



10 September 2023

TWENTY- THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME -A



INTRODUCTION:

The readings of today remind us of our prophetic role in speaking God's Word and the painful responsibility that we have towards others, namely fraternal correction. We are reminded that this moral obligation that we have towards our brothers and sisters, may at times require tough love. However, the process should always be motivated by a spirit of forgiveness and not to prove who is right and who is wrong.

READINGS:

First Reading: Ezek: 33: 7-9
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 95:1-2, 6-7abc, 7d- 9
Second Reading: Rom 13: 8-10
Gospel: Mt 18:15-20

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:

Celebrant: Father, You have created humankind in Your image and You call us to live harmoniously, as a community of love. As we come before You with our petitions, we pray that we may be able to follow Your Laws, that will ensure unity and peace in our world.

Response: *Hear and answer us, O Lord*

For Pope Francis, Bishops, Priests and Religious: that they may reach out to those who have strayed from the faith, offering God's reconciliation and healing ... *(brief silent pause)*... we pray to the Lord.

R/

For leaders of nations and those in governance: that they may ensure the implementation of corrective laws whenever there is an attempt to disturb the justice system or upset the peace in society... *(brief silent pause)*... we pray to the Lord. **R/**

For the members of Christ's body, the Church: that we may understand our moral responsibility towards each other, both offering and being open to fraternal correction ...*(brief silent pause)*... we pray to the Lord. **R/**

For broken relationships: that motivated by love and in a spirit of forgiveness, families and relatives who have been estranged may seek to unite and renew their relationships ... *(brief silent pause)*... we pray to the Lord. **R/**

In the silence of our hearts we bring to the Lord our personal petitions ... *(longer silent pause)*... We pray to the Lord. **R/**

Celebrant: Father, we come to You with our petitions, confident in Your loving providence. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen