20th Sunday in Ordinary Time FATTH & HOWE August 17th, 2025

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First Reading: Jeremiah 38: 4-6, 8-10
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 40: 2, 3, 4, 18
Second Reading: Hebrews 12: 1-4
Gospel Luke 12: 49-53

Full readings can be found here!

1. HEAR

Pick up your bible and look up the Gospel reading. Don't have one? No worries you can find the Gospel reading by clicking <u>HERE</u>. (BISHOP O'CONNELL'S GOSPEL REFLECTION PAGE.)

As an alternative to reading the Gospel, you can watch a short video with the proclamation for adults by clicking HERE. (YOUTUBE, WOG CHANNEL, St. LUKE 12:49-53-0.43min)

Children can also watch a video proclamation of the Gospel by clicking <u>HERE</u>.

(Youtube, Gospel Readings for Kids – MisterD418, start at :22 and end at 1:11, a reflection to follow)

2. PRAY

Gather the family around a prayer space. We invite you to reflect on the following: Recall a time when you've had to make a difficult decision. How did your faith guide you when making the decision? Use the St. Ignatius Examen to pray through the experience.

- 1. Become aware of God's presence.
- 2. Review the day with gratitude.
- 3. Pay attention to your emotions.
- 4. Name a time where you've made a difficult decision. (*adapted for this Faith at Home*)
- 5. Look forward to tomorrow.

For deeper reflection of each step, visit the website $\underline{www.ignatianspirituality.com}$

Share with us how you are living out your faith at home. Use

#LACatholicsBelieve and tag

Together, let us pray. Heavenly Father, may your wisdom fill our hearts, guide us, and allow us to make decisions to follow in your footsteps. Give us the strength and courage to be bold in proclaiming You no matter the cost. Amen.



3. TALK

In today's Gospel we hear Jesus very directly tell us that he came for division. This might sound a little harsh, but the reality is that when we are focused on Jesus, it's not always going to be easy.

Jeremiah in the first reading was thrown into a cistern, a well, without water. He was speaking out against the rich and their treatment of the poor. Maybe what happened to Jeremiah will not happen to us but his hope in God did not stop him from speaking out against something that was wrong.

What is a current decision in your life that feels difficult because you're thinking of what others would say instead of what Jesus would do? After each person shares, offer it to God: *Lord, I offer this decision to you. Give me the peace and joy only you provide.*



Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of Religious Education