



CELEBRATING AT HOME

14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Missionaries of the Kingdom (Luke 10:1-12)



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Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

The Lord is here, present among us.

**We are gathered with the whole Church in
this moment of prayer.**

Preparing to hear the Word

Lord Jesus, you are the Way that leads to life.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you are the Truth that sets us free.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you are Love that fills our hearts.

Lord, have mercy.

Scripture Reading (*Luke 10:1-12*)

The Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them out ahead of him, in pairs, to all the towns and places he himself was to visit. He said to them, 'The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest. Start off now, but remember, I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. Carry no purse, no haversack, no sandals. Salute no one on the road. Whatever house you go into, let your first words be, "Peace to this house!" And if a man of peace lives there, your peace will go and rest on him; if not, it will come back to you. Stay in the same house, taking what food and drink they have to offer, for the labourer deserves his wages; do not move from house to house. Whenever you go into a town where they make you welcome, eat what is set before you. Cure those in it who are sick, and say, "The kingdom of God is very near to you."

Reflection - *Missionaries of the Kingdom*

On the road to Jerusalem, Jesus teaches the disciples the meaning of 'following' him. Part of that following is the proclamation of the Kingdom - drawing attention to the reign of God in the world and in its peoples.

There is a sense of simplicity and urgency as Jesus commissions the seventy-two to spread the Good News of God's involvement in human life.

The Gospel, of course, is not about an historical 72 people being sent out. It is about the mission of every disciple of Jesus. Spreading the message of the Gospel is always to be done in a non-threatening way - by winning over hearts and minds through good example and good living. It is best accomplished by making oneself vulnerable and keeping oneself focussed on the mission rather than on comfort. Real rejoicing is not to be had in the conversion of great numbers of people, but in knowing that one has done the word and the will of God.

Disciples can't afford to be weighed down by too many things or lost in idle conversation (gossip). They are to be bearers of the peace of God - a peace which heals, strengthens, soothes, frees and restores. Difficulties will be encountered, but the disciples will not be overcome.

That is the cause for the rejoicing sung about in the first reading from the prophet Isaiah. God is at work among his people like a nurturing mother and a flowing river bringing nourishment, peace, comfort and delight. People flourish when the presence of God is recognised and welcomed.

May that presence be always seen and felt in us.

A committed missionary
knows the joy of being a spring
which overflows and refreshes others..

Only the person who feels happiness
in seeking the good of others,
in desiring their happiness,
can be a missionary.

The Joy of the Gospel n. 272

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Prayers of Intercession

Your kingdom is near and within us.

Send us to heal the world with compassion and forgiveness.

May we always proclaim your Kingdom
with peace, love and healing.

May we be of one mind and heart in our mission,
working side by side in our ministry to the world.

Lord's Prayer

Formed by the teaching and example of Jesus,
we pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.**

Thy kingdom come.

**Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread
and forgive us our trespasses**

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

**And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

Closing Prayer

Lord, our God,
may the clear light of your love
fill our lives and be seen and felt
in our words and actions,
now and always,
through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Blessing

May your blessing be with us, O Lord,
keeping us safe,
and bringing us to life.

Amen.



Journey into the Light

This resource is presented by the Carmelites for use by individuals, families and small groups as a prayerful celebration of the Word of God to help prepare us to celebrate the Eucharist with our worshipping communities. We are conscious that Christ is present not only in the Blessed Sacrament but also in the Scriptures and in our hearts. We are also conscious of the many people who, for various reasons including sickness and infirmity, cannot physically attend the Eucharist. Even when we are on our own we remain part of the Body of Christ.

In the room you decide to use for this prayer you could have a lighted candle, a crucifix and the Bible. These symbols help keep us mindful of the sacredness of our time of prayer and can help us feel connected with our local worshipping communities.

This text is arranged with parts for a leader and for all to pray, but the leader's parts can be shared among those present.

As you use this prayer know that the Carmelites will be remembering in our prayer all the members of our family.



The Carmelites
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