

Pastor's note
12th week of Ordinary Time

We began this last week, our walk through the mass, the greatest prayer and liturgy we have. "Liturgy" comes from a Greek word that is difficult to translate, but a few options would be along the lines of, "work for the people," work done by the people," or "work done on behalf of the people."

I think it is important to understand this, because one of the greatest complaints against the mass has to do with someone not feeling as if they are being given what they want. That is not what mass, or prayer in general, is about. It is about giving God His due. We are all called to work on perfecting our relationship with God, as well as helping our brothers and sisters (something that is repeated often in the Scriptures). We should approach the mass in the light. Sure, we do get fed with the Bread from Heaven and are given the opportunity to receive immeasurable graces, but our primary reason to be there is because we love God and want to help the world.

When we come before the Lord we have the right and responsibility to work for those who are unable to attend, either from their lack of knowledge of God or their circumstances. We work for those who have died and need our assistance through prayer. In my understanding of this reality, it adds to the beauty of what the mass is and our ability to participate.

As we continue to dive into the mass and pay special attention to the gestures and words of the mass, we will continue to see this reality played out. So next time you "don't feel like" going to mass, realize it is not just about you, but your presence and participation is for the world. You are given the great opportunity to stand with Christ before the Father and to pray with Him. Don't let this opportunity pass you by.

God bless,
Fr. Adam