



14 August 2022
Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time



INTRODUCTION:

Jesus talks and walks the way of love, kindness, forgiveness and peace; and so it's shocking when we hear Jesus speaking about 'casting fire on the earth' and 'bringing division'. We are challenged not to be complacent but to take a stand to follow the values of the Gospel even though at times, it may set us in opposition with the very people we love!

Then choice to follow is let up to each one of us.

READINGS:

- First Reading : Jeremiah 38: 4-6, 8-10
- Responsorial Psalm : Psalm 40: 2, 3, 4, 18
- Second Reading : Hebrews 12: 1-4
- Gospel : Luke 12: 49-53

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:

CELEBRANT: With confidence and trust in God, our compassionate Father, who is ever faithful to those who call on Him in all sincerity and humility, we place our petitions before Him, saying:

Response: *Hear and answer us O Lord*

- For Pope Francis, our Bishops, Priests, Religious and Catechists: that through their teachings and way of life, they may challenge the faithful to courageously live the Gospel values despite all opposition ...*(brief silent pause)*... we pray to the Lord...
- For our nation: that as we prepare to celebrate 75 years of Independence, every citizen may be enabled to confront any form of oppression so as to live freely and fully ...*(brief silent pause)*... we pray to the Lord...
- For prisoners: that those guilty may experience a genuine change of heart; and those innocent may find justice ...*(brief silent pause)*... we pray to the Lord...
- For each of us: that we may find the courage to stand by what we profess, even in the face of opposition, so that we may be true witnesses to Christ, whom we follow ...*(brief silent pause)*... we pray to the Lord...
- For our personal intentions and for those who have asked us to pray for them, we pray in silence ... *(longer silent pause)*... we ask this in faith.

CELEBRANT: We surrender our petitions to You, O Father, who are unfailing in Your loving providence; and we ask this of You, through Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever ... Amen.