

**Fourteenth Sunday in
Ordinary Time
July 7, 2019**

From the Desk of Rev. Fr. Anthony C. Ekanem, MSP:

As we continue our liturgical celebration in Ordinary time, the key theme of today's Gospel and last Sunday's Gospel is discipleship – its challenges, its difficulties, and its rewards. Today's Gospel reading picks up from (Luke 9:62) where we stopped last Sunday. This continuation and similarity in theme truly presents Jesus' urgency and His mission, 'for the kingdom of God is at hand.' Luke 10:9.

Today, Jesus clearly admits in that it will be tough and that He is sending them out like Lambs among wolves. He foresees the situation where neither the message nor the missionaries will receive the proper welcome and so He instructed them to be prepared and to bring nothing with them, not even a money bag or Sandals. They are to greet no one on the way so as not to be distracted from their mission. Sharing in the mission of Jesus is difficult and because Jesus sends them out ahead of him in pairs so that they can support, depend and encourage one another in their missionary work. Here are some points for us to seriously consider:

- The sense of Spirituality – the type of attitude that should accompany the proclamation of the Gospel as missionaries
- The dependence on God - we should travel light and rely on God's providence and not on our provisions for the journey.
- The reliance on hospitality – taking the risk of depending on whatever welcome we find is another form of witnessing to the Gospel.

In the Law of Moses, two witnesses were always needed for a testimony to be credible. So being sent in twos was symbolic and very common during the time of Jesus.

For us today especially after our celebration of the Independence Day, July 4; many of us may have already completed our vacation plans, or perhaps make plans to visit places we have never been before. Here we are told 'Jesus appointed seventy (-two) and other whom He sent ahead of Him in pairs to every town and place He intended to visit.' (Luke 10:1) How do we look at what Jesus is saying to the other 72 sent on mission? Does this sense of urgency, call to discipleship and how we prepare for our travels mean anything to us as Christians? Though some of us are on vacation now, we should not lose track of our mission on earth. This mission is broadened in this chapter; they are told particularly to cure the sick because 'the kingdom of God is at hand,' (Luke 10: 9) - that was one sign of building up the kingdom of God. We are called in our various ways to work in building up the kingdom of God wherever we go by the Sacraments we are privileged to receive. For "the harvest is abundant but the laborers are few," (Luke 10:2).

See again what Jesus requires:

- First that we must have peace ourselves – possess that gifts.
- Secondly, that we are willing to share that peace with others.
- And thirdly, those others will be willing to receive it from us.

They were never to presume or believe that peace will always be accepted. We are challenged also on this easy assumption in witnessing to Christ among our brothers and sisters. At least we ought to try since our world is torn by hatred, anger, rivalry and individualistic comfort. We ought to exercise patient endurance in our calling. St Paul reminded the Galatians that they should always expect to suffer and that it is a reminder of our redemption. For it is in the cross of Christ we find salvation. Isaiah in the first reading sings of the return from Babylonian to Jerusalem as a redemption for Israel. Let us note what Saint Paul is saying about the power of the cross, "May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world." (Galatians 6:14). That old slogan that 'Christianity is comforting and not comfortable' is something we should take a moment to reflect on this week and ask that the nourishment we receive in the Eucharistic celebration this weekend may lead us to share Christ's presence in our travels near and far.

"The ultimate test of your greatness is the way you treat every human being," St John Paul II

Stewardship

Tithing - God's Plan for Giving Sunday For 06/30/19 our Offering was \$3,352.00
Next Sunday there will be a second collection for the Black and Indian Missions.

2019 Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal Update

Goal: \$39,500

Total Amount Paid: \$29,986.00

Total Amount Pledged: \$34,718.00

Number of Families: 113

Percent of goal: 88%

If you haven't had the chance to make your contribution, there is still time. You can use the pledge letters that have already arrived at your home. And if you have not received one or have never made a pledge before, it is very easy to do so online.

Just go to www.cardinalsappeal.org, click on Donate, select an amount, and direct your gift to our Church: Immaculate Conception, Yonkers

FOR CATHOLICS

As Catholics, we fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist when we receive Holy Communion. We are encouraged to receive Communion devoutly and frequently. In order to be properly disposed to receive Communion, participants should not be conscious of grave sin and normally should have fasted for one hour. A person who is conscious of grave sin is not to receive the Body and Blood of the Lord without prior sacramental confession except for a grave reason where there is no opportunity for confession. In this case, the person is to be mindful of the obligation to make an act of perfect contrition, including the intention of confessing as soon as possible (canon 916). A frequent reception of the Sacrament of Penance is encouraged for all.

FOR OUR FELLOW CHRISTIANS

We welcome our fellow Christians to this celebration of the Eucharist as our brothers and sisters. We pray that our common baptism and the action of the Holy Spirit in this Eucharist will draw us closer to one another and begin to dispel the sad divisions which separate us. We pray that these will lessen and finally disappear, in keeping with Christ's prayer for us "that they may all be one" (John 17:21).

Because Catholics believe that the celebration of the Eucharist is a sign of the reality of the oneness of faith, life, and worship, members of those churches with whom we are not yet fully united are ordinarily not admitted to Holy Communion. Eucharistic sharing in exceptional circumstances by other Christians requires permission according to the directives of the diocesan bishop and the provisions of canon law (canon 844 §4). Members of the Orthodox Churches, the Assyrian Church of the East, and the Polish National Catholic Church are urged to respect the discipline of their own Churches. According to Roman Catholic discipline, the Code of Canon Law does not object to the reception of Communion by Christians of these Churches (canon 844 §3).

FOR THOSE NOT RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

All who are not receiving Holy Communion are encouraged to express in their hearts a prayerful desire for unity with the Lord Jesus and with one another.

FOR NON-CHRISTIANS

We also welcome to this celebration those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ. While we cannot admit them to Holy Communion, we ask them to offer their prayers for the peace and the unity of the human family.

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Sundays Readings:

First Reading: Isaiah 66:10-14c p. 54

The prophet said, "Rejoice with Jerusalem and be glad because of her, all you who love her...As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you."

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 66:1-3,4-5,6-7p.55

“Let all the earth cry out to God with joy!”

Second Reading: Galatians 6:14-18, p.55 Paul boasted only in his acceptance of the cross of the Lord Jesus Christ, for upon those who embrace the cross flow the peace and mercy of God.

Gospel: Luke10:1-12p. 56

Jesus sent out an additional seventy-two disciples to spread the good news and care for the sick. They were to take nothing with them but to rely on those they served. They were to bring the peace and goodness of God’s reign.

Registration 2019-2020

Started on Saturday June 15, 2019 - July 31, 2019 (Wednesday & Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 pm)

Classes will begin September 7, 2019

All are welcome to our Up Coming Events

- This Monday, July 8, we will have our monthly Food Distribution for the needy in our community. If you are in need of food, please stop by the Parish Office on Monday, from 9:00am to 2:00pm.
- Bible Sharing: Do you want to learn more about the Word of God during the week, in English. Call and let us know whether Wednesday beginning in the month of September is convenient for you.
- St. Joseph Medical Pastoral Care Department (127 South Broadway, Yonkers) is looking for volunteers to bring Communion to hospital patients and nursing home residents one or two days a week. If you are interested in this wonderful ministry and are not a Eucharistic Minister we will be happy to provide training and preparation. If you are already a Eucharistic Minister this is an opportunity to expand your ministry. To volunteer or to inquire about this please call Sr. Ellen O’Connor, ASCJ at 914-378-7648 or email her at pastoral.com@saintjosephs.org.

***Mass Schedule for the week of
July 6, 2019 to July 13, 2019***
Special Intentions for this week

Saturday, July 6, 2019:

12:05pm— Available/Disponibile

5:00pm - Rose & Joanne Kunny + * the Kunny Family

7:30pm - Legion of Mary

Sunday, July 7, 2019:

7:30 am – Theresa Joseph + *Thomas Joseph

9:00 am – Prageda Cordero+ *Sacred Heart of Jesus Society

11:00 am - Anthony & Margaret Mary Felicissimo + *Tony Felicissimo

Monday, July 8, 2019:

8:15am - Available/Disponibile

12:05pm Albert Lombardo *Stephanie Otero

Tuesday July 9, 2019:

8:15am - Available/Disponibile

12:05pm – Available/Disponibile

Wednesday, July 10, 2019:

8:15am - Available/Disponibile

12:05 pm – Available/Disponibile

Thursday, July 11, 2019:

8:15am - Available/Disponibile

12:05 pm— Baby Rory Rodden * Winifred & John O’Flaherty

7:00 pm - Lila Perez *Lila Perez

Friday, July 12, 2019:

8:15am - Available/Disponibile

12:05 pm – Available/Disponibile

Saturday, July 13, 2019:

12:05pm— Available/Disponibile

5:00pm - Sonia Torres + * Edgardo Torres & Family

7:30pm - Gabriela Pereyra+ *Ana Medina

+ Indicates deceased * Indicates the person (s) who requested the Mass.

Security Cameras :

The security cameras are now in place inside and outside of the Church

24 Hour Surveillance

Both Video & Audio