



NEWSLETTER

3RD JULY 2022

A PARISH OF THE MULLINGAR DEANERY

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The Community of St. Camillus 044 9374115.

ST. JOSEPH'S, RATHWIRE.

Saturday 2nd, 6pm. Paddy, Babs & Angela Bray.

July 10th, 11.30am. Philomena O'Reilly. Tom Ennis. William Bowe & family. Kathleen Buckley & family.

ST. BRIGID'S, RAHARNEY.

Sunday 3rd, 10am. The Geraghty family

Weekday Masses; Tues & Thurs Raharney. Wed & Fri Rathwire.

Adoration
of the
Blessed Sacrament



**In St. Joseph's Tuesday 1pm-9pm.
& St. Brigid's Wed. 6pm-10pm:**
*Special Diocesan intention of prayer
for vocations and the family.*
Take one Hour with the Lord

**MASS OFFERTORY COLLECTION:625
PARISH DEVELOPMENT FUND 589**

Charity shop: at Rathwire church opens Tues, Thurs & Fri 11am – 1pm.

Vincent de Paul: invite new members in the area with the work. For info call 086 0706571

Used stamps: can be left in the box available in the churches. These are of value to the missionary orders who really appreciate receiving them. Thanks.

PTAA: proposal to organize bus to Knock for Matt Talbot pilgrimage on July 17th. To confirm and organize this confirmation must be given before Wed July 6th. To book call 086 3512561.

At the Service of Peace

In today's Gospel, Jesus sends his disciples out in pairs, and he tells them to bring nothing with them. They are to carry the message that the kingdom of God is at hand, but they must trust in God's care.

For it is God whose "right hand is filled with justice," it is God who will "free us from sin," and it is God who will "spread prosperity over [the world] like a river, and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing torrent."

The disciples of Jesus are sent to call others to "come and see the works of God, his tremendous deeds among men."

They know that the Lord's power shall be "known to his servants through their efforts," and they exclaim with Paul: "May I never boast of anything but the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ!"

We Christians are called to go out into the world with a message of love, justice, forgiveness, and peace. We are to work for the coming of the kingdom. But our hope is in the Lord, and our faith tells us that the salvation of the world is a gift from God. "Blessed is he who hopes in God."

Because peace, like the kingdom of God itself, is both a divine gift and a human work, the Church should continually pray for the gift and share in the work. We are called to be a Church at the service of peace, precisely because peace is one manifestation of God's word and work in our midst.

U.S. Bishops, The Challenge of Peace

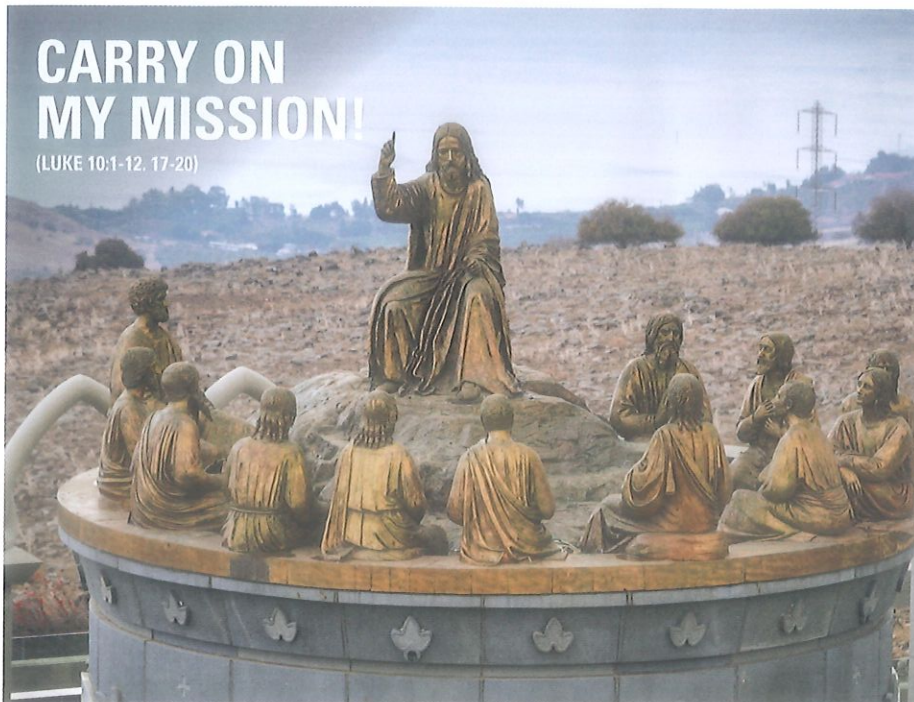
3 JULY 2022

Sunday Message

14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year C • Season Colour: Green • Psalter Week 2



Statues of Jesus and the Twelve Apostles on the Mount of Beatitudes near the Sea of Galilee

CARRY ON MY MISSION!

(LUKE 10:1-12, 17-20)

Not long before the episode which we heard about in our Gospel reading today, Jesus had sent out the Twelve on a mission of preaching the Kingdom, accompanied and illustrated by works of healing and exorcism.

Now, Jesus sends out a larger group with a similar commission and they come back to report that their mission has been successful. We might note that, for Luke, the Twelve are essentially disciples of Jesus among a wider group. They have been specially chosen from this larger number, among whom Luke specifically mentions women by name. Thus, the sending of the seventy-two mirrors the sending of the Twelve.

The twelve apostles represent symbolically the twelve tribes of Israel. They are, in the Gospel tradition, essentially witness to the risen Jesus, but are eclipsed very shortly by the deacons and then by the apostle Paul, who had not known Jesus during Jesus' earthly life. Luke shows that Jesus includes the wider group of disciples in his mission: it is not restricted to Peter and the other members of the Twelve.

Jesus tells the disciples that if the citizens of a town refuse them hospitality, a sacred duty in the culture of the time and place, "it will not go as hard with Sodom as with that town." The sin of Sodom to which Jesus refers was the breach of the law of hospitality, which is the reason why the disciples should leave, shaking off the very dust of the place as a sign to those who failed to live up to their obligations to the stranger and traveller. ■

REFLECT

It is worth keeping in mind that in Luke's account of Jesus and his ministry, Jesus is consistently accompanied by a wider group of disciples than simply the Twelve, including women whom Luke, unusually, mentions by name. These disciples, "the whole crowd", were with Jesus at his entry into Jerusalem, when he went to Gethsemane, so it does not make sense to say that they disappeared at the celebration of the Passover, which was essentially a domestic and family occasion. The larger group was also present at Pentecost, along with Mary, the mother of Jesus.

A picture is worth a thousand words, as they saying goes. Sometimes, this can be very telling and capture the spirit of the scene, as when the Magi are presented with different racial features and characteristics. But it can also limit our imagination and influence our understanding of the biblical text. So, were the disciples Jesus sent out only male persons? Were only Jesus and the twelve male apostles present at the Last Supper? Is our understanding of that event influenced by Leonardo da Vinci's famous fresco or by Luke's Gospel narrative? Where were the other male disciples, the women – and, therefore, presumably, the children?

When Luke talks about 'disciples', he does not mean simply 'the Twelve Apostles'. When we listen to the Gospel, we might keep this wider meaning in mind – and include ourselves among the disciples. ■



The Last Supper by Leonardo da Vinci in the Convent of Santa Maria delle Grazie

LEARN

Luke consistently shows Jesus accompanied by a wider group of disciples than just the twelve male apostles.

Among this larger group were women.

The sin of Sodom was essentially a breach of the law of hospitality, which enjoined the hosts to protect and shelter the traveller and stranger.

DO

Extend the sign of peace to your neighbour: remember that we are all disciples of Jesus, sharing in his mission.



SAY

The Kingdom of God is near to me.

(Luke 10:9)