

**August 18-19, 2007**

**Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Jeremiah 38:4-10**

**Hebrews 12:1-4**

**Luke 12:49-53**

Can't we all get along? Accommodation is a great thing. Mutual respect is wonderful. Live and let live is terrific. But, at what point do we say NO. For example, cancer cells are living cells...they just overpower the other cells where they are growing and eventually kill us? Should we accommodate cancer and allow it to live? How about bacteria and virus that cause our diseases, should we let them live...and cause us to sometimes die? After all, don't virus' have as many rights as whales? We live in a free society, right? So, if a pedophile or child pornographer wants to live next door to you...that would be okay, right? If your 13 year-old son wants to smoke pot or sleep with his girlfriend in your home, that's his right, right? Assorted religious 'principles' fly in the face of democracy and personal freedoms...how do we reconcile them. What happens when something one group considers sacred is considered downright silly by another group? How do we all endeavor to 'get along'? Unfortunately, this weekend's Gospel selection from Luke throws fuel on the fire with the statement: 'Do you think I have come to establish peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division.' The answer to this question, 'Can't we all get along?' is not as easy as it may seem. One need only look at our present efforts to find common ground on assorted social issues not to mention geo-politics that pit entire cultures against one another. Yet, the grace of God is frequently discovered in our mistakes just as much as in our successes. The first reading from Jeremiah speaks of a willingness to admit that a mistake had been made and to grow from it. Thus, perhaps the cauldron of social turbulence in which we live is the stew being heated with the 'divine fire' spoken of by Jesus in the Gospel? You like chocolate, I like vanilla...how do we all get along. No quick answers, but lots of good questions.

Mid-August...what happened to June, July and the early weeks of August? Good gosh, some youth are already leaving for college and university! Thank you for joining with us here at Corpus Christi for our Masses. If you have recently moved to our area (which happens a lot during the Summer months) please complete a Registration Form so we can add you to our Roster. Please note our 'Summer Sunday Social on the Lawn' is NEXT SUNDAY! YIKES!!! A wonderful way to bring summer to a close (even if it keeps officially lingering for a bit longer) and just an all-around easy event with which to participate on a Summer Sunday. Reservation Forms are on the Concierge Shelves. As always, please accept a Bulletin on your way home...and remember, you are loved. FKB