgy, perhaps during the Intercessory Prayers. However, the principal focus should remain on the Scriptures and proper texts for the 14th Ordinal Sunday.
3. July 11, a Wednesday this year, is the 48th Anniversary of the Announcement by Blessed Pope John XXIII of the Establishment of the Diocese of Baton Rouge in 1961: the official erection of the diocese and installation of our First Bishop, Robert Tracy, took place on November 8 later that year.
4. See the diocesan website’s Worship Office link (www.diobr.org/worship) and then to Diocesan Liturgical calendar for 2009 for more details.

SAMPLE INTERCESSORY PRAYERS FOR THE 13th ORDINAL SUNDAY

Priest: It is God who is faithful in our needs; let us address him with confidence:

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

1. For the work of the Church as a witness to God's power to heal and save in a world troubled by the darkness of sin and division, we pray to the Lord...
2. For all who serve in government; for those who protect and preserve the peace; may human hearts be healed of evil and turned toward justice and hope, we pray to the Lord...
3. For fair weather on land and sea during these hurricane months, we pray to the Lord...
4. That our lives be open to the healing power of Christ Jesus physically, emotionally and spiritually, we pray to the Lord...
5. For all who live on the bed of pain and who suffer in this world, we pray to the Lord...
6. For those who have died and for those who mourn the dead, we pray to the Lord...
7. In peace and in silence we offer to God our other prayers of need...

[pause; the presider alone concludes]

Priest: Loving God,
Your desire is for our good
and your power is shown in every healing act.
Continue to work your faithfulness in our lives
and bring about our salvation
through Christ, our Lord. Amen.