

Sent Together as One

15th Week of Ordinary Time – Mark 6:7-13

The Church is built communally. It is not an exercise of separatism or individual efforts. The work and Mission of Christ is always something we, as his disciples, do together. We are sent, as one, to do the work of the One who calls us to faith and mission through our baptism.

Today, Jesus sends the disciples off two by two with the authority to proclaim the gospel. So **“they went off and preached repentance.”** This particular mission follows Jesus’ rejection in Nazareth, a compelling story that faith is necessary for God to work in our lives.

Jesus’ instructions are simple. They need very little for this work. The only items they are to take are their clothes and a walking stick. The rest of their basic necessities of life (food, shelter, and rest) will be provided by God through those they encounter.

This is true for us as a parish community and for all of us in our lives. Do we trust God enough to provide us with everything we need? Do we trust God enough to give us the gifts to do his work and proclaim the gospel to others? Do we realize that everything we have is gift? Do we realize we are called to share, not out of our bounty or surplus, but from our basic needs, thereby turning our basic needs into the very work that Jesus calls us to this week?

St. Paul reminds us that **“we were also chosen, destined in accord with the purpose of the One who accomplishes all things according to the intention of his will, so that we might exist for the praise of his glory.”** The work we do each day is an opportunity to give God praise by using our gifts. The charity/stewardship that we share allows the Church to spread the gospel, seek justice and serve the poor.

We are sent to be the voice of Christ today just as the Twelve were sent in the gospel this week. We are called to do his work, expecting nothing in return. We are all called to repentance and forgiveness for the times we fail his mission.

Some days, I find that I must **“shake the dust of (my own) feet”** because I have failed to hear the gospel and do the work. Fortunately, the very gospel we proclaim leads us back to a loving and forgiving God who has sent us together as one.

Blessings!


Sue Schettler

July 15, 2018

Fifteenth Week of Ordinary Time



Readings for the Week of July 15, 2018

Sunday: Am 7:12-15/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/Eph 1:3-14 or 1:3-10/Mk 6:7-13

Monday: Is 1:10-17/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23 [23b]/Mt 10:34--11:1

Tuesday: Is 7:1-9/Ps 48:2-3a, 3b-4, 5-6, 7-8 [cf. 9d]/Mt 11:20-24

Wednesday: Is 10:5-7, 13b-16/Ps 94:5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 14-15 [14a]/Mt 11:25-27

Thursday: Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19/Ps 102:13-14ab and 15, 16-18, 19-21 [20b]/Mt 11:28-30

Friday: Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8/Is 38:10, 11, 12abcd, 16 [cf. 17b]/Mt 12:1-8

Saturday: Mi 2:1-5/Ps 10:1-2, 3-4, 7-8, 14 [12b]/Mt 12:14-21

Next Sunday: Jer 23:1-6/Ps 23:1-3, 3-4, 5, 6 [1]/Eph 2:13-18/Mk 6:30-34

“Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over unclean spirits”