



29 August 2021
Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

INTRODUCTION:

Jesus' words challenged the people of his time, and us as well. In our desire to show that we are holy, we might also give too much credence to externals, following rules without thinking about the intention behind them. Jesus reminds us that we do not make ourselves holy by our actions. Rather, we become holy when we allow God's Spirit to transform us. Our actions should be an expression of the conversion of our heart to God and to God's ways.

READINGS:

First Reading: Dt 4:1-2,6-8
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 15:2-3a,3bc-4ab,5
Second Reading: Jas 1:17-18,21b-22,27
Gospel: Mk 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:

Celebrant:We turn to God our loving father and ask him for all our needs

Response: Lord, hear our prayer

For the Church – that the Church will be a faithful bearer of God's precepts, neither adding to nor taking from God's law, but leading her people in the way of charity and justice. We pray to the Lord...

For our politicians– that they establish laws that are just, protecting the vulnerable, safe-guarding human dignity, and preserving the integrity of the natural world. We pray to the Lord...

For all who administer the law – that the law is understood and respected as a means of achieving a just society in which all people can live with dignity. We pray to the Lord...

For all Christian people – that we seek a religion that is pure, attending to the needs of those in distress, living lives of goodness and kindness. We pray to the Lord...

Celebrant:Father of love in whom there is no variation or shadow, hear the prayers we offer this day and inspire us to be doers of the Word, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF FROM THE CORONA VIRUS

Almighty and merciful God, who show Your love to all creation everywhere, hear graciously the prayers we make for all those affected by the Corona Virus in various parts of the world.

We come before You asking for an efficacious control of the outbreak, for a healing of those affected, for the victims and their families.

We thank You for blessing the efforts of our research scientists working on the development of a vaccine. We pray that these vaccines will be effective in combating the virus and its mutants, and in controlling the spread of the pandemic. We pray that the vaccine be available for all our people even the poor and those in rural areas.

We pray for doctors, nurses and health workers who are in the frontline of this battle, that they be kept safe and have the strength and courage to continue their heroic efforts.

We pray for the Government and health authorities that they take appropriate steps for the good of the people. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.