



7 FEBRUARY 2021

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

INTRODUCTION:

Jesus' ministry included curing the sick, casting out demons, moving from place to place proclaiming the kingdom of God and spending time in prayer. He sought to fulfil His Father's will through his preaching, accompanied by his acts of charity, compassion and service without looking for praise and honour. Let us pray at this Eucharist, that like Jesus, we too may perform good works in service of others without looking for fame or popularity.

INTRODUCTION TO THE READINGS:

In the first reading from the book of Job, he describes the misery of the *human condition*. He expresses his lament saying "*his life is like a hired hand*" and he feels like "*a slave who is without hope.*" The condition of the people was similar during the times of Jesus and they came to Jesus for healing. Jesus overturns our human condition by bringing us hope and healing - then and now. Like the Psalmist, we proclaim that it is God who heals the broken-hearted. Christ sets us free to serve every one and offer them the Good News.

READINGS:

First Reading: Jb 7:1-4,6-7

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 147:1-2,3-4,5-6

Second Reading: 1 Cor 9:16-19,22-23

Gospel: Mk 1:29-39



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Celebrant: Jesus was able to fulfil the will of his Heavenly Father by healing and casting out demons. With faith and confidence, let us place our prayers before God, our divine healer.

Our response is: Lord, hear our prayer.

For our Pope Francis, the bishops, the clergy, the religious and all the members of the Church that we may continue to perform acts of charity and compassion especially towards the poor and needy; **pause**; let us pray to the Lord...

For all the people in the world, especially the broken-hearted and the lost, that they may experience the healing touch and compassion of our Heavenly Father; **pause**; let us pray to the Lord...

For doctors, nurses, paramedics, caregivers and all those in the healing ministry, that they may be gentle and compassionate towards those under their care; **pause**; let us pray to the Lord...

For all of us gathered here and those hearing online Eucharist, that we may be of service to those in need, especially those around us; **pause**; let us pray to the Lord...

Celebrant: Heavenly Father, help us always to do Your will and may our acts of charity not be self-seeking and selfish. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYER FOR RELIEF FROM THE CORONA VIRUS

Almighty and merciful God, who show Your love to all creation everywhere, hear graciously the prayers we make for all those affected by the Coronavirus in various parts of the world.

We come before You asking for an efficacious control of the outbreak, for a healing of those affected, for the victims and their families.

We thank You for blessing the efforts of our research scientists working on the development of a vaccine. We pray that these vaccines will be effective in combating the virus and its mutants, and in controlling the spread of the pandemic. We pray that the vaccine be available for all our people even the poor and those in rural areas.

We pray for doctors, nurses and health workers who are in the frontline of this battle, that they be kept safe and have the strength and courage to continue their heroic efforts.

We pray for the Government and health authorities that they take appropriate steps for the good of the people. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Commission For Liturgy
Archdiocese of Bombay*