



11 AUGUST 2024

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time -B



Introduction:

God makes the sun rise on the evil and on the good and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. (Mt 5: 45) Furthermore, Pope Francis says Christian love embraces what is not loveable; it offers forgiveness and blesses one's enemies. This 'great selfless love' includes love for the poor, the sick, the helpless and the prisoners. Today, as we celebrate Prison Ministry Sunday, let us remember that prisoners are our friends and that we all need to work for their integral human development.

Readings:

First Reading: 1Kgs 19:4-8
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9
Second Reading: Eph 4:30-5:2
Gospel: Jn 6:41-51

Prayer of the Faithful:

Celebrant: Dear Brothers and Sisters, Jesus shows great compassion towards sinners and the poor. Let us therefore pray together and realise that prisoners need our love.

Response: Loving God hear our prayer.

For the Pope, Bishops, Clergy and Religious men, women and the laity that all of us work for the release, reform, rehabilitation and reintegration of prisoners and their families... we pray to the Lord.

For all Government authorities, the Superintendents and all in charge of the Prisons and Children's Homes that they may be kind in their approach and merciful to those who are languishing in prison for lack of support...we pray to the Lord.

For all prisoners who repent for their deeds and are hopeful of being released and reunited with their loved ones at the earliest. May justice prevail... we pray to the Lord.

For the Prison Ministry volunteers who selflessly and cheerfully give their time and talent for the spiritual, emotional and welfare of the incarcerated and for the benefactors for their generous contribution...we pray to the Lord.

Let us pray for our personal needs and the needs of our parish community (*Pause*) ... we pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Holy God, your Son told us to follow his example and wash each other's feet. Give us the grace to be faithful servants in your household. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.