

SUNDAY, AUGUST 22, 2021

- 1) Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b
- 2) Ephesians 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32
- 3) John 6:60-69

FOCUS: The immense love God has for his people prompts us to love in return.

The theme for today's readings is fidelity between God and his people. How loyal are we to Jesus? Are we able to take Peter's words as our own? *Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.* How well do we even know the words of Jesus? Let us recommit ourselves to deepening our knowledge and love of the Lord.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Joshua and the tribes of Israel state their fidelity to the Lord God. In his Letter to the Ephesians, Saint Paul draws a parallel between a spousal relationship and the radical love between Christ and the Church. In the Gospel, Jesus proclaims that his words are *Spirit and life*, after which only some of his followers continued as disciple.

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

For the Church on earth, may the Lord increase in faith and number.

We Pray to the Lord. **People say: Lord, hear our prayer.**

For peace among nations and peace in our hearts.

We Pray to the Lord. **People say: Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all the sick and suffering, may God bless and console them.

We Pray to the Lord. **People say: Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all who have died may they be welcomed into the arms of Jesus.

We Pray to the Lord. **People say: Lord, hear our prayer.**

For this faith community, may the saving grace of Christ be our hope and our refuge.

We Pray to the Lord. **People say: Lord, hear our prayer.**

For our own personal intentions.

We Pray to the Lord. **People say: Lord, hear our prayer.**

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