

17 August 2025

The Prison Ministry Sunday



Introduction: The Liturgy today highlights the challenges of living out the faith. Faith can bring division and suffering, and amid this there is a need for perseverance. As we celebrate Prison Ministry Sunday, let us pray for prisoners, recognizing their shared dignity as children of God seeking mercy and healing.

Readings: First Reading: Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 40:2, 3, 4, 18 Second Reading: Hebrews 12:1-4 Gospel: Luke 12:49-53

Prayers of the Faithful:

Celebrant: We are encouraged to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus. It is through him that we now lift our hearts in prayer and make intercession for all who struggle for justice and wholeness. Our response will be:

Response: Lord, graciously hear our prayer.

For Pope Leo XIV, 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 government, prison authorities and staff to be humane and compassionate, and respond in an affirmative way towards protection of the prisoners' rights. We pray to the Lord.

For families that are divided, that the Lord may draw them to his truth and to accept the demands of the Gospel, we pray to the Lord.

For all who suffer from depression and who find it difficult to recognise a caring and listening God. May they experience God's care through the love and compassion of others.

For our personal needs and the needs of our parish community (pause). We pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: God of life, continue to be our help and deliverer as we come before the throne of your mercy. We make our prayer through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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