**Please Take Spare Pew Bulletins** to anyone housebound or absent from church.

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**Before** the service, talk to God.

During the service, listen to God.

After the service, talk with each other.

**FAITH BOOK**: Mini-reflections on the Sunday scripture readings designed for persons on the run. From today’s Gospel reading: At that time the Lord appointed seventy-two others whom he sent ahead of him in pairs to every town and place he intended to visit.

**Reflection**: The biblical number 72 represents all the nations, all the peoples of the earth. When Jesus sends out 72, it’s an outreach to all people and a statement about the universality of God salvific reach. The kingdom of God, which these missionaries will announce, is for everyone – all races and nations. No one is left out; no one is excluded. So, we ask ourselves: By our baptism we are all appointed as prophets. To whom is Jesus sending me? • What am I to say to them?

Jude Siciliano, OP, Southern Dominican Province, USA

In today’s Gospel reading Jesus instructs seventy followers about spreading the Good News. Going out in pairs, everything is to be done systematically but it is to be done without getting bogged down in unnecessary preparation, without being distracted on the way, without wasting time on the unreceptive.

• Lord, help me to find ways and opportunities to spread the Good News of your love for the world.

• Give thanks for the work and witness of the Church of Pakistan.

Text: Robert McLean ©

**Travel for the Lord**

Any travel, including vacation, should have a purpose. For some, travel provides an escape and a diversion. For others, travel provides a way to reconnect with family and friends. Others travel for business. Luke's gospel about the seventy missionaries challenges us, modern Christian travellers. No matter where we go, no matter what reason we have for travel, how can we bring the Good News to others we visit?

Larry Broding

word-sunday.com

**CONNECTING WITH LIFE:**

**LOCAL APPLICATION:**

It is often tempting as we seek to share Christ’s message in the Church and into our communities to think about making big changes and attempting big, attention grabbing projects. However, our impact is often less about how we structure our services or what kind of music we use or how “prominent” we are in our community. Often it is in the quiet work of nurturing care and service within our community, and in doing the slow, transformative work of growing into caring, serving Christ followers in our homes, workplaces and sports clubs (as Galatians calls us) that ultimately determines how effective our ministry is. When, instead of pointing fingers at “the world” we are willing to accept its “hospitality” speaking blessing, and offering grace and mercy and justice in every situation and with every person (as the disciples were called to do), then people begin coming to us to learn more about our faith and the One we follow. But, if we fail to do this, then no amount of words or programs will be enough to compensate for our lack of grace and goodness. It’s significant that, even when the disciples were told to “shake the dust off their feet” when they were not received in a village, they were, nevertheless instructed to tell the people that God’s Reign had come to them. It was not that they were “judging” the people, so much as using a graphic and powerful image to challenge them about what they had rejected. God’s love and grace remained available to the people. In the same way, we can confront the small injustices in our communities, while still offering grace. And, in the end, what is important is not the dramatic confrontations, but the people whose names are “written in heaven” – who have discovered life in the dream of God.

Sacredise

**It's Worth Any Sacrifice**

It's worth any sacrifice

however great or costly,

to see eyes that were listless, light up again;

to see someone smile

who seemed to have forgotten how to smile;

to see trust reborn

in someone who no longer believed

in anything or anyone.

Dom Helder Camara

A cup of cold water. A shared piece of bread. A touch on the arm. The gentle stroke of a hand on your forehead as you lie in pain. A kind word.

Jesus sent the seventy into the towns where he would eventually preach. These forerunners, charged with a sort of knightly code of honour, healed the sick and proclaimed the Kingdom of God.

The people Jesus sent out were changed by their acts of mercy. Rather than our actions bringing about the Kingdom in the world, the Kingdom of God comes forth in us through our actions and our interaction with those we serve. Love’s demands transform us and that is worth any sacrifice necessary.

Ever healing and healed,

Suzanne Guthrie

At the Edge of the Enclosure

**Monastic Wisdom**

**Diversity**

The neighbourhoods of heaven will surely not have divisions marked by the boundaries which so often tragically divide us on earth. The glorious panoply of God’s creation is surely a foretaste of the magnificent beauty, diversity, and splendour of all eternity where we will belong, one with another, as children of God.

Br. Curtis Almquist, SSJE

**Healing**

All too often we identify someone with their demons. As soon as we do so, we see only the things that they do wrong. We become blind to the person and, more importantly, we forget that that person is sick and hurt and probably crying out for help. These cries may take the form of self-destruction, isolation, and instability, all symptoms of a greater illness that needs healing.

Br. Jack Crowley, SSJE

**Vocation**

We are responsible daily to contribute what we can for the common good, each in our own different way. At the very least, we contribute our kindness and gratitude, and with great generosity. Saint Paul says, point blank: “Stop complaining; get to work.” So for you? What do you need to work on today, in yourself and on behalf of others? What is your vocation today?

**Love's Demands**

Love will make demands on us. It will question us from within. It will disturb us. Sadden us. Play havoc with our feelings. Harass us. Reveal our superficialities. But at last it will bring us to the light.

Carlo Carreto

God does not hurry over things; time is His, not mine, and I, little creature, have been called to be transformed into God by sharing His life. And what transforms me is the charity which he pours into my heart. Love transforms me slowly into God.

Carlo Carretto

*Jesus, may we be quick to recognise*

*accept*

*and honour hospitality*

*even when it is offered*

*where we were not expecting it;*

*and may we be quick to extend*

*maintain*

*and defend the hospitality*

*which is the hallmark of your Kingdom.*

*Amen*

*Pat Bennett*

As two pieces of wax fused together make one, so he who receives Holy Communion is so united with Christ that Christ is in Him and He is in Christ.

Cyril of Alexandria (376-444), Bishop & Teacher of the Faith

*To forgive does not mean to forget; to forgive means, with pain and compassion in the soul, to say: when the Last Judgement comes, I will stand up and say: do not judge him, Lord.*

*Metropolitan Anthony Bloom*

Your true character is most accurately measured by how you treat those who can do ‘Nothing’ for you.

Mother Teresa

*If God forgives us, we must forgive ourselves otherwise it’s like setting up ourselves*

*as a higher tribunal than him.*

C. S. Lewis

The mark of a great church is not how many people come, but how many people live differently for having been there.

Mindful Christianity