



Liturgy Cycle B

# Twenty Fourth Sunday Of The Year

## Being True To Oneself

### Introduction

We are all very much influenced by what others think and say about us. We all like to be well thought of by others. There is a danger here. We might make popularity the goal of our lives. And we might forget the only thing that matters the reality of who and what I am. No matter what others may think of me, God thinks well of me, because I am his child.

### First Reading (Isaiah 50: 5-9)

This passage talks about the sufferings of the just man whose task it is to teach people the ways of God. He is sustained in all his trials by the firm belief that God is with him.

### Second Reading (James 2: 14-18)

This contains a very important message, namely, that faith without good works is dead.

### Gospel (Mark 8: 27-35)

Even though Peter declared his belief in Jesus as the messiah, he had no idea what that implies.

### Prayer Of The Faithful

We are all children of the heavenly Father. Therefore we have a tremendous dignity; we have no need, then to pretend. Let us pray that we may live up to dignity.

R. Lord, graciously hear us.

For all the baptized: that they may strive to learn what is pleasing to God and to do it with all their strength. Lord, hear us.

R. Lord, graciously hear us.



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For all government leaders: that they may strive to create such conditions of life as to enable all of Gods children to live in freedom and dignity. Lord, hear us.

R. Lord, graciously hear us.

For all those who have never found themselves, especially prisoners and down and outs: that they may not lose respect for themselves. Lord, hear us.

R. Lord, graciously hear us.

That each of us may be happy to be the unique people that God made us to be, and that we may never be content until we have realized the best that is in us. Lord, hear us.

R. Lord, graciously hear us.

### Communion Reflection

“Faith without d good works is dead”.

So says the apostle St James in one of the most important sayings of the New Testament.

A watch that has a gold chain  
but which does not tell the time  
is worthless.

A fruit tree which in spring  
is full of blossoms and leaves,  
but when autumn comes has no fruit,  
is false and is only taking up space.

It is the same with faith.  
A faith that does not lead to works of love  
such as kindness, compassion and forgiveness  
is false and useless and dead.

Mother Teresa puts it like this:  
“If we believe we will love.  
If we love we will serve”.

It is as simple as that.