

JEEVAN DARSHAN KENDRA

GIRIJ, VASAI WEST - 401201. MAHARASHTRA, INDIA

Trust Regd. No. F-509 Society Reg. No. Maha/587/Thane GRAM "JEEDAKE"

Phone: (95250) 2323198/4072, e-mail: jdarshan33@gmail.com

30/09/2019

Dear Fathers,

Greetings of Peace and Joy in the name of our Lord Jesus!

Here we are sending you **FOUR SUNDAYS LITURGY** of the Extraordinary Missionary Month October 2019.

You are kindly requested **to read the introduction before the Mass.**

The reflections for 31 days of October 2019 (in English and Marathi) and four Sundays Liturgy (English and Marathi) are sent to you by e-mail. They are also uploaded on **vasailiturgy.in**

We wish you a meaningful celebration of the Extraordinary Missionary Month October 2019.

May God bless all your endeavours.

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Anil Pereira

JDK, Giriz

Extraordinary Missionary Month October 2019

1st Sunday of the Mission Month (6th October 2019)

“Personal Encounter with the Risen Lord”

Today we are celebrating the 1st Sunday of the Extraordinary Mission Month. The Church invites us to focus on our personal encounter with the risen Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. This relationship with Jesus is strengthened through the Holy Eucharist, through the reading of the Word of God and through the personal and communal prayer. During this Extraordinary Missionary Month, the Risen Lord reminds us about his holy charge, “Go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature” (Mk 16:15). According to Pope Francis, obeying this mandate of the Lord is not an option for the Church: in the words of the Second Vatican Council, it is her “essential task,” for the Church is “missionary by nature.” Evangelizing is in fact the grace and vocation proper to the Church, her deepest identity; she exists in order to evangelize.

Through the Sacrament of Baptism, we are drawn into the life of God and his Church. This divine life needs to be communicated to all the peoples of the earth; this is the mission entrusted to the Church. Pope Francis reiterates the words of St. John Paul II that “The Mission of Christ the Redeemer, which is entrusted to the Church, is still very far from completion. An overall view of the human race shows that this mission is still only beginning and that we must commit ourselves wholeheartedly to its service.” We are invited to renew our missionary commitment, because it is in commitment to the Church’s universal mission that the new evangelization of Christian peoples will find inspiration and support.” In the Church’s life, all the baptized people are in charge of the mission. We have ecclesial, ethical and missionary responsibilities.

In today’s Gospel reading Jesus speaks of our responsibilities that when we have done for God all that has been asked of us, we should say, “We are useless servants; we did what we had to do.” Jesus wants us to recognize that God expects from us a serious and sincere commitment to the work to which God calls us, the mission of making Christ known in the world. The disciples asked Jesus to “Increase our faith.” What does this mean for all of us who are “sent” today? We must humbly recognize that we lack much faith in our mission of evangelization of the world. Faith is strengthened when it is given to others! At this Eucharist, as we encounter the Risen Lord, let us ask him for the faith necessary to meet him in our lives and in our world. Only incessant prayer, the soul of the mission, can make our mission easy and possible.

Extraordinary Missionary Month October 2019

2nd Sunday of the Mission Month (13th October 2019)

“Testimony: Drawing Inspiration from the Lives of Saints and Martyrs”

Today we are celebrating the 2nd Sunday of the Extraordinary Mission Month. The Church invites us to contemplate the lives of the missionary Saints and Martyrs and draw inspiration from them to live efficaciously our Christian faith. The missionary Saints and Martyrs are the excellent model for us to imitate. They were convinced of their faith in Jesus which made them to become missionaries and even give their life to witness the name of Jesus. Are we convinced about our faith in Jesus? It is only after entering the life of Jesus and experiencing him, we will be able to preach the Gospel of Jesus to the world. Saints not only inspire us, but also help us to rediscover the true identity of Jesus and return to him.

Today’s Gospel reading narrates that the ten lepers were healed, but nine of them are unable to return to Jesus. They failed to recognize the true identity of Jesus. Only one of them does, a Samaritan, after “seeing” that he is healed, he returns to Jesus. Here “seeing” indicates that the eyes of the Samaritan’s faith have been opened. Now it is a matter of making a personal decision towards that faith, and this happens when he decides to “return” to Jesus. He throws himself at the feet of the Master to thank him. It indicates that in this second personal encounter with Jesus the Samaritan is not simply paying a debt of gratitude but experiences a total healing and an inner transformation. In the end, a stranger, whose faith in Jesus transformed him, is ready to be sent on a mission: “Get up and go.”

The mission of the Church brings and communicates the saving grace of God because it recreates us from the destruction of sin and from the separation of death. Welcoming the Gospel means entering the Paschal Mystery of Christ, accepting his re-creating death and contemplating his fidelity in the resurrection. Reborn in the baptismal font, the Church’s new Jordan River, and grateful for the undeserved salvation, we are made missionaries in the ordinary experiences of life: “Get up and go.” We are “sent” as the chosen missionary disciples of Jesus in our own land as well as foreign, and perhaps hostile and pagan lands to proclaim the Gospel.

At this Holy Eucharist as we contemplate the lives of Saints and Martyrs, let us try to imitate them in their missionary zeal, so that the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ may reach to all the people of the earth, especially to the people who have not yet heard of Jesus and his salvation.

Extraordinary Missionary Month October 2019

3rd Sunday of the Mission Month (20th October 2019)

“Missionary Formation of All the Baptized”

Today we are celebrating the 3rd Sunday of the Extraordinary Mission Month and this Sunday is also celebrated as the World Mission Sunday. Jesus trained his disciples and then sent them on a universal mission. The Church has always kept this model of training disciples before they are sent to preach the Gospel. Without proper training we cannot become effective missionaries, therefore, the Church strongly recommends to provide a systematic training of the people with its Biblical, Theological, Liturgical and Catechetical dimensions. A well trained baptized and sent Christian understands that his faith is not a product for sell. We do not impose our faith upon the world. But with a genuine missionary zeal and driven by the Holy Spirit we proclaim, witness, and communicate the message of salvation.

As we celebrate the World Mission Sunday it is important to know that without prayer our mission will have no success. In today's Gospel, Jesus uses the parable to teach about the necessity of urgent and continual prayer. If prayer is the heart of the Church's mission, it is because within this personal and ecclesial relationship with God, persons and communities are renewed through the salvation offered to us by Jesus. His question about faith when he will return seems to indicate a preoccupation by Jesus about the efficacy of the mission that will be carried out and the authenticity of the witness of the missionary disciples.

The Church's mission is totally dependent on the divine grace; therefore, the Church continuously urges the faithful to pray for the mission and the missionaries. The efficacy of continuous prayer increases our capacity for mission. Only those who insistently pray put Christ at the centre of their lives and of the mission entrusted to them, growing in faith. The celebration of the Mission Sunday invites us to reflect on our own baptism, when we received the gift of faith, and recommit ourselves to the Church's missionary activity through prayer and sacrifice.

At this Eucharist let us pray for the mission of the Church and especially for vocations that the Lord may send well trained missionaries to carry out the sacred duty of proclaiming the Gospel.

Extraordinary Missionary Month October 2019

4th Sunday of the Mission Month (27th October 2019)

“Missionary Charity”

Today we are celebrating the 4th Sunday of the Extraordinary Mission Month. The celebration of the Mission Month has made us aware about the urgency of the mission, that the Good News of the Kingdom of God should reach to all the people of the earth. But today the number of missionaries has been so reduced that many areas of the Lord’s vineyard are without labourers. On the one hand, it is our corporate responsibility to provide missionaries for the missions so that the mission of the Church continues. The success of the mission is totally dependent on the divine grace and Jesus says, “The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore, pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest” (Lk 10:2). Prayer, this powerful weapon is within everyone’s capacity. Pope Francis constantly reminds us of the centrality of prayer in relation to the Church and its mission. Prayer is the soul of mission and it is only through humble and sincere prayer the Lord will send labourers into his harvest. On the other hand, the missions need economic help and a substantial amount of it, therefore, every baptized person is invited to contribute generously towards the mission of the Church.

Through today’s Gospel reading Jesus invites us to be humble in everything that we do. The tax collector, because of his humility and sincerity of heart was forgiven and returned home transformed inwardly. But the Pharisee believes himself to be superior and better than all the others, erecting barriers between himself and them, insulting them and despising them, was condemned. The parable invites us to look inward to remove all sense of self-sufficiency and contempt for others, in order to find a simple, humble, and fraternal heart that knows how to look upon oneself and upon others with a merciful and hopeful gaze. What is certain is that the mission of evangelization entrusted to us as a Church could not be conducted in truth if we adopt a domineering attitude in the ways we relate to others.

At this Eucharist, let us pray for the vocations to the priesthood and religious life. May the Virgin Mary, Queen of the Apostles and Mother of God and Mother of the Church, pray for us with the intercession of Saint-Thérèse, patroness of the missions, so that the work of the salvation of the world continues throughout the world until its realization, and that the baptized people and those who are sent out in the Church of Christ, work together for the mission in the world.

Prayer of the Faithful

(1st Sunday of the Mission Month, 6th October 2019)

Celebrant: The love of Christ gathers us together in faith so that we might be renewed in our baptism and its commitment to mission. Let us offer our petitions to the Father.

Your response is: Lord hear our prayer!

1. For our Holy Father Pope Francis and all the bishops of the world, that they may proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ with zealous compassion and without fear in today's world, **we pray to the Lord.**

2. For the Universal Church, that the lives of her members may be a blessing to the world and help bring many others to the true joy of believing, **we pray to the Lord.**

3. For all missionaries who minister in difficult situations, may they never lose heart and always be a sign of hope for those whom they minister, **we pray to the Lord.**

4. For young men and women, that God may give them the gift of understanding to discern their service in the Church, and for the gift of courage to follow his call, **we pray to the Lord.**

5. Let us pause for a moment and pray for our personal needs (10 seconds pause), **we pray to the Lord.**

Celebrant: God of love, you sent your Son among us to be the way the truth and the life. Hear our prayers that we may follow more closely in his way of justice, truth and compassion and proclaim your love to all those who meet us. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Prayer of the Faithful

(2nd Sunday of the Mission Month, 13th October 2019)

Celebrant: In this month dedicated to the Missions, let us turn to the Lord and ask him for the necessary zeal to proclaim the Gospel to all.

Your response is: Lord hear our prayer!

1. We pray for our Holy Father, Pope Francis, for all the Bishops and Priests, that they may work tirelessly to make Christ known to all the people of the earth, **we pray to the Lord.**

2. For the heavenly intercession of missionary saints, especially Saint Therese of the Child Jesus, patroness of the missions, that this saintly assistance will awaken in us the need to be mission minded in all our endeavours, **we pray to the Lord.**

3. We pray for missionaries everywhere, especially in lands marked by violence and terror, that they may be strengthened by the Spirit to carry out their missionary duties with greater zeal, **we pray to the Lord.**

4. We pray for our deceased missionaries and for all our dead. Welcome them into the light of your kingdom and grant them eternal life, **we pray to the Lord.**

5. Let us pause for a moment and pray for our personal needs (10 seconds pause), **we pray to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Lord, look at our needs with kindness, and commit us to follow you; so that we may become the effective instruments to build your kingdom of peace and joy, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer of the Faithful

(3rd Sunday of the Mission Month, 20th October 2019)

Celebrant: On this World Mission Sunday, let us unite ourselves with the Universal Church and pray to God the Father to fulfill the needs of the Church.

Your response is: Lord hear our prayer!

1. For our Holy Father, Pope Francis, and all the Bishops that the Lord might strengthen them in faith and courage as they proclaim the loving mercy of God to all his people, **we pray to the Lord.**

2. On this World Mission Sunday, we pray all Christian communities throughout the world that they may bring the joy of the Gospel to all the people of the earth, **we pray to the Lord.**

3. For all who support the missionary efforts of the Church throughout the world through prayer and sacrifice, **we pray to the Lord.**

4. For this Eucharistic assembly, that the Holy Spirit might inspire us to renew our missionary spirit so that through word and deed we might help to make Christ known to people throughout the world, **we pray to the Lord.**

5. Let us pause for a moment and pray for our personal needs (10 seconds pause), **we pray to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Lord, may your Mission become the central concern for our Church community throughout the world. Bring us closer to our brothers and sisters, so that we bear witness of our faith in Christ and announce his Gospel. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer of the Faithful

(4th Sunday of the Mission Month, 27th October 2019)

Celebrant: The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, confident of God's care, let us present all our needs to him.

Your response is: Lord hear our prayer!

1. We pray for the Universal Church, especially our Pope Francis and all his Bishops that the Lord may grant them good health and wisdom of heart to continue the mission of preaching the Gospel to everyone, **we pray to the Lord.**

2. The harvest is rich, but the labourers are few. We pray to the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest, **we pray to the Lord.**

3. For an increase in vocations to the mission apostolate, so that the Gospel may be preached in every corner of the world with its promise of peace and justice, **we pray to the Lord.**

4. For the missionary efforts of the Church, in our country and all throughout the world, that they may receive the financial and prayerful support needed to bring many people to know the Gospel of Christ, **we pray to the Lord.**

5. Let us pause for a moment and pray for our personal needs (10 seconds pause), **we pray to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Heavenly Father, trusting in thy providence we have brought all our needs at thy merciful feet. Listen to our prayers and grant us our needs, through Christ our Lord. Amen.