



Commission for **Liturgy**

Archdiocese of Bombay

**22 August 2021**

**Justice Sunday**

**INTRODUCTION:**

Today the Church celebrates Justice Sunday with special focus on valuing the dignity of work and protecting the basic rights of workers. As we participate in this Eucharist let us pray for all workers, irrespective of the work that they are involved in, whether at home, office, industry, in fields, or as house workers, professionals or any other, that they may be respected, and the dignity of work upheld.

**READINGS:**

1st Reading: Joshua 24, 1-2a, 15-17,18b

Resp. Psalm: Psalm 34: 2-3, 16-23

2nd Reading: Ephesians 5: 21-32

Gospel: John 6: 60-69

**PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL**

**CELEBRANT:** Like Joshua and the tribes of Israel we choose to serve our God who never deserts us and listens to the prayers we make, especially for His blessings on the work of our hands. Our response is: **LORD GRACIOUSLY HEAR OUR PRAYER**

1. That Pope Francis and all the leaders of the Church may draw inspiration from the message of Jesus in valuing the dignity of work and protecting the rights of workers all over the world... Let us pray to the Lord...
2. That all those governing the State and Civil Society may be sensitive towards the high unemployment and underemployment while creating and implementing policies that help the needy, the marginalized and the least... Let us pray to the Lord...
3. That workers all over the world may be blessed for the work of their hands as they work diligently and enjoy the fruit of their labours with just wages and good health of body, mind and soul... Let us pray to the Lord...
4. That all of us may respect our own work and every worker, irrespective of their efforts and treat everyone with kindness... Let us pray to the Lord...
5. That all those who are selflessly working during the pandemic may be protected from all harm... Let us pray to the Lord...
6. That the Lord may listen to the prayers we make, especially for a peaceful solution to the crisis in Afghanistan ... *(pause for 7 secs)*...Let us pray to the Lord...

**CELEBRANT:** God our Loving Father, we thank you for turning your eyes to the just and your ears to our appeals which we make with faith in You and in Your Son Jesus who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. 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 Corona Virus 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.