

Introduction:

As we celebrate Prison Ministry Sunday, we remember our brothers and sisters who are incarcerated and often forgotten by society. In today's Gospel, Jesus hears the persistent plea of the Canaanite woman and responds with compassion and mercy. Inspired by His example, let us open our hearts to hear the cries of those who suffer, especially prisoners and their families, and pray that they may experience God's healing, hope, and love through our care and concern.

First Reading	: Isaiah 56:1, 6-7
Responsorial Psalm	: Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 & 8
Second Reading	: Romans 11:13-15, 29-32
Gospel	: Mathew 15:21-28

Prayers of the Faithful

Celebrant: As Jesus showed compassion to the Canaanite woman and responded to her faith, let us bring before the Lord all those in prison, as well as all who are in need of His mercy, compassion and healing.

Response: Lord, graciously hear our prayer.

- For Pope Leo, Bishops, priests and consecrated people to be powerful instruments of your liberating love and helping hands to our brothers and sisters. Lord, bless Your Church throughout the world may she be a beacon of hope, unity, and peace, drawing all people closer to Christ, **we pray to the Lord.**
- For government and prison authorities and staff that they may be kind, gentle and understanding towards the inmates and work diligently to protect and uphold the rights and dignity of every prisoner, **we pray to the Lord.**
- Lord, bless all Your faithful people. The Christian families and parish communities, strengthen them in faith, hope, and charity, that they may live as true witnesses of Christ in the world, **we pray to the Lord.**
- Lord, we lift up all who are ill in body, mind, or spirit. Grant them healing, strength, and peace in their trials. We pray for those who suffer silently, carrying hidden burdens. May they find comfort in Your presence and relief through the care of others, **we pray to the Lord.**
- For our personal needs and the needs of our parish community (*Pause in silence*), **we pray to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Abba Father, we place all these intentions at your feet, trusting that you will answer them according to Your holy will. Fill us with your grace and help us together with our incarcerated brothers and sisters, to seek You always. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.