

Sunday, August 20, 2023
20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 1) Isaiah 56:1, 6-7
- 2) Romans 11:13-15, 29-32
- 3) Matthew 15:21-28

FOCUS: Today and every day we celebrate the goodness of God.

Celebration for the generosity of God resounds in our readings today. As followers of Jesus, we are filled with joy because God has included all people in his bountiful mercy. That joy leads us to reach out to all with compassion and mercy.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Isaiah tells the people to *observe what is right* and *do what is just*, for God's salvation is abundant and faith is great.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: We bring our prayers to our merciful God with joyous hearts.

- 1) For the Church, may the Holy Spirit guide us in all things, helping us to observe what is right and do what is just, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For the world, may the Spirit help to unite people across cultures, races and religions, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those who are sick or suffering in any way, may they find comfort in God's bountiful mercy and in his compassionate care, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For this faith community, may the Lord stir our hearts for beginning and ending all days in praise of his goodness, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all who have died, may God let his face shine upon them and bring them to everlasting life, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Hear our prayers, O Lord, and grant us what we need. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Used by permission of FAITH Catholic. All rights