

The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Sunday, February 16, 2020

Readings: 1) Sirach 15:15-20 2) 1 Corinthians 2:6-10 3) Matthew 5:17-37 or 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37

Sunday Liturgy

The focus for today's Mass is: Jesus came to fulfill the law so that heaven could be opened to the righteous.

Jesus' teachings are not primarily about the joys and easiness of the Christian life, but rather about the commandments that our loving Father gives to us for our freedom and good. He, who is perfect love, made us in love and sent his Son out of love to teach us what it means to partake in his life – both here and forever.

In the first reading, Sirach tells the people they can choose to follow the commandments, or not. But keeping the commandments will save them. In Saint Paul's Letter to the Corinthians, he writes of the greatness prepared for those who love God. In the Gospel from Matthew, Jesus teaches about the law. He says that he has come to fulfil the law, and that those who keep it will be called the *greatest in the kingdom of heaven*.

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

PRIEST:

Let us turn to our loving Father with our prayers and petitions.

For God's Church on earth, may the Lord continue to increase her in holiness and grace.

We Pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

For our world,

may Christ's peace touch the hearts of leaders and influencers and lead them to harmony.

We Pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

For the sick, the anxious and the fearful, may God bring them healing of mind and of body.

We Pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

For all our beloved dead.

We Pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

For those gathered here today and for those we love, may God open our hearts to the goodness of his love.

We Pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

For our own personal intentions, (pause).

We Pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

PRIEST:

Merciful Father,

we humbly ask you to accept our prayers in the name of your Son, Jesus, our Lord.