

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (or a hymn) As for me, in justice I shall behold your face: I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 84)

ANTIPHON: Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

RESPONSE: Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

LECTOR: I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace, peace for his people. His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land. **R.**

LECTOR: Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced. Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven. **R.**

LECTOR: The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit. Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps. **R.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our hearts that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (or a hymn) The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

Or

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him, says the Lord.

TODAY'S READINGS Amos 7:12-15; Ephesians 1:3-14; Mark 6:7-13

NEXT WEEK (16th Sunday of Year B) Jeremiah 23:1-6; Psalm 22; Ephesians 2:13-18; Mark 6:30-34

A friend
in God

Prayer is Life

In the podcast Prayer and Friendship, Redemptorist priest David Hore CSsR reflects on the wisdom of St Alphonsus Liguori and St Teresa of Avila. As Fr David eloquently puts it, "Prayer is not just a practice but a sharing of our innermost thoughts and fears with a friend who accepts us unconditionally". To listen go to [media/prayer-is-life-podcast/](https://www.majellan.media/prayer-is-life-podcast/)



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Making a
difference



14 July 2024 15th Sunday Year B

Giovanni di Pietro di Bernadone was wealthy, popular and influential. Yet, he renounced his wealth, privilege and lavish lifestyle to follow Jesus and to proclaim the good news of the Gospel. Francis of Assisi, as we now know him, embraced poverty, dressing himself in a coarse woolen tunic, the dress of poor Umbrian peasants.

In today's gospel, Jesus sent out the Twelve, selected from among his disciples. He sent out the disciples in pairs, emphasising the importance of community. The disciples went forth together to preach the good news, drive out demons and heal people. Jesus also gave them specific instructions about travelling light: they were to bring no food, money, or even a spare tunic. They were utterly dependent on the providence of God and the hospitality of others.

Our call to discipleship is a profound call to live and love radically. In his encyclical Fratelli Tutti, Pope Francis encourages us all to follow the example of St Francis who embraced simplicity and poverty, sowed seeds of peace and love, and walked alongside the least of his brothers and sisters. Pope Francis describes St Francis's attitude of "fraternal openness" which allowed him to "acknowledge, appreciate and love each person".

This call to live simply does not mean that being poor is in itself a virtue. In fact, poverty often exists because of unjust social structures which widen gaps between rich and poor and do not provide for those in need. Rather, we are called to be free from accruing status,

possessions and self-importance, in order to commit ourselves deeply to living the gospel. This attitude grounds us in an entirely different set of values from those held by the world. It also emboldens us to strive to create just social structures which distribute wealth equitably and empower the weak.

Jon Owen, who leads Wayside Chapel, Sydney, is a contemporary example of this call to live Jesus's commission. The Wayside Chapel, which has more than 600 volunteers, supports the homeless, drug addicts, domestic violence victims and refugees. It provides showers, emergency clothing, and free meals, as well as counselling, employment support, and social activities like bingo and music jam sessions.

While studying at university, Jon felt the need to work for Urban Neighbours of Hope. He left an upwardly mobile path in life to take vows of poverty in order to work with the disadvantaged. Later, with his wife Lisa, he opened their Sydney home to those in need, including refugees, former criminals and recovering drug addicts. Jon's attitude that "no one is a problem to be solved but a person to be met" has inspired him to reach people who would otherwise remain unseen.

May the radical love of Jesus inspire all of us to make a difference in our communities and in the world today.

Sophie Clement
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