Scripture

Luke 4: 31-37
Jesus went down to Capernaum, a town of Galilee. He taught them on the sabbath, and they were astonished at his teaching because he spoke with authority. In the synagogue there was a man with the spirit of an unclean demon, and he cried out in a loud voice, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!" Jesus rebuked him and said, "Be quiet! Come out of him!" Then the demon threw the man down in front of them and came out of him without doing him any harm. They were all amazed and said to one another, "What is there about his word? For with authority and power he commands the unclean spirits, and they come out." And news of him spread everywhere in the surrounding region.

Our Scripture Reflection
In His sermon at the hometown synagogue, Jesus prophesied that He would “set those held captive free” (4:16-30), In today’s scripture He does just that, and in of all places….A SYNAGOGUE! A Jewish house of prayer! As we have all painfully learned, the power of Satan is not limited to bars, street corners and prisons. Satan has infested the hierarchy of the Church. Hence, we must work hard through our prayer and fasting, to beseech Our Lord to cast out all evil, wherever that evil may exist.

Food for your Journey
To be persuasive, we must be believable; to be believable, we must be credible; to be credible, we must be truthful.
—Edward R. Murrow.

## A Prayer from the Heart

Merciful Father, It seems that Satan is quite active in the world today. Many, unfortunately, have bought into his evil influences. This day I ask for Your Grace to watch over and protect me and my family. Through my prayers, fasting and works of mercy, may I do my part in bringing holiness to the world. Amen