

20 August 2023

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time -A



**INTRODUCTION:**

We are all invited to grow and mature in our faith, and may we see the necessity of accepting the Word of God in giving us life. If we have faith in our hearts, we have life given to us and created in us by that powerful Word. Let us celebrate Christ who came to sow the seed of the Word of God both in our hearts and in the world at large.

**First Reading:** Is 56:1, 6-7  
**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 67: 2- 3, 5, 6 & 8  
**Second Reading:** Rom 11:13-15, 29-32  
**Gospel:** Matt 15: 21-28

**PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:**

**Celebrant:** Jesus accepts the faith of the Canaanite woman and heals her daughter, thus including even the gentiles into the One community of believers. Let us now express our trust in Jesus as we say:

**Response: Lord, hear us.**

We pray for Pope Francis, the bishops, the Clergy and the Religious that placing themselves at the service of the Gospel, they may bring hope and consolation to the people whom they serve. **R/**

We pray for those in Government, as we celebrate the 77<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our Independence, that they may help to overcome all violence and unrest in Manipur and in the country and work for the Common good of all. **R/**

We pray for Christians everywhere, especially those persecuted for their Faith in Christ, that strengthened by the Word of God and Sacraments, they may remain steadfast in the face of trials and tribulations. **R/**

We pray for all People of other Faiths who are rooted in their own Religious traditions and yet appreciate the Christian mission happening in our country that deeply imbued with religious values, they may collaborate to build a just and humane society. **R/**

We pray for all of us present at this Eucharist, that we may learn to persevere in our faith in Christ, like the Canaanite Woman, who won His favour in sincere prayer and persistence and thus find our reward in Him. **R/**

We pray for our personal and local needs...R/-

**CELEBRATION:** God our Father, we thank you for the gift of your Son, Jesus that persevering in our faith in him, we may come to do greater things in service to our brothers and sisters. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.