

## Twenty-third Sunday | Year A

September 10, 2023 (Ez 33:7-9 | Romans 13:8-10 | Matthew 18:15-20)

The Prophet Ezekiel warns that the wicked people shall die for their wicked deeds. But those who repent will be saved. Let us turn to God with our humble petitions.

1/ Let us today hear God's voice by loosening our hearts. For people of all nations. We pray that Pope Francis, pastors, and deacons can guide people to hear God's voice. Let us pray.

2/ Urging the Roman Christians to owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another, Paul explains that love does no evil to the neighbor. For Paul, love is the fulfillment of the law. For those who seek self-interest. We pray that Paul's ministry to and love for the gentiles may set as an example for Christians to seek love for one another. Let us pray.

3/ Jesus advises his disciples to settle disputes with their siblings, hoping that they might win over their siblings. For those whose hearts have been hardened with stubbornness, especially those who have been buried in political animosity. We pray that Jesus's teaching may inspire people and win over their hearts, so that they learn to treat each other with love. Let us pray.

4/ Whatever we bind one another on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whenever we pardon one another's faults on earth, God forgives us in heaven. For our sisters and brothers who have gone before from us. We pray that whatever sins they committed while on earth may be pardoned. We also pray that God grant them eternal rest. Today we remember **[at 4:30 PM]** Bob and Joan Whelan; Red and Libby Lucas; **[at 10:00 AM]** Herbert Chism and Deceased Family Members, Bill and JoAnn Whalen. Let us pray.

Justice and mercy meet in you, Oh Lord our God. With unparalleled love, you have saved us from death and drawn us into the circle of your life. Open our eyes to the wonders that this life sets before us, so that we may address you as God our Father. We pray this through Jesus Christ our Lord.