



Liturgy Cycle A

Twenty-Eighth Sunday Of The Year The Wedding Feast

Introduction

Today's Gospel tells about some people who refused an invitation to a wedding feast, and others who accepted it. We are here because God, in his love, has invited us, and we have accepted his invitation. But mere presence here is not enough. Very important is the spirit in which we come. We should come in a spirit of thankfulness and joy.

First reading (Isaiah 25:6-10)

The image of a banquet is used to describe the blessings God has in store, not only for Israel, but for all nations.

Second Reading (Philippians 4:12-14.19-20)

Paul says that for him poverty and riches, hunger and plenty are all the same. With God's help he can cope with anything life brings.

Gospel (Matthew 22:1-14)

The strange story of the invited guests who refused to turn up for a wedding feast, with the result that their places were given to others.

Prayer Of The Faithful

God is continually inviting us to the banquet of a fuller, deeper and more spiritual life, a life worthy of our dignity as his sons and daughters. Let us pray for the wisdom to accept this invitation.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

For the Christian community: that it may strive to provide a feast of faith, hope and love for all God's children, especially the poor. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

For all government leaders: that they may be untiring in their efforts to provide all their people with a feast of freedom, security, and peace. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.



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For all those who through poverty, illness or oppression are locked out of life's banquet; for all those who are satisfied as they are, and who feel no hunger for a deeper life. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

That we may experience that inner hunger and thirst for goodness for life Christ spoke about, so that he can fill us. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

Communion Reflection

Vincent Van Gogh lived a poor and a simple life.

**In order to buy materials for painting
he often went without food.**

He once wrote:

**'My only anxiety is how I can be of use in the world.
But one feels a terrible discouragement,
one feels an emptiness where there might be friendship
and one exclaims: " How long, my God?"'**

**'They may be a great fire in our soul,
but no one ever comes to warm himself at it,
and the passerby see only
a little wisp of smoke coming through the chimney,
and pass on their way.**

**'So what must one do?
One must go on tending inner fire
and wait patiently for the hour
when somebody will come and sit down near it
to stay there may be.**

**'Let those who believe in God wait for that hour,
for it will come sooner or later'.**