

**13TH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

REFLECTION-ASIA



One day, after a long meeting with the recurring discussion on the concerns and realities of the poorest beneficiary families of Sr. Teresa of Sto. Niño Center as well as the difficulties and the challenges accompanying them. I asked the sister who happens to be the directress of the Center. Sister, why despite everything, we need to help them? And she told me in reply, we cannot just turn a blind eye to the reality in front of us. We could not refuse them.

Today's Gospel depicts the story of the two people who fall at the feet of Jesus and beg him. A synagogue official, named Jairus pleads for his daughter's life while the hemorrhaging woman begs for her own. Moved with compassion, Jesus assures Jairus not to be afraid and have faith given the fact that the servant and the weeping people at his house – all of whom believed that Jairus' daughter is dead. And with the few people in the room with the corpse, the miracle happens. Jesus touches the dead girl and brings her back to life. The same comfort and assurance was given to the hemorrhaging woman. Jesus gives her his peace and commands the curing of her affliction.

Our Gospel reminds us on how we ought to respond to the needs of the most wounded and disfigured members of the Church. May we learn to listen and be moved with compassion on the reality of our time. And may Jesus' example be our model in living our day to day life.