

# JUNE

1   2   3   4   5   6

7   8   9   10   11

12   13   14   15

16   17   18   19

20   21   22   23

24   25   26   27

28   29   30

Saturday, June 1, 2024  
(Lec. 352)

- 1) Jude 17, 20b-25
- 2) Mark 11:27-33

SATURDAY OF  
EIGHTH WEEK  
IN ORDINARY TIME  
(OBL MEM  
Saint Justin,  
Martyr)

FOCUS: The Holy Spirit is our advocate in challenging times.

Satan can use those around us to try and weaken our trust in God and lead us astray. When those moments arise, let us look to Jesus as our guide. "Deliver us from evil," we pray. When things seem "off," it is time to pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance: *Come, Holy Spirit*.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

Today's first reading is an exhortation to be diligent in safeguarding one's own faith and helping others to remain faithful to the teachings of Jesus and the Apostles. In the Gospel, Jesus refuses to justify his teachings and actions to the chief priests, scribes, and elders.

### UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Trusting in God's providential love, let us bring our needs to him.

- 1) For Church leaders, may God bless and graciously watch over them as they lead their flocks, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For decision-makers, may God guide their hearts in their efforts to protect all human life, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For families who struggle with brokenness or instability, may the Holy Spirit strengthen them in their commitment to love and care for one another, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For this faith community, may God fill us with his love and guide us in the ways of wisdom, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For our beloved dead, may they come to know the loving embrace of our Father in heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Eternal God, we ask that you receive our prayers in your gracious mercy. Through Christ our Lord.

\* \* \* \* \*

**SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 2024**

(Lec. 168)

- 1) Exodus 24:3-8
- 2) Hebrews 9:11-15
- 3) Mark 14:12-16, 22-26

**THE MOST HOLY  
BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST  
(Corpus Christi)  
- SOLEMNITY**

FOCUS: Jesus' sacrifice seals our covenant with God forever.

As we celebrate the solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, we give thanks in a particular way for Christ's perfect offering of himself as the eternal sacrifice. In ancient times, sacrifices of animals, material goods, or even humans were offered to divine entities. These were ritual ceremonies forced upon the people as an act of worship or placation. Jesus, in revealing to all the one, true God, offers his own body and blood for our salvation. This perfect sacrifice has united us to the Father once more, and is the source and summit of our life in Christ.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Moses and the people offer sacrifices to God. The author of the second reading emphasizes that Christ sacrificed his own blood, an offering far greater than an animal. In the Gospel, Jesus sends his disciples to prepare for Passover. While they were eating, Jesus blessed bread and wine and gave it to his disciples, saying, *this is my body*, and *this is my blood of the covenant*.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Remembering the needs we have this day, let us bring them together with one voice.

- 1) For the Church and her work to build God's kingdom on earth, may the Lord strengthen her ability to reach those on the margins, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For our elected leaders, may the Lord inspire them in making decisions that benefit the common good, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For areas of the world brutalized by war and violence, may the Lord bring his peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For all of us here, as we make decisions each day about sacrifice and service to the Lord, may God guide us along the right path, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all who have died, may God bring them to everlasting life in the eternal peace of heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Loving Father, your Son offered himself as the perfect sacrifice for our salvation. We now bring our prayers before you and ask that you grant us what we need, through Christ our Lord.

\* \* \* \* \*

Monday, June 3, 2024  
(Lec. 353)  
1) 2 Peter 1:2-7  
2) Mark 12:1-12

MONDAY OF  
NINTH WEEK  
IN ORDINARY TIME  
(OBL MEM  
Saint Charles Lwanga  
and Companions,  
Martyrs)

FOCUS: *Make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue.*

In the first reading today, Saint Peter speaks of all that the Lord has given us, in hope and promise, and that we must always strive to grow in relationship with Jesus. We must seek to grow in our faith by our actions and love for one another. It is through this that we will be united with Christ crucified. Let us make every effort to live with virtue and great love.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Saint Peter speaks of all we have been given by God, through which we may share in his divine nature. Because of this, he encourages all to supplement faith with virtue. In the Gospel, Jesus tells a parable of a vineyard owner who leases the vineyard to tenants, and the tenants kill those sent to claim its produce. Jesus asks the chief priests and scribes if they have not read the Scripture that says: *The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.*

### UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Turning to the Father, we present him with these prayers and intentions.

- 1) For our Holy Father, may the Holy Spirit continue to guide him as he shepherds the Church as the Vicar of Christ on earth, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For all who are in positions of governance, may the Lord enliven their hearts and minds to strive for the good of those they serve, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For all who are experiencing distress or illness, may the Lord grant them relief and healing, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For all of us gathered here in worship, may the blessings and graces we receive today help us grow in virtue and remain steadfast in faith, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For the souls of the faithful departed, may they soon come to know the fullness of life in heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Merciful God, we thank you for hearing our prayers and ask that you answer them according to your holy will. Through Christ our Lord.

\* \* \* \* \*

Tuesday, June 4, 2024

(Lec. 354)

1) 2 Peter 3:12-15a, 17-18

2) Mark 12:13-17

TUESDAY OF  
NINTH WEEK  
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: Made in God's image, let us offer him our hearts and our lives.

Coins bearing the monarch's image were considered his personal property. In the census tax, Caesar was repaid what was his own. We are made in God's image. Jesus' statement to repay to God what belongs to him is a reminder to ask ourselves: To whom do we belong? Since we reflect what we value, are we clear reflections of our heavenly Father?

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Peter encourages believers to live in holiness, awaiting *the day of God*. He counsels them to avoid error and grow in grace. In the Gospel, the Pharisees and Herodians try to trap Jesus by asking him about the census tax. Jesus tells them to give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God.

### UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: As we await new heavens and a new earth, we trust in God's provision here and now. Let us present our petitions with confidence.

- 1) For an increase in vocations to the priesthood, consecrated life, and sacramental marriage, may the Lord strengthen his children in virtue and nurture them in holiness, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For elected officials, may the Lord help them in serving with integrity, safeguarding human life from conception to natural death, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For farmers and farm workers, may God protect them in their labors and send adequate rain and sunshine for fruitful harvests, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For this community of faith, may the love of Jesus create in us a spirit of hospitality and welcome to all who enter here, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died, may God reward them with eternal gladness in his presence, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Heavenly Father, you know our needs before we ask. Please answer our prayers in your wisdom, we ask through Christ our Lord.

\* \* \* \* \*

Wednesday, June 5, 2024  
(Lec. 355)  
1) 2 Timothy 1:1-3, 6-12  
2) Mark 12:18-27

WEDNESDAY OF  
NINTH WEEK  
IN ORDINARY TIME  
(OBL MEM  
Saint Boniface,  
Bishop and Martyr)

FOCUS: God has *saved us and called us to a holy life.*

Saint Paul says in today's reading that Jesus *destroyed death and brought life and immortality.* He encourages Timothy to live according to the gifts he has received and to not be ashamed of his testimony, for God has truly set forth before him, and us, the promise of eternal life. Knowing of this promise helps us to bear all things, for God has strengthened us for his purpose. He has *saved us and called us to a holy life.*

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Saint Paul encourages Timothy in his call to proclaim the Gospel and says, *Do not be ashamed of your testimony to our Lord.* In the Gospel, Jesus responds to the Sadducees' question about the resurrection. He tells them that God is *not God of the dead but of the living.*

### UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With trust that God hears the prayers of his children, we bring our petitions to him.

- 1) For Pope Francis, may God continue to bless him with good health and fortitude, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For the peace of Christ to reign in all regions of the world, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For all who are searching for meaning or direction in their lives, may God open their hearts to receive his grace, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For all of us gathered here, may the Holy Spirit lead us to a deeper understanding of, and attention to, his work in our lives, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died in the light of faith, may they come to know the joy of eternal life in heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: God of the living, we ask you to look with kindness upon these petitions we bring before you. Through Christ our Lord.

\* \* \* \* \*

Thursday, June 6, 2024  
(Lec. 356)

- 1) 2 Timothy 2:8-15
- 2) Mark 12:28-34

THURSDAY OF  
NINTH WEEK  
IN ORDINARY TIME  
(Opt. Mem.  
Saint Norbert,  
Bishop)

FOCUS: Those faithful to God love him with their whole being.

Those who are faithful to God love him with all their heart, mind, soul, and strength. They follow the teachings God has given them. As Paul says in today's reading: *Be eager to present yourself as acceptable to God.* That kind of says it all, doesn't it? Our God is ever-faithful, and so must we be.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Saint Paul writes that he bears all things for the sake of those who are chosen, that they may obtain salvation through Christ Jesus. In the Gospel, Jesus says that the first of all commandments is to love God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength; the second is to love your neighbor as yourself.

### UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Let us turn to our loving God, who has given us a path that leads to the heavenly kingdom.

- 1) That the Lord may help each one of us in his holy Church to follow Jesus' instruction to love God with our whole being, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) That God may guide leaders throughout the world in following his ways, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) That all who live on the margins may experience the love and peace of Christ through the compassion and generosity of people of good will, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) That God may grant all of us gathered here the grace to respond to his call to serve others, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) That those who have passed from this life may one day enjoy fullness of life with Jesus in heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: God of life and light, hear and answer the prayers we have offered, through Christ our Lord.

\* \* \* \* \*

Friday, June 7, 2024

(Lec. 171)

- 1) Hosea 11:1, 3-4, 8c-9
- 2) Ephesians 3:8-12, 14-19
- 3) John 19:31-37

**THE MOST SACRED HEART  
OF JESUS  
- SOLEMNITY**

FOCUS: Let us open our hearts to God's love.

Today we ponder the depth and breadth of God's love for us as made manifest in Christ's sacrifice on the cross. It is a love that is easy to take for granted because it's always there, always offered, even as we sin and fail to love him perfectly in return. With Jesus' grace we can open our hearts to receive him fully, that he may heal us and fill us with his joy.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, the Lord speaks through the prophet Hosea, expressing his love for Israel and his promise not to destroy his people. Paul expresses his conviction that he has been given the mission to proclaim the Gospel to the Gentiles, and prays that the Ephesians be strengthened in faith. In the Gospel, John writes that at Jesus' crucifixion, *blood and water* poured forth from the side where the soldiers pierced him with a lance.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Trusting in God's love and mercy, let us present to him our prayers and petitions for the Church and for the world.

- 1) For the Church, may the Holy Spirit continue to inspire the hearts of the faithful with a spirit of evangelism and missionary zeal, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For peace in the world, may the Lord bring about an end to conflict and violence, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For children who have been abandoned or orphaned, may Christ shower his love upon them and lead them to loving surroundings, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For all of us gathered at this liturgy, may the grace of the Eucharist help us in becoming more understanding and forgiving toward one another, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For the faithful departed, may our Savior turn his merciful gaze upon them and grant them a place at his eternal banquet, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Gracious Lord, hear our prayers and answer them in accordance with your divine will. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

\* \* \* \* \*



Saturday, June 8, 2024  
(Lec. 358)  
1) 2 Timothy 4:1-8  
(Lec. 573)  
2) Luke 2:41-51

SATURDAY OF  
NINTH WEEK  
IN ORDINARY TIME  
(OBL MEM  
The Immaculate Heart  
of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

FOCUS: Most Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us.

*His mother kept all these things in her heart.* What does this mean? It refers to the interior life of our Blessed Mother – her joys and sorrows and her love for Jesus. Although she was concerned when she could not find Jesus, she always had faith and overflowing love. Let us ask for her intercession today as we strive to live as true disciples of her Son, Jesus.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Paul says to proclaim the Word and be persistent. In the Gospel, when Jesus was 12 years old, he stays in Jerusalem as the rest of the group travels home. When they finally find him, his mother asks why he has done this and he answers: *Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?*

### UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With trust in his mercy and divine providence, we humbly present our needs before the Lord.

- 1) For the Church throughout the world, may the Lord be pleased to offer her as a beacon of hope to all, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For all entrusted with the public good, may the Holy Spirit be their guide as they strive to remain faithful in the fulfillment of their duties, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For all who experience isolation or loneliness, may they find comfort and joy through the workings of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For this faith community, may the Lord help us always to proclaim the Word with persistence and joy, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died, may they come to share eternal life in heaven with all the angels and saints, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Loving God, hear the prayers we offer today and in your mercy grant them according to your divine will. This we ask through Christ our Lord.

## SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 2024

(Lec. 89)

- 1) Genesis 3:9-15
- 2) 2 Corinthians 4:13–5:1
- 3) Mark 3:20-35

## TENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: Our ultimate home is with God.

This world is not our ultimate home, Saint Paul tells us in today's second reading. This passage is full of hope, teaching us to trust that the passing of our earthly bodies and temporary dwellings – *what is seen* – will be replaced by an eternal life and home – *what is unseen*. We will *live* with God, with an *eternal weight of glory*.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Adam and Eve have eaten from the tree of knowledge and the ramification of their sin is separation from God. Paul tells the Corinthians to look toward the eternal. In the Gospel, Jesus says that *whoever does the will of God is [his] brother and sister and mother*.

### UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Confident in God's ever-present love for his people, let us bring him our petitions.

- 1) For the Church, may Christ continue to guide her steps as she brings the message of salvation to all, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For people throughout the world, may God open their hearts to receive his Word, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For all who have wandered from the faith, may God's love guide them back into his loving arms, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For this community gathered here, may God help us have eyes to see and ears to hear those in need, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all who have died marked as Christ's own forever, may God welcome them to his eternal kingdom, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Gracious Father, we entrust these prayers into your care, through Christ our Lord.

\* \* \* \* \*

Monday, June 10, 2024  
(Lec. 359)

- 1) 1 Kings 17:1-6
- 2) Matthew 5:1-12

MONDAY OF  
TENTH WEEK  
OF ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: Trust completely in God's providential care.

In today's Gospel, Jesus proclaims blessed those who follow God's will (*persecuted for the sake of righteousness*), saying *theirs is the Kingdom of heaven*. Although it is difficult at times to be a disciple of Jesus, Scripture repeatedly assures us that God's providential care is always present.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

The first reading narrates the initial appearance of the prophet Elijah, who tells King Ahab of an upcoming drought. It goes on to explain how Elijah survived the drought. In the Gospel, Jesus teaches his disciples, telling them the ways of being and living that result in blessing.

### UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Knowing that his words lead to eternal life, we turn to our Father in prayer.

- 1) For all members of the Church, may the Holy Spirit help us bear good fruit in our charity and service to others, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For public authorities throughout the world, may God grant them fortitude in their efforts to protect life, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those who are suffering in any way, may God make his presence constantly known to them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For the assembly gathered here today, may God strengthen our love for one another and conform us ever more to his heart, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all who have died in faith, may God bring them into his loving presence for all eternity, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Father from whom all goodness flows, hear our prayers and the prayers of all your people. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

\* \* \* \* \*

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

(Lec. 580)

1) Acts 11:21b-26;  
13:1-3

(Lec. 360)

2) Matthew 5:13-16

TUESDAY OF  
TENTH WEEK  
IN ORDINARY TIME  
(OBL MEM  
Saint Barnabas,  
Apostle)

FOCUS: *Let your light shine before others.*

In both readings today, we are encouraged to go out and spread the Good News of Jesus Christ. Barnabas is commissioned to go out with Saul to minister to many. Jesus tells us that we are to be the salt of the earth and light of the world. It is through living out our faith in the world that we bring the flavor of God to those we encounter.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

The first reading tells of Barnabas' travels and of his ministry with Saul. It was during their ministry in Antioch that the disciples were first called Christians. In the Gospel Jesus says, *you are the salt of the earth ... you are the light of the world*, and declares that we must shine our light before others so that everyone may come to know God.

### UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Knowing that our Father hears the prayers of his children, we bring him our petitions.

- 1) For bishops and priests, may God grant them a spirit of faithfulness and fortitude in their ministry, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For all who hold civic office, may the guidance of the Holy Spirit help them enact laws and practices that promote the welfare and dignity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those searching for meaning or direction in their lives, may God open their hearts to his grace, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For all of us here at this liturgy, may the graces of the Eucharist bring deeper unity and consolation to all our needs, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all who have died, may they join the angels and saints in heaven in singing God's praises for all eternity, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Merciful Father, we offer these prayers, trusting that you know what we need, through Christ our Lord.

\* \* \* \* \*

Wednesday, June 12, 2024  
(Lec. 361)

- 1) 1 Kings 18:20-39
- 2) Matthew 5:17-19

WEDNESDAY OF  
TENTH WEEK  
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: *The Lord is God!*

The Lord spoke to the Israelites in today's reading with fire and power. He speaks to us as well in the Gospel, not just with power but with words of love. Jesus asks us to obey his commandments so we can be with him forever in the kingdom of heaven.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

Elijah challenges the Israelites to let go of their false gods and follow the Lord. He devises a test showing them the truth of the one God. When the Lord answers Elijah, the Israelites fall prostrate and proclaim the Lord as God. In the Gospel, Jesus explains that he has come not to abolish the law but to fulfill it.

### UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Let us present our petitions to God, mindful of the many blessings he has bestowed upon us.

- 1) For Church leaders and all who have dedicated their lives to Christ, may the Lord bless them abundantly and strengthen their hearts and minds, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For all who work to make the world a peaceful place, may the Holy Spirit guide them in their mission, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those victimized by human trafficking, may the Lord break their chains and offer them renewed hope, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For members of this assembly, may the Lord strengthen and sustain our faith in all we do, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For our beloved dead, may they know the forgiveness of God and come to share in the fullness of Christ's glory, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Lord God, there is nothing more powerful than your grace and mercy. Hear our prayers, we ask, through Christ our Lord.

\* \* \* \* \*

Thursday, June 13, 2024  
(Lec. 362)  
1) 1 Kings 18:41-46  
2) Matthew 5:20-26

THURSDAY OF  
TENTH WEEK  
IN ORDINARY TIME  
(OBL MEM  
Saint Anthony of Padua,  
Priest and Doctor  
of the Church)

FOCUS: Jesus calls his disciples to a higher standard.

Jesus calls his disciples to a high standard – to holiness. He says to obey the law but then go deeper. In other words, Jesus is calling us to a radical law of love. He is saying our heart matters, our attitude matters, our speech matters. Don't simply avoid severe actions but put effort into loving, right relationships. Don't nourish anger, but reconcile immediately.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Elijah promises rain after a severe drought and sends his servant to watch for it. The seventh time he looks, the servant sees a small cloud which quickly becomes a deluge. In the Gospel, Jesus calls his disciples to greater holiness. They must not only avoid killing, but guard their speech and reconcile quickly.

### UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Let us turn to our loving Father, the source of life, and present our prayers to him.

- 1) For the Holy Father, may God protect his health and strengthen him in his leadership of the Church, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For world leaders, may God grant them ears to hear his word and the willingness to obey, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For families in conflict, may God in his mercy bring love and peace and a willingness to reconcile, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For all gathered here, may the love of Christ overflow in our hearts and make us instruments of his peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all who have died, may the Father draw them with joy into his heavenly kingdom, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Father of mercy, you are faithful and good. Please hear our prayers and answer them according to your holy wisdom. Through Christ our Lord.

\* \* \* \* \*

Friday, June 14, 2024

(Lec. 363)

1) 1 Kings 19:9a, 11-16

2) Matthew 5:27-32

FRIDAY OF  
TENTH WEEK  
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: *Wait for the Lord with courage; be stouthearted, and wait for the Lord.*

In today's Gospel, Jesus challenges us to take the dangers of temptation seriously. Sinful thoughts can have serious consequences for the Christian disciple. In order for us to be like God in our actions, we must eliminate our baser thoughts and attitudes as well, for God is pure love.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, the Lord instructs Elijah to come out of the cave when he passes by. Elijah comes out when he hears a *tiny whispering sound*, and the Lord instructs him what to do next. In the Gospel, Jesus teaches his disciples about adultery, sin, and divorce.

### UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Trusting in the Lord's goodness, let us bring before him our prayers for the Church and for the world.

- 1) For all clergy, may the Lord continue to lead them in faithfully proclaiming the Gospel to all people, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For the conversion of all sinners, may the Holy Spirit open their hearts to receive and be transformed by God's love and mercy, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For all who are homeless or hungry, may God relieve their suffering and provide neighbors and friends to reach out and assist them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For this faith community, may the grace of the Eucharist strengthen us to grow in virtue and to resist temptation, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For our beloved dead, may God grant them eternal rest in the company of all the saints, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Merciful God, hear our prayers and answer them, we ask, in accordance with your divine providence. Through Christ our Lord.

\* \* \* \* \*

Saturday, June 15, 2024  
(Lec. 364)

- 1) 1 Kings 19:19-21
- 2) Matthew 5:33-37

SATURDAY OF  
TENTH WEEK  
IN ORDINARY TIME  
(Saturday in honor  
of BVM)

FOCUS: We seek to follow Jesus with our whole heart.

Following Jesus is the best thing we will ever do, but it is not always easy or automatic. Although we may be called to make difficult choices, God will enable us to choose to follow him with integrity, honesty, and faithfulness.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Elijah chooses Elisha as his successor, and Elisha, after a brief hesitation, shows his acceptance by preparing food for the people to eat. In the Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples that God wants our actions and our very character to be unquestionably honest and trustworthy.

### UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: We come before the Lord with humble hearts, trusting him with our needs.

- 1) That the Church may continue to grow in holiness as she works to build God's kingdom here on earth, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) That elected officials may be led by the Holy Spirit to enact laws that uphold the dignity of all people, especially the unborn, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) That all who are persecuted for their faith may be blessed with the courage and strength to follow the Lord in spite of hardship, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) That this faith community may be blessed with the fruits of the Spirit in our work and ministry, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) That all who have died marked with the sign of faith may soon see the face of God, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Heavenly Father, we ask that you look favorably on the prayers of your people. Through Christ our Lord.

\* \* \* \* \*



**SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 2024**

(Lec. 92)

- 1) Ezekiel 17:22-24
- 2) 2 Corinthians 5:6-10
- 3) Mark 4:26-34

**11<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME**

FOCUS: The seeds of God's kingdom are planted but not yet full-grown.

Jesus uses the images of the sower and the mustard seed to explain the kingdom of God. Although seemingly small or insignificant, these examples demonstrate that great things can happen through the work of God. The kingdom must grow to become like Ezekiel's lofty cedar tree, which is full of the fruits of the kingdom. All our efforts in building the kingdom, even if they seem small, will be blessed by God.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Ezekiel speaks for the Lord God, saying he will plant a majestic cedar on the mountain of Israel. Paul writes that we *walk by faith, not by sight*, and we must appear before the *judgment seat of Christ*. In the Gospel, Jesus likens the kingdom of God to a man who scatters seed and harvests it when it is ripe, and also compares the kingdom to a mustard seed that grows into a large plant.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With trust in our merciful God, we offer him these petitions.

- 1) That our holy mother Church may continue to receive the help of Christ in using her prophetic voice, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) That all people may come to know that Jesus is Lord of heaven and earth, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) That those who grow, prepare, and serve our food may be blessed abundantly, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) That the seeds of faith planted in our hearts at baptism may continue to flourish and grow toward spiritual maturity, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) That the souls of the faithful departed may find eternal peace in God's presence, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Lord God, hear the prayers of your people and answer them in your goodness. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

\* \* \* \* \*

Monday, June 17, 2024  
(Lec. 365)  
1) 1 Kings 21:1-16  
2) Matthew 5:38-42

MONDAY OF  
11<sup>TH</sup> WEEK  
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: Love God and love your neighbor.

The greatest commandment, to love God and love neighbor, is not always an easy one to follow. Despite the human temptation to satisfy one's own desires first, the call to love our neighbor requires that we relate to all people with respect and dignity, even if that means acting from a place of humility.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Jezebel duplicitously secures land away from Naboth, who is neighbor to her husband, King Ahab. In the Gospel, Jesus says to his disciples that they should offer no resistance to those who are evil. He goes on to say that they should give to those who ask, and not turn their backs on those who wish to borrow.

### UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Gathered as family united in faith, let us lift up our prayers to our heavenly Father.

- 1) For all members of the Church, may our devotion to the Eucharist bear good fruit in the form of charity and service to others, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For elected officials, may the Holy Spirit be their guide in conducting themselves in an ethical manner rooted in God's divine law, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For all who suffer mental illness, may they receive support and proper treatment, and be renewed in hope through our prayers and compassion, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For all of us gathered in this holy place, may Christ help us selflessly give of ourselves for love of God and in service of others, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For our beloved dead, may they come to know the eternal peace of the heavenly kingdom, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Merciful Father, hear our prayers and the prayers of all your people. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

\* \* \* \* \*

Tuesday, June 18, 2024  
(Lec. 366)  
1) 1 Kings 21:17-29  
2) Matthew 5:43-48

TUESDAY OF  
11<sup>TH</sup> WEEK  
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: *Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.*

To love one's enemies is to recognize that every person is a son or daughter of God, beloved by the Father. To extend mercy to those who have wronged us is to recognize, too, our own need for mercy. Clearly, Jesus is asking us, as his disciples, to go above and beyond the usual standards of conduct.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, God tells Elijah to speak to Ahab about the murder of his neighbor. Ahab asks how his enemy has found him, and Elijah says he has found him because he has done evil *in the Lord's sight*. In the Gospel, Jesus teaches us to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us. God in heaven makes the sun rise on the bad and the good, and we must love like God, who is perfect.

### UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Let us turn to the Lord with our needs, trusting that he will respond with mercy.

- 1) That our Church may be blessed with an abundance of vocations to the priesthood and religious life, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) That warring nations in every corner of the earth may be led by the Holy Spirit to strengthen their efforts for finding peace between them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) That the spirits of the lonely and discouraged may be uplifted by the assurance of God's love and compassion for them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) That Christ may have a place in the hearts and homes of all those gathered here, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) That our faithful departed may share in the heavenly banquet God promised to those who love him, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Father, we entrust these and all of our intentions to you, trusting that you answer every prayer in your time and according to your will. Through Christ our Lord.

\* \* \* \* \*

Wednesday, June 19, 2024  
(Lec. 367)  
1) 2 Kings 2:1, 6-14  
2) Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

WEDNESDAY OF  
11<sup>TH</sup> WEEK  
IN ORDINARY TIME  
(Opt. Mem.  
Saint Romuald,  
Abbot)

FOCUS: Strive to please God, not other people.

In today's Gospel, Jesus reminds us that our relationship with God should be kept intimately and humbly in our hearts – not flaunted before others. We have been given the gift of the sacraments so we can access the grace we need to purify our intentions and be generous in words and deeds.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Elijah is taken up to heaven by a flaming chariot. Elisha then puts on Elijah's mantle and with it, opens a dry pathway through the water. In the Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples not to be pompous in their prayer, fasting, and almsgiving – instead, to fulfill these tasks without being noticed by others. He says: *Your Father who sees what is hidden will repay you.*

### UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Because God is our stronghold in times of need, we petition him with our prayers.

- 1) For all members of the Church, may we witness on behalf of Christ and testify to the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For national leaders, may God grant them courage to work for justice at all levels of society, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For families suffering separation or divorce, may Christ heal their wounds and renew them in hope, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For this community of disciples, may the Holy Spirit open our hearts to hear the voice of God and prayerfully discern what he is calling us to do, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all who have died, may they be seated at God's eternal banquet in heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Loving God, we praise and thank you for the countless ways you work in our lives. We ask that you hear and answer our prayers, through Christ our Lord.

\* \* \* \* \*

Thursday, June 20, 2024  
(Lec. 368)

- 1) Sirach 48:1-14
- 2) Matthew 6:7-15

THURSDAY OF  
11<sup>TH</sup> WEEK  
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: Jesus teaches us, through the Lord's Prayer, to trust wholly in God to provide for our daily needs.

Elijah's prophetic words *were as a flaming furnace* and Elisha *wrought many marvels by his mere word*. Neither babbled like the pagans. Our words of prayer are likewise important, which is why Jesus taught us how to pray.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, the author of the Book of Sirach speaks of Elijah's mighty deeds, made possible by the power of God. He tells of Elijah being enveloped in a whirlwind, and Elisha being filled with a twofold portion of Elijah's spirit. In the Gospel, Jesus teaches his disciples how to pray. He reminds them that the quantity of words in prayer does not matter; what is important is trusting in God's knowledge of what we need.

### UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: We turn now to our Father as we offer him these prayers and petitions.

- 1) For our Holy Father, that in serving as the Vicar of Christ on earth he may continue to be open to the promptings of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For local leaders, may they receive the grace and blessing of God in attending to the needs of those whom they serve, especially the most vulnerable, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For the unemployed and those who struggle to find steady work, may Jesus sustain them and bring them hope, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For members of this assembly, may God bless our efforts to build up his kingdom here on earth, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all who have died in Christ, may they rest in peace in heaven with all the angels and saints, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Loving Father, hear our prayers and grant what is best for us. We ask through Christ our Lord.

\* \* \* \* \*

Friday, June 21, 2024

(Lec. 369)

1) 2 Kings 11:1-4, 9-18, 20

2) Matthew 6:19-23

FRIDAY OF  
11<sup>TH</sup> WEEK  
IN ORDINARY TIME  
(OBL MEM  
Saint Aloysius Gonzaga,  
Religious)

FOCUS: We must seek only heavenly treasure if we want true peace.

*The lamp of the body is the eye ... if your eye is bad, your whole body will be in darkness.* In other words, if we are blind to what is really important in life, seeking earthly treasures rather than the heavenly treasure God has for us, then we will be in darkness; we will not know salvation. We must remember that God wants for us to know peace and freedom.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Athaliah is consumed by her desire for power, killing those in her way of the throne. But there is no peace under her reign. After Jehoiada makes a covenant with the Lord, the city was quiet. In the Gospel, Jesus teaches that we must not store up earthly treasures, but rather treasures that await us after death in order to know true peace.

### UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With trust in God's goodness, let us offer him our prayers and petitions.

- 1) For the Church throughout the world, may the Holy Spirit guide her leaders in their efforts to promote unity and charity, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For peace in our world and in our hearts, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For all who are plagued by sickness, may they feel the healing touch of Jesus, the Divine Physician, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For all members of this faith community, may the grace of the Eucharist deepen our faith and trust in the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For the souls of the faithful departed, may they come to know perfect happiness and peace for all eternity, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Lord of hope, we humbly bring these petitions before you and ask that you answer them according to your will. Through Christ our Lord.

Saturday, June 22, 2024

(Lec. 370)

- 1) 2 Chronicles 24:17-25
- 2) Matthew 6:24-34

SATURDAY OF  
11<sup>TH</sup> WEEK  
IN ORDINARY TIME

(Opt. Mem.  
Saint Paulinus of Nola, Bishop;  
Saints John Fisher, Bishop,  
and Thomas More,  
Martyrs;  
Saturday in honor  
of BVM)

FOCUS: Trust in God, even when it is difficult to do so.

For many of us, there are times when our faith is strong and times when we struggle. We may intellectually trust God, but when things are not going our way, we tend to lose faith and look to our own power to solve our problems. Since God is faithful *all the time*, we need to work on trusting him *all the time*. When we keep our hearts and minds fixed on the Lord, we realize we have nothing to worry about in this life.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, the Israelites are turning away from the Lord and worshipping *sacred poles and the idols*, despite the prophets who came to convert them to follow the Lord. In the Gospel, Jesus makes it clear that God alone must be our master, and that he is always looking after our needs. We are to trust God in all things.

### UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Confident that our Father hears our prayers, we bring to him our needs and intentions.

- 1) For the Church, may she, through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, continue to help her members discern and faithfully live their vocations, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For all nations, may God lead them in working for peace, justice, and equality where strife, conflict, and division flourish, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For all families, that through our prayers and the power of God, reconciliation and peace may be restored where it has been lost, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For all of us gathered here, may God open our hearts to his loving presence each day so we, in turn, can lead one another into deeper communion with him, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all who have died, may they be welcomed into God's heavenly kingdom, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Heavenly Father, hear the prayers we have placed before you. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 2024**

(Lec. 95)

- 1) Job 38:1, 8-11
- 2) 2 Corinthians 5:14-17
- 3) Mark 4:35-41

**12<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME**

FOCUS: God's love for us is more powerful than any challenge we face.

The readings today reflect God's profound love for us, even in the face of turbulent times. When our faith is challenged or we are distraught, we must trust that God is with us always and have complete faith that his love is more powerful than the storms of our lives.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, the Lord speaks to Job *out of the storm* and reminds Job of the divine power that has protected him. In the second reading, Saint Paul reflects that the love of Christ has brought about a new way of life. In the Gospel, a violent storm comes up as Jesus and his disciples are in a boat. Jesus calms the storm and then asks the disciples, *Do you not yet have faith?*

### UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Trusting that God provides for what we truly need, we offer him our prayers.

- 1) For the Church and her work to bring healing to those in need, may God strengthen her in her mission, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For those without faith in Jesus, may our Savior's eternal love draw them to himself, with the grace to overcome doubt, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For all who suffer from depression or anxiety, may God bring them comfort and respite, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For members of this worship community, may God strengthen our faith as we face trials and hardships, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For the faithful departed, may God's perpetual light shine upon them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Gracious Father, we come to you with confidence that you alone can answer our needs. We ask that you hear our prayers, through Christ our Lord.



Monday, June 24, 2024  
(Lec. 587)

- 1) Isaiah 49:1-6
- 2) Acts 13:22-26
- 3) Luke 1:57-66, 80

**THE NATIVITY OF  
SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST  
- SOLEMNITY**

FOCUS: Each of us belongs to God.

We place great emphasis on a name. In today's Gospel, the neighbors and relatives were surprised that Elizabeth and Zechariah do not name their baby after his father. Instead, he will be called John. This decision frees Zechariah from his muteness, for he humbly accepts that his son truly belongs to God. There is blessing and opportunity awaiting us when we, too, accept the Son of God.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In today's first reading, Isaiah writes that he was chosen by God from birth, *from my mother's womb he gave me my name*. In the second reading, Paul says that John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus by proclaiming a baptism of repentance. In the Gospel, John receives his name from his parents, Elizabeth and Zechariah, and Zechariah is no longer mute.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Let us join together to offer our prayers and petitions to our merciful Father.

- 1) For vocations to the priesthood and religious life, may God provide abundant workers to help build his kingdom on earth, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For lawmakers, may God grant them fortitude in their efforts defending the dignity and sanctity of human life, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For all who are burdened by chronic illness, may Christ's healing touch lighten their load and offer them comfort, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For all in this assembly, may the Holy Spirit be our guide in embracing John the Baptist's call to repentance, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For our beloved dead, may they come to enjoy eternal life with all the saints and angels in heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Loving God, we thank you for answering our prayers according to your perfect will, as we offer them through Christ our Lord.

\* \* \* \* \*

Tuesday, June 25, 2024  
(Lec. 372)

- 1) 2 Kings 19:9b-11,14-21,  
31-35a, 36
- 2) Matthew 7:6, 12-14

TUESDAY OF  
12<sup>TH</sup> WEEK  
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: God gives us the strength to choose the narrow gate.

Jesus tells us that the gate is narrow and the road constricted that leads to life. But we *can* navigate them; Jesus didn't say the gate was impossibly tiny or the road impassable. We need to recognize Jesus' loving presence with us and rely on his guidance each day in order to find our way. Always trust that God will hear and answer our prayers.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, the king of Jerusalem, Hezekiah, appeals to the Lord and afterward, Sennacherib of Assyria retreats from his siege and spares Jerusalem. In the Gospel, Jesus tells the disciples, *Do to others whatever you would have them do to you*, and warns that those who choose the narrow gate that leads to life *are few*.

### UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Let us turn to our loving God with the needs of the world.

- 1) For all members of the Church, may God continue to renew us in our efforts to spread the Good News, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For government authorities throughout the world, may the Holy Spirit guide them in building societies that reflect the kingdom of God, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For all who are searching for meaning in their lives, may God open their hearts to his grace and may they find in him a firm foundation, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For all in this faith community who are discerning a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life, may the Holy Spirit grant them generous hearts, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all the faithful departed, may they be wrapped in the loving arms of our heavenly Father, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: All-powerful and merciful Father, we ask that you hear our petitions and grant our needs. Through Christ our Lord.

\* \* \* \* \*

Wednesday, June 26, 2024  
(Lec. 373)

- 1) 2 Kings 22:8-13;  
23:1-3
- 2) Matthew 7:15-20

WEDNESDAY OF  
12<sup>TH</sup> WEEK  
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: Good relationships are grounded in faith and the laws of the Lord.

*A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a rotten tree bear good fruit. When we don't obey Jesus, we can lead others astray as well, bearing rotten fruit. If we remember his commandments and abide in the laws of the Lord, then we will bear good fruit. All of our relationships and encounters with others must have faith at their foundation in order for them to be fruitful.*

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, when the king of Judah realizes his leadership was not reflective of the Lord's laws and that his people had broken the covenant with the Lord, he works quickly to restore it. In the Gospel, Jesus says to beware of false prophets, and that good trees bear good fruit and a rotten tree bears bad fruit.

### UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With pure hearts and minds, let us bring forth our petitions to the Lord.

- 1) For Church leaders and all who faithfully serve, may God bless them with strength as they lead the flock entrusted to them by God, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For lawmakers, may God's grace direct their hearts in proposing laws that protect the lives and rights of all people, including those yet to be born, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For all who are burdened by grief, may God's healing spirit come upon them and offer them consolation, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For all of us gathered in this holy place, may God's Holy Spirit bestow upon us the gift of piety, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith, may the Lord have mercy on their souls and grant them eternal rest, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Lord God, we thank you for your great love and mercy. We ask that you hear our prayers, through Christ our Lord.

\* \* \* \* \*

Thursday, June 27, 2024  
(Lec. 374)  
1) 2 Kings 24:8-17  
2) Matthew 7:21-29

THURSDAY OF  
12<sup>TH</sup> WEEK  
IN ORDINARY TIME  
(Opt. Mem.  
Saint Cyril of Alexandria,  
Bishop and Doctor  
of the Church)

FOCUS: Study, proclaim, and follow Jesus' way in order to have a firm foundation.

We hear in today's Gospel that it is not enough to proclaim Jesus as our Lord with our words. We must back up our Christian identity with words and deeds that help further the kingdom. How can we more fully align the decisions we make today with the will of God?

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

The first reading recounts how Nebuchadnezzar and the Babylonians conquered Judah, ransacked the temple, and deported all but the poor to Babylon. In the Gospel, Jesus likens the virtuous disciple who hears and acts on his teachings to a house with a rock-solid foundation that can stand firm amid tribulation.

### UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Placing our needs in the hands of the Lord, let us now lift up our prayers to him.

- 1) For the Church wherever she is persecuted, may the Lord deliver her to peace and security, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For all nations and peoples, may God open their hearts to the Gospel message, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For the imprisoned, may the Lord hold them close during their time of captivity, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For this faith community, may we grow in faith, hope, and love, transformed by grace to a life of Gospel fidelity, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all who have died, may the Lord forgive their iniquities and bring them to paradise, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: O God, our refuge and our hope, we humbly bring to you the needs of this day. Hear our prayers, we ask, through Christ our Lord.

\* \* \* \* \*

Friday, June 28, 2024  
(Lec. 375)  
1) 2 Kings 25:1-12  
2) Matthew 8:1-4

FRIDAY OF  
12<sup>TH</sup> WEEK  
IN ORDINARY TIME  
(OBL MEM  
Saint Irenaeus,  
Bishop, Martyr and Doctor  
of the Church)

FOCUS: Let us live by Christ's law of love.

Today's Gospel is about faith and love. The leper possessed great faith that Jesus could heal him. And Jesus touches the leper and cleanses him, thereby going against mosaic law. His love and compassion took precedence over the law. Jesus calls us today to have great faith, and to love as he does.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

The first reading tells of the downfall of King Zedekiah, the final King of Judah, before the Jewish kingdom falls into the hands of the king of Babylon. In the Gospel, Jesus cures a leper and tells him not to tell anyone about the miracle, but to show himself to the priest.

### UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Together let us offer our petitions to the Father, for our own needs and those of the world.

- 1) For the Church throughout the world, may she receive God's grace in proclaiming the Gospel of life to all, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For civic leaders, may the Holy Spirit guide them in managing their responsibilities with the compassion of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For the elderly, may the loving hand of Jesus grant them peace and fullness of life, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For members of this faith community, may God's grace empower us in our efforts to be beacons of his love to all, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all who have died in the friendship of Christ, may they be welcomed into eternal life in heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: God of wisdom, hear our prayers and answer them in your great mercy. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

\* \* \* \* \*

Saturday, June 29, 2024  
(Lec. 591)

- 1) Acts 12:1-11
- 2) 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18
- 3) Matthew 16:13-19

**SAINTS PETER AND PAUL,  
APOSTLES  
- SOLEMNITY**

FOCUS: Saints Peter and Paul proclaim that Jesus is the Christ.

Saints Peter and Paul continue to preach to us, today, the truth that God is with us – that God will strengthen and guide us and help us finish our race. They proclaim that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God who will rescue us and bring us safely to his heavenly kingdom.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Peter is rescued from prison and death by the angel of the Lord. In the Epistle, Paul witnesses to God's faithfulness as he prepares for death. In the Gospel, Jesus asks his disciples who they say he is and Peter replies that he is the Christ. Jesus responds by naming Peter the rock on which he will build his Church.

### UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With trust in the faithful care of God, let us bring our prayers before him today.

- 1) For all members of the Church, may the Holy Spirit be our guide in seeking to put the teachings of Jesus into practice each day, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For government leaders, may they be given the grace to lead with wisdom and mercy, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For all who struggle to make ends meet, may the Lord grant them strength and bring them relief, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For this community of faith, may our belief in Jesus as our Savior bring us hope and joy as we share the Good News with others, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all who have died, may they rest in the peace of Christ in heaven with all the angels and saints, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Ever-faithful God, in your great love you gave us the witness of Saints Peter and Paul. In your mercy hear these prayers we offer you today, through Christ our Lord.

\* \* \* \* \*

**SUNDAY, JUNE 30, 2024**

(Lec. 98)

- 1) Wisdom 1:13-15; 2:23-24
- 2) 2 Corinthians 8:7, 9, 13-15
- 3) Mark 5:21-43  
or 5:21-24, 35b-43

**13<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME**

FOCUS: Jesus gives us what we truly need.

When a woman who had spent all her money on doctors to no avail and a father whose daughter grew worse by the day turn to Jesus for help, Jesus doesn't question why they did not come to him first. Rather, he encourages the faith that led them to him and gives them what they need. We, too, can have faith that will lead us to seek Jesus' help, for he is ready to encourage us as well, and to give us what we most need.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

The author of the Book of Wisdom explains that God formed man in his image to be *imperishable*, but through the work of the devil, *death entered the world*. Paul exhorts the Corinthians to be gracious and generous with their abundance, as Christ was to them. In the Gospel, Jesus heals a woman suffering from hemorrhages and raises a child from the dead.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Trusting in the Lord's graciousness, let us offer our prayers for the Church and for the world.

- 1) For the Church, may the Holy Spirit continue to animate her missionary work throughout the world, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For all who govern, may God bless them with prudence in their decision-making, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For the sick or suffering, may God mercifully grant them healing and strength, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For families in this faith community, may they be always open to the workings of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all who have died with faith in the Lord, may God grant them the reward he has promised his faithful servants, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Good and gracious God, hear our prayers and answer them in accordance with your holy will, we ask through Christ our Lord.

\* \* \* \* \*