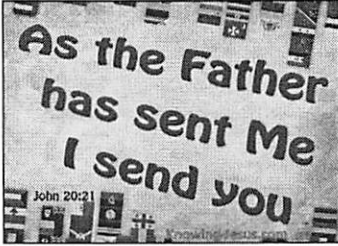


July 11th - Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



From the Desk of the Pastor ...

Prophet Amos is probably one of the best-known prophets. Prior to his calling to prophesy in Israel, he was a peaceful, simple, ordinary common poor shepherd taking care of his flock in Judah. God commissions him to shepherd Israel in one of the most difficult times of national disintegration and humiliation. It is a time of crisis not only for the prophet personally, but also ... a heightened moment of fragmentation, disintegration, of God's Chosen People:

The twelve tribes of Israel were divided into two kingdoms – Israel in the north and Judah in the south. The temple of Jerusalem was in the south. The northern kings did not want their people to go to Jerusalem and so they built a rival temple at Bethel. The kings appointed priests and prophets, and since they were on the payroll of the kings, they preached what tickled the ears of the kings.

Amos is not "hired" by anyone, rather, is called and commissioned by Yahweh to a prophetic ministry, to speak the authentic word of God, and convey God's will, with the responsibility of eternal salvation of the people entrusted to his care. Amos does just that till he is expelled from the northern kingdom.

Jesus sends the twelve apostles to preach repentance, heal the sick and drive out demons. Perhaps this was not what the disciples thought they signed up for, when they left their fishing nets and customs post. They expected a Messiah to be powerful enough to free Israel from foreign domination. As followers of such a mighty king, they did not expect to find themselves out on the road without food, money and extra coat....

In much the same manner, we open the door with one 'yes', which leads to another and another. Often we find ourselves in a place we never intended to go and often in a task we thought beyond us....

Our God of surprises does not reveal his plan to us all at once, does he? Psalm 119:105 says, "A lamp to my feet is your word, a light to my path." God reveals his plan step by step.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK	
Saturday, July 10	
9:00am	† <i>Albert & Michael Gragnani</i>
4:30pm	† <i>Rufino Labari</i>
Sunday, July 11	
8:00am	<i>St. John Parishioners</i>
10:00am	† <i>Estela Ubaldo Anchors</i>
12:00pm	<i>Alma Valerio (hmg)</i>
Monday, July 12	
9:00am	<i>YMI Brothers</i>
Tuesday, July 13	
9:00am	† <i>Benny Falcon</i>
Wednesday, July 14	
9:00am	† <i>Paul Wing</i>
Thursday, July 15	
9:00am	
Friday, July 16	
9:00am	<i>Our Lady of Mt. Carmel</i>
Saturday, July 17	
9:00am	
4:30pm	† <i>Rodrigo Tarantan</i>



PARISH COMMUNITY NEWS

The Church is open for weekend masses

Saturday mass at 4:30pm and Sunday masses are celebrated at 8am & 10am in English and 12 noon en espanol
The church is open for personal prayer and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Sundays from 7:30am to 1:00pm.
 The Parish thanks the Knights of Columbus, Council 615 and our liturgical ministers who generously offer their time, talent and treasure in faithful stewardship every weekend, keeping watch in the church and taking care of the church

This weeks second collection is for the **2020 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal as of June 8, 2021.**
 Parish Assessment \$ 33,576.00
 YTD we paid: \$ 15,263.00
 Balance we owe: \$ 18,313.00

Kindly consider helping meet our goal. Thank you for your continued generous support.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION	
COLECTA DE LA SEMANA PASADA	
June 28 th - July 4 th , 2021	
Weekend Offering.....	\$2,422.84
Reserve.....	\$ 1,314.62

COLLECTION DATA	
COLLECTIONS:	
June 6	\$ 2,519.90
June 13.....	\$ 2,607.93
June 20.....	\$ 2,060.00
June 27	\$ 2,690.66
Total	\$ 9,878.49

	<p style="text-align: center;">The Parish Office has moved</p> <p>Effective Monday, June 21, 2021, our Parish Office has been relocated to the Rectory, at 19 St. Marys Avenue. Our telephone number and hours of operation remain the same, Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.</p>
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Two By Two...Did you ever wonder why Jesus sent them out two by two? Not threes, not groups of four? Perhaps it is just the most practical configuration. Recall that in last week's Gospel Jesus was not accepted in his own town and was astonished by the lack of faith that he found there. The disciples would be too new in their faith to know how to deal with that kind of rejection. With three you always end up two against one. With a pair, the two could support each other emotionally and spiritually, and lift each other up in prayer. When traveling, having a companion was much safer than being on one's own, and if there were treacherous spots in the journey, they could help each other through. If you were begging for lodging, two might be able to get in, while a larger group might not be so fortunate. The Gospel gives no indication of who the partners were, but presumably they were sent in combinations that made each pair the strongest proclaimers of Christ. They were able to drive off many demons and cure illnesses.

Shake The Dust Off Your Feet...Jesus told the pairs of disciples, "Whatever place does not welcome you or listen to you, leave there and shake the dust off your feet in testimony against them." Jesus is preparing the disciples for the experience he had in his home town. This is how you behave when you are not accepted. He didn't tell them to curse them or threaten them, just simply shake off the dust and move on. Rejection is a hard thing for any of us, and Jesus is teaching us how to handle it, as if to say "Pick your battles." This is a good reminder to us all in a time and culture when the climate is so politically charged. Know when it is best to shake the dust and walk away from social media, from an angry word, or from something that won't turn out well.

Jesus continues to send us into the world as his disciples, we are not sent alone. He gives us the community of the Church.