



29 January 2023

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



INTRODUCTION;

In his major sermon – given on a mountainside – Jesus teaches what kind of life-style and values God wants of us. The beatitudes are the basic Christian ideals, not a moral code or a set of rules to avoid divine punishment. They aim to raise our perspective above the narrow limits of self-interest and profit, to kindness, tolerance, and respect for others.

READINGS:

First Reading: Zeph 2:3, 3:12-13
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 146:6c-7, 8-9a, 9bc-10
Second Reading: 1 Cor 1:26-31
Gospel: Mt 5:1-12a

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:

Celebrant: Dear friends, Jesus teaches us the way of mercy, peace, and humble faith in God. In the spirit of The Beatitudes, we place the world in God's loving hands.

Response: Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer

We pray for Pope Francis, that his visit to South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (31 January – 5 February) will be safe and will sow new seeds of peace. Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for world leaders, that they may work to bring about a world that is like Jesus' teachings. A world which is fair and where everyone has enough to live. Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for all people who are poor, sad, hungry or in danger, that through our actions they may be happy on earth as well as in heaven and have hope for a better future. Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for all those discerning a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life, that they will find encouragement through our prayers and sacrifices on their behalf. Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for the intentions we now make in the silence of our hearts. (p-a-u-s-e). let us pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: God of heavenly wisdom, you call us to live with the trust of the poor in spirit. Open our hearts and minds to see your goodness. We ask this through Christ our Lord.