

## Reflection Monday week 26 – 2022

How would you respond if you met with trouble after trouble, not of your own causing? Would you be able to say that *God has given and God has taken away, blessed be the name of the Lord?*

Fortunately, God does not play around with our lives. Especially not in the ways we often like to think. Misfortune, tragedies, catastrophes happen to us. The real challenge is not to look for someone to blame, especially God, but what kind of response will we make to them. We clearly face a grave economic crisis which will affect the people on low or no income the most, as it always does. Fortunately, the Church teaches us that we will do better if we face this crisis together with others rather than on our own. The power of God is greater in a family group than in a single individual.

**Pope Francis** (Aug 22) *As a consequence of the pandemic and the wars, the world is facing a grave socio-economic crisis. We still don't realize it! Among those most affected are small and medium-sized businesses. Stores, workshops, cleaning businesses, transportation businesses, and so many others. The ones that don't appear on the world's richest and most powerful lists, and despite the difficulties, they create jobs, fulfilling their social responsibility. The ones that invest in the common good instead of hiding their money in tax havens. They all dedicate an immense creative capacity to changing things from the bottom up, from where the best creativity always comes. With courage, with effort, with sacrifice, they invest in life, creating wellbeing, opportunities, and work.*

*Let us pray for small and medium-sized businesses so they may find ways to continue operating, and serving their communities.*

**The economy is so bad**, if the bank returns your check marked "insufficient funds" you call the bank and ask if they meant you or them.....?????