

COMMENTATOR TEXT

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time February 04th & 05th

Good morning (good evening).....

Less than three weeks from today, the holy season of Lent will begin, calling us to prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, disciplines by which we will express our love for God and free ourselves for more selfless service to our neighbor. Today, Mark's Gospel presents Jesus' life as the perfect pattern for disciples to follow. As he becomes also, in this Eucharist, our Bread of Life, let us open our hearts to the healing he imparts, that we might devote ourselves to the loving service he commands.

[Pause...] [Please announce today's Mass Intention for this Mass only]

Today's Mass Intention is for:

04:30 **Maria Gilda-Rocha (†)**
07:30 **Joe Ohnemus (†)**
09:00 **Fritz Ebeling (†)**
10:45 **Richard Tereau (†)**
01:00 **Maria Esther Leguia de Garavito (†)**

[Pause...]

Please stand... **[pause...]** and prepare to receive our Lord in Word and Sacrament....

[Pause twice as long...] then move to place *Parish Petition Book* underneath the ambo, and the cantor/music ministers assume responsibility for beginning the "gathering song." *pause here, so that the noise of standing would subside, then continue...*

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

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PRIEST: Let us join together in prayer to the God of compassion, who heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds, as we pray: Lord, hear our prayer.

† Dear God Most Holy, we pray that by proclaiming YOUR message of unconditional and healing love, Christians may help drive out the demons of prejudice and misunderstanding... Let us pray... **Lord, hear our prayer.**

† God of Compassion, we pray that by making themselves servants to the people they govern, world leaders may promote the human dignity that is rightfully due to all... Let us pray... **Lord, hear our prayer.**

† We pray that those sick with various diseases of body, mind, or spirit, may find YOUR healing at the hands of those who assist in their recovery and in the hearts of those who care for them... Let us pray... **Lord, hear our prayer.**

† Most Gracious and Loving God, we pray that those burdened like Job by anxious days and sleepless nights may know YOUR comfort in their trials and YOUR guidance for their future... Let us pray... **Lord, hear our prayer.**

† We pray that we, whom YOU has grasped by the hand and raised to new life in baptism, may use the healing bestowed on us in generous service to others... Let us pray... **Lord, hear our prayer.**

† We pray for the concerns of our communities of St. Joseph and St. Vincent de Paul, for all those whose names are in our petition book; and for all those who are recently ill, especially: **Lillian Harris**, and **Doreen Ntale**, and for all who have recently passed away, especially: **Sylvia Vergara**, that they may be lifted up with all the angels and saints who glorify You... Let us pray... **Lord, hear our prayer.**

PRIEST: O good and loving God, You embrace as your own the sufferings of the whole human race, transforming them in your Son's Passover from death risen to life. Hear the prayers we offer on behalf of all, and lift us up from self-concern to freedom for the service of others. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.