

Introduction

Today, we are reminded that God's providence is constant, even in difficult times, and that His grace gives us strength to remain faithful in every circumstance. God desires that we respond to His invitation, to share in His life, with grateful and willing hearts. But an invitation, however generous, calls for a response; we can accept it wholeheartedly, take it for granted, or allow other concerns to keep us away. As we gather around His table, we examine our hearts and ask whether we are truly ready to accept His invitation and live as people of faith, gratitude and trust.

First Reading : Isaiah 25:6-10a
Responsorial Psalm : Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5,6,
Second Reading : Philippians 4:12-14,19-20
Gospel : Matthew 22:1-14

Prayers of the Faithful

Celebrant: As we respond to God's invitation and gather at the feast He has prepared for His people, we place our trust in His loving care and bring before Him our intentions.

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

For Pope Leo, our Bishops, Priests and Religious: that they may make God's people ever more aware of the privilege of being invited to His banquet, helping them to respond with open hearts and live according to His will... we ask this in faith.

For World Leaders and those in Governance: that they may work to alleviate suffering, uphold human dignity, and build a world of peace, justice and hope, where every person can live with security and opportunity... we ask this in faith.

For Christians around the world: that they may remain faithful in every circumstance, drawing strength from Christ in times of plenty and need, and trusting in His care and provision... we ask this in faith.

For our Communities and Families: that, especially when we see another walking through valleys of darkness and difficulty, we may be Christ's presence to them, comforting and guiding them along the right path... we ask this in faith.

With humble and trusting hearts, we now place our personal intentions before the Lord in silence...
(long silent pause) ... we ask this in faith.

Celebrant: Eternal Father, hear the prayers we have placed before You with faith. Guide us and strengthen us to remain steadfast in Your ways, so that we may rejoice in the salvation You have promised. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.