



05 September 2021
Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

INTRODUCTION

We meet Jesus again this Sunday as the promised Messiah of God, who came to relieve His people from their ills and infirmities, fulfilling the words of the Prophet Isaiah. The people who begged Jesus to lay hands on the deaf and dumb man, were astonished at the healing. We urgently need the presence of Jesus in our world that is sick and troubled today, as we bring to him all those in need of his healing touch.

READINGS

First Reading: Is 35:4-7a
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 146:6c-7,8-9a,9bc-10
Second Reading: Jas 2:1-5
Gospel: Mk 7:31-37

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Celebrant: Our faith in the Lord Jesus, encourages us to place before him the spiritual and material needs of our troubled brothers and sisters, knowing that the compassionate Lord, will never abandon us. And so we pray:

Response: **Lord, hear our prayer**

We pray for the Church, that Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, Bishops, clergy and faithful, may unceasingly encourage everybody, to place their trust in the messianic healing power of Jesus, we pray to the Lord...

We pray for the differently abled who are severely challenged, that they may find the courage to face up to their limitations of life, and never be tempted to give up hope, we pray to the Lord...

We pray for Christians and all people of good will, that following the admonition of St. James, they may never discriminate persons who are marginalized, but rather reach out generously to the less fortunate in our society, we pray to the Lord...

We pray for those suffering untold hardships in Afghanistan and other parts of our world, that the message of tolerance, compassion and acceptance, may give rise to countries, where all learn to respect human dignity and freedom, we pray to the Lord...

We pray for all the devotees of the Blessed Virgin Mary, that as they come to celebrate her feast with such fervour, may also be able to transform their lives, to imitate the example she sets before us, of faith and service towards all, we pray to the Lord...

We pray for our personal needs and intentions [pause], we pray to the Lord...

CELEBRANT: Heavenly Father you have nourished us with the Word of life, proclaimed for us, to listen attentively and take to heart. Grant us the grace to make our lives on earth, means of salvation for ourselves and others, as Jesus showed us. Through the same 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 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.