

Introduction:

Rejoice! Praise! These are the words and themes recurring in the readings of this Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary time. We rejoice and praise our Father in heaven who has wonderfully created us and made us his own. We praise him for his graciousness and mercy which we experience in the Sacraments. He has shared the Spirit of Christ which animates our entire personal life, our communities and our Church. We are called to recognize these wonders in our life as a continuous blessing and give Him praise.

First Reading: Zech 9: 9-10
Psalm: Ps 145: 1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13cd-14
Second Reading: Rom 8: 9, 11-13
Gospel: Mt 11: 25-30

Prayers of the Faithful

Celebrant: Abba Father, we love you and in humility place our petitions and needs before you.

Response: Abba Father, hear us we pray.

- For the Holy Father, the Bishops, Priests and Religious men and women, that through the example of their virtuous life, they may faithfully lead the Church to Christ. We pray to the Lord.
- For Holy Father's Universal Prayer Intention, *for respect for human life*: Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God. We pray to the Lord.
- For world leaders, that through good governance, they may strive to bring peace and justice in their countries and states. We pray to the Lord.
- For the sick, homebound and troubled, that your healing touch might bring them consolation and peace. We pray to the Lord.
- For our personal intentions, we now pray in silence (pause). We pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Abba Father, we praise you because of your great love for each one of us. Thank you for listening to these prayers and those intentions of our hearts which we bring to you. We are certain you hear us through your Son and our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.