



12 September 2021
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time



INTRODUCTION:

Our faith in Jesus Christ is not something that we only profess with our lips; we must also bear witness to it by the way we live our lives. This means a willingness to renounce the self, embrace the Cross and walk in the footsteps of the Suffering Servant. It entails humility and sacrifice, coupled with a genuine concern for the well being of others, which manifests itself in concrete actions of loving care. We pray for this grace at today's liturgy, as we cherish the hope of one day walking in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

READINGS:

First Reading: Is 50:5-9a
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 116:1-2,3-4,5-6,8-9
Second Reading: Jas 2:14-18
Gospel: Mk 8:27-35

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:

Celebrant: Dearly beloved, let us humbly place our petitions before the one whom we acknowledge to be the Christ. He is the Lord of life and accompanies us as we journey towards the Kingdom, and so we beseech him, saying:

R/ - Ever-living Christ, hear us!

1. For our Holy Father and all the leaders of the Church: that by word and example, they may inspire all the faithful to embrace the Cross and follow the Lord faithfully; let us pray ...
2. For peace in the world: that the Lord may turn people's hearts away from violence and revenge and guide us along the path of justice and harmony; let us pray ...
3. For the vulnerable, the displaced and the marginalised: that we may open our hearts and extend our hands to reach out to them in genuine Christian concern; let us pray ...
4. For all of us, united together now in prayer: that God may grant us the grace to die to our ego and renounce ambition and pride; let us pray ...
5. For our personal intentions: (*pause*) let us pray ...

Celebrant: Lord Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Redeemer, hear the prayers we offer and guide our steps in the way that you have shown, so that we may truly be your disciples and bear witness to the power of your redeeming love. We ask this of you who live and reign 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.