

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Luke 10:1–12, 17–20

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Today's Gospel presents us with a powerful and joyful moment in the life of Jesus' ministry: the sending out of the seventy-two disciples. He sends them in pairs, ahead of Him, to every town and place He intends to visit. Their mission is clear: to proclaim that the Kingdom of God is near, to bring peace, to heal the sick, and to rely entirely on God's providence.

This passage is rich with meaning for us today. Let us reflect on three key themes: mission, trust, and true joy.

1. We Are All Sent

Jesus doesn't send only the Twelve Apostles, He sends seventy-two others. This is a reminder that the mission of the Church is not limited to a few. Every baptized person is called to be a missionary, to prepare the way for Christ in the hearts of others.

We are sent into our homes, workplaces, schools, and communities to be messengers of peace and hope. Like the disciples, we are called to bring healing, perhaps not through miracles, but through compassion, listening, and acts of love.

The harvest is still abundant, and the laborers are still few. Will we say yes to being sent?

2. Trust in God's Providence

Jesus tells the disciples to travel light: no money bag, no sack, no sandals. Why? Because He wants them to trust completely in God and in the hospitality of others.

This is a challenge for us. We often want to be in control, to have everything planned and secured. But the Gospel invites us to let go of our need for certainty and to walk in faith. When we rely on God, we discover that He provides, often in unexpected ways.

Where in our lives is Jesus asking us to trust Him more deeply?

3. Rejoice in What Truly Matters

When the disciples return, they are full of joy: "Lord, even the demons are subject to us because of your name!" But Jesus gently redirects their excitement: "Do not rejoice because the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice because your names are written in heaven."

In other words, our deepest joy should not come from success or power, but from our relationship with God. We are loved, chosen, and known by name. That is the source of our peace and our strength.

Dear brothers and sisters, this Gospel is not just a story from the past, it is a call to action today. Jesus is still sending us out, still asking us to trust, still inviting us to rejoice in what truly matters.

Let us go forth as His disciples:

- Bringing peace where there is division,
- Healing where there is hurt,
- And proclaiming with our lives that the Kingdom of God is near.
- And may we always remember: our names are written in heaven.

Amen.