



Liturgy Cycle A

## **Fifth Sunday Of The Year** **Salt Of The Earth And Light Of The World**

### **Introduction**

Salt adds flavour to food and keeps it from going bad. Light brightens up the world and shows people the way. In today's Gospel Jesus tells his disciples that they are to be like light and salt. This is a tall order for us who are so prone to laziness, selfishness and cowardice.

### **First Reading (Isaiah 58: 7-10)**

The prophet, speaking in God's name, promises the people that if they show concern for others, especially for the poor, then their light will break forth like the dawn.

### **Second Reading (1Cor 2: 1-5)**

Paul tells the Corinthians that when he brought them the message of the Gospel he didn't rely on his own cleverness but on the power of God.

### **Gospel (Matthew 5: 13-16)**

Christ tells his disciples that they must let the light of their good deeds shine for all to see, yet let God have all the glory.

### **Prayer of the faithful**

Let us pray to the Father that as followers of Christ we may live up to our calling to be the salt of the earth and light of the world.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

For all Christians: that they may add the flavour of joy and goodness to life by the way they live. We pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

For our leaders: that they may help to keep society good and healthy by promoting decent values and standards. We pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.



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**For all those who live in the darkness of injustice and oppression:  
that the light of justice may shine on them. We pray to the Lord.**

**R: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**That we may be salt and light within our own little world by doing  
our ordinary work well. We pray to the Lord.**

**R: Lord, hear our prayer.**

#### **Communion Reflection**

**To take big matters seriously**

**and neglect small ones:**

**this is the beginning of every decline.**

**To exalt mankind and mistreat one's workers;**

**to hold country or Church or party holy,**

**and to do ones daily work badly and carelessly.**

**Here is where corruption begins.**

**Here is where the light goes out,**

**and the salt loses its savour.**

**There is only one remedy.**

**To set aside for the time being**

**all so-called serious and holy subjects**

**such as patriotism, politics and so on,**

**and to take seriously all the small things;**

**to turn one's attention to the task of the moment.**

**Those who have had their car repaired by a mechanic,**

**do not demand from the mechanic**

**either love of humanity or of the homeland,**

**but competent work.**

**By that and that alone he judges the mechanic,**

**and is right in doing so.**