



“Do not be afraid to break out of comfortable and routine modes of living, in order to take up the challenge of making Christ known in the modern ‘metropolis’”.

St John Paul II

SCRIPTURE
of the DAY

Jeremiah 38: 4-6, 8-10
Psalm 39: 2-4, 18
Hebrew 12: 1-4
Luke 12: 49-53

In a world where truth is often seen as relative and Gospel values are dismissed as outdated, we may find ourselves criticized and questioned on the relevance of the Church today. Many consider her teachings old-fashioned and her traditions antiquated.

Yet, the readings today remind us that such challenges are not new. Just as the prophet Jeremiah endured plots against his life because people could not accept the truths he spoke, we too face all kinds of trials when we stand for unpopular truths in the world today. In the Gospel reading, Jesus himself tells us that he has come, not to bring peace, but division. Though this may seem to contradict the Christian call to love and unity, it is actually a stark reminder that real unity cannot exist without the truth. Jesus warns us that faithfulness to the truth will inevitably bring us into conflict against those who would rather cling to sin.

Yet, in spite of the darkness, there are many who still long for the light. The human heart’s deep longing for love and meaning has not changed over the centuries. Beneath the surface of modernity, people still struggle with the same questions of existence and the same need for grace and salvation.

That is why catechesis is as vital today as it was in the days of the early Church, two thousand years ago. Just as the people of ancient times longed to hear the Good News of salvation and forgiveness of sins, the people of our time long also for the knowledge of God’s love, mercy and redemption.

Let us then, in the rush of our daily lives, take the time to deepen our understanding and knowledge of our faith so that we may generously share what we have with a brother or sister in need of hearing the Good News. ✦

NEWBEC

NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH | 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time | 17 August 2025

CELEBRATING, LISTENING AND WALKING AS PILGRIMS OF HOPE

**MONTHLY FOCUS & RATIONALE SOCIETY (PROPHETIC)
CALLED TO VISIBLE COLLABORATION**



Looking back as we celebrate 69 years of independence this month, it is a fitting moment for us to remember and reflect on our duty to proclaim the Gospel to the society we live in.

As Christians, we have a responsibility beyond just civic duties—we stand always for truth and the values of the Gospel, even if it places us at odds with popular opinion and culture.