



Liturgy Cycle A

Twentieth Sunday Of The Year

Living On Crumbs

Introduction

In today's Gospel we meet a woman who really had no right to come to Christ asking for a favour. She was an outsider and a pagan. But she had the most extraordinary faith in him, and that was rewarded. Week after week we come to mass where we meet Christ our saviour. Do we pour out our needs to him with utmost confidence?

First reading (56:1. 6-7)

This reading states that God's house is not for Jews only. It is open to all those who worship God with sincerity no matter where they come from.

Second Reading (Romans 11:13-15.29-32)

God never takes back his gifts- so Paul assures us. If we return to him we can be sure of obtaining mercy.

Gospel (Matthew 15:21 -28)

An incident involving a pagan woman who had extraordinary faith in Christ.

Prayer of the faithful

Let us pray for those who frequently find themselves picking up the crumbs from the banquet of life; and at the same time let us ask for a deeper faith in Christ.

R: Son of God, have pity on us.

That Christians may try to imitate the faith of the Canaanite woman, a faith which went straight to the heart of Christ. Let us pray.

R: Son of God, have pity on us.

For all our leaders: that they may never despise any of their brothers and sisters since they are all children of God. Let us pray.

R: Son of God, have pity on us.



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For those who live in poverty and hardship, and who have to make do with the crumbs from life's copious banquet. Let us pray.

R: Son of God, have pity on us.

That we may be faithful to all the good things we enjoy, and be generous in sharing them with others. Let us pray.

R: Son of God, have pity on us.

Communion Reflection

**People cease to interest us
when we discover their limitations.**

**As soon as we come up with people's limitations,
it's all over for those people.**

Have they talents? Have they initiative?

Have they knowledge? It matters not.

**Though yesterday we may have found them
infinitely alluring and attractive
–a sea to swim in-
today we found their shores,
found it not to be a sea after all but only a pond,
and we couldn't care if we never saw it once again.**

**But none of us can see into the depths of another person,
or even into our own depths.**

Only God can.

**He knows us through and through,
yet he does not tire of us or reject us.**

**He helps us to believe in ourselves,
and to draw out all that is hidden in our depths,
good things we ourselves are not even aware of.**