



Liturgy Cycle C

# **Tenth Sunday Of The Year**

## **Death: Encounter With Christ**

### **Introduction**

There are many things that cause tears to fall, but without a doubt the greatest offender is death. Death brought tears to the eyes of Christ himself. But, as the Son of God, he is the one who gives hope and consolation to all those who mourn the loss of a loved one. Let us draw close to Christ who at Naim dried the tears of a widow crying for her dead son.

Lord Jesus, you give comfort to all those who are sad.  
Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you give hope to all who live in the shadow of death.  
Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you brighten the horizon of all our tomorrows with your promise of eternal life.  
Lord, have mercy.

### **First Reading (1 Kings 17:17-24)**

Elijah restores the son of a widow to life. As a result the widow recognises Elijah as a true man of God and a prophet.

### **Second Reading (Gal 1:11-18)**

Here Paul is trying to prove to the Galatians that the Gospel which he has preached to them is not a human message but is the result of a revelation from Jesus Christ.

### **Gospel (Luke 7:11-17)**

This relates how Jesus raised to life the only son of a widow at Naim. The people recognise Jesus as a great prophet and, that through him and in him. God has visited his people.

### **Prayer Of The Faithful**

When the people of Naim saw the great deed, which Jesus had done, they knew that in him God had visited them. God still visits his people. Let us pray to him through Christ, the Lord of life and death.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

For the Church: that through its voice and its deeds the hope and compassion of Christ may be felt in the world. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

For all those who work for the sick and the dying: that Christ may give them gentle hands and warm hearts. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.



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**For all those who have recently suffered bereavement and who are still in the grip of sorrow: that Christ may comfort them and help them cope with their loss. Let us pray to the Lord.**

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

**That God may visit our hearts with his love so that we may be capable of sympathising with others in their sorrow. Let us pray to the Lord.**

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

### **Let us pray:**

**Heavenly Father, visit us your people during this Eucharist which we celebrate in memory of Christ your Son. Help us to experience your loving and merciful presence among us. We ask this through the same Christ our Lord.**

### **Communion Reflection**

**What a marvelous power Jesus had —  
the power to raise people from the dead.  
Yet in a sense we can do the same.**

**I once met a young man who told me  
that as a result of a row  
he hadn't spoken to his father for six years,  
even though they lived only a few miles apart.  
He was an only child;  
the mother had deserted the family.  
So now the father was living alone.  
His world was getting smaller and darker  
with each day that passed.  
He wasn't yet dead,  
but in a sense he was already in the tomb.**

**'Who will roll the stone away for us?'  
asked the women on Easter morning.  
That son had the power to roll away  
the stone from his father's tomb.  
With a word or a gesture  
he could set him free from his tomb  
of loneliness, bitterness and despair.**

**What a power we have!  
We can call our brother to come forth from his tomb,  
or we can leave him languish there.  
It is one of the lovely compensations in life,  
that we cannot raise our neighbour,  
without raising ourselves also.**