

Lectio Divina

July 3rd 2022 14th Sunday of Ordinary Time – Year C – Luke 10:1 - 12, 17 - 20

¹⁰After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go.²He said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.³Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves.⁴Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road.⁵Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace to this house!’⁶And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you.⁷Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. ⁸Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; ⁹cure the sick who are there, and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you. ¹⁰But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, ¹¹‘Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.’ ¹²I tell you, on that day it will be more tolerable for Sodom than for that town.

¹⁷The seventy returned with joy, saying, “Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!”

¹⁸He said to them, “I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. ¹⁹See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. ²⁰Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”

➤ Read and re-read – out loud and slowly the Gospel.	➤ Pray - Thanksgiving – Repentance – Petition
➤ Meditate - on reading as being spoken to you, an experience in your life	➤ Action – Attitude (Call to change / to act /to do)

July 3rd 2022 14th Sunday of Ordinary Time – Year C – Luke 10:1 - 12, 17 - 20

In this week’s gospel we see Jesus sending out the 72 to go ahead and prepare for his visit. He sends them out in pairs realising that it is good to have company on your journey. He gives them instructions that will make their job easier. He says we must approach others not as objects of pity, but in admiration, aware of how much we can often learn from them. He tells us not to put ourselves above others as we are all equal in his eyes. They were sent out as lambs among wolves and they were not to salute anyone on the road. He says if our relationships are to be life giving we must first be free in ourselves. Knowing that if our peace is rejected it will “come back to us” saves us from feeling we have failed in our efforts altogether.

Do we let rejection by others weigh us down draining our energy and preventing us making a new start? Do we as Jesus suggests “wipe the dust off your feet and leave that place” bringing your peace with you?

Prayer:

Lord thank you for the people you sent to us with an openness who did not try to bring us their point of view, insisting their way was the only one. Like Jesus they were humble and trusting like lambs among wolves and this enabled us to listen to their message with open minds and hearts.

Forgive us Lord for the times that we spent regretting the fact that we were often rejected and hurt which left us with no energy and prevented us from moving on to a new life of peace and good will.

Help us Lord not to treat people we are sent to help as objects of pity, but as people to be admired from whom we can often learn so much.

