

### **Reflections on Gospel passage ...Luke 12----49-53**

“I come to bring fire to the earth, not peace.....Three against two , and two against three.”

DIVISION due to BELIEFS.

Like the bravery of Jeremiah’ s character in the 1<sup>st</sup> reading, Jesus does not portray a figure “meek and mild”---but a catalyst for Society, and for change. Baptism is mentioned –it will be a Christian ceremony.

Following Christ calls for courage—and a commitment –it can cause a split, a division, or difference between oneself and family. There will be a price to pay for one’s choice of Christ ; this scenario of a divided family is played out in the events of the 1<sup>st</sup> century when there was terrific persecution of Christians.

### **August 25<sup>th</sup> Lk.13: 22-30.**

“The last will be first, and those now first , will be last”.

“Enter by the narrow door-many will try to enter and not succeed,

“We ate and drank in your company , but He will say:” Away from me”.

What is needed is a close personal relationship with Jesus ---to inherit eternal life.

We should not presume that being a Catholic /Christian / or whatever professed religion can guarantee a place in the Lord’s Kingdom. The Lord’s call is Universal, but not even the figures of the Scriptures are ensured their places.

“ Lord we ask you to help us to answer your call to become members of your Kingdom---deliver us from complacency ,--and may we have universal hearts.”

### **September 1<sup>st</sup> Luke 14: 7–14**

“He who humbles himself will be exalted”

In this story, Jesus outlines our behaviour in certain circumstances—firstly as a guest and secondly as a party -giver. In the 1<sup>st</sup> we are to be humble guests, content with the last place, and as a host, to invite only the broken , the deprived, the drop-outs and society’s rejects. That way we claim God’s approval and with no hope of personal reward.

Luke’s Gospel often introduces two aspects of a situation, emphasising the value of the poor.

We pray to follow Jesus ‘ lead in our behaviour in all social situations ,keeping in mind His preference for the poor and under-privileged.