



12th July 2009 Fifteenth Sunday of the Year (B)

This Week's Readings

First Reading: Amos 7: 12-15.

Amos is not a prophet by profession, but because God sent him.

Second Reading: Ephesians 1: 3-10.

Each one of us has a place in God's plan from all eternity.

Gospel: Mark 6: 7-13.

The Twelve are sent out by Jesus with nothing to rely on but his loving presence.



Points for Reflection

Today's Gospel tells us that Jesus "summoned the Twelve and began to send them out..." As from this moment, the Apostles become Jesus' partners: they are sent out by him to preach the Gospel and pave the way to the coming of God's kingdom of love into the hearts and lives of their listeners, inviting them to repentance, and freeing them of all unclean spirits.

- This is only the first of innumerable sendings out of missionaries to all the parts of the world till today and till the end of times.
- From today's Gospel and the Lord's command at the end of the Gospel according to Mark: "Go into the world and proclaim the good news to all creation" (Mk 16:15), we are reminded that the Church's primordial duty is the preaching of the Gospel. This duty is resting on all the members of the Church. The true disciple of Jesus tries all his best to bring his Master new disciples.

But how? Jesus makes it clear in today's Gospel that mission is a matter first and foremost of bearing witness to the One who sends us. We are sent by Jesus and with nothing else to

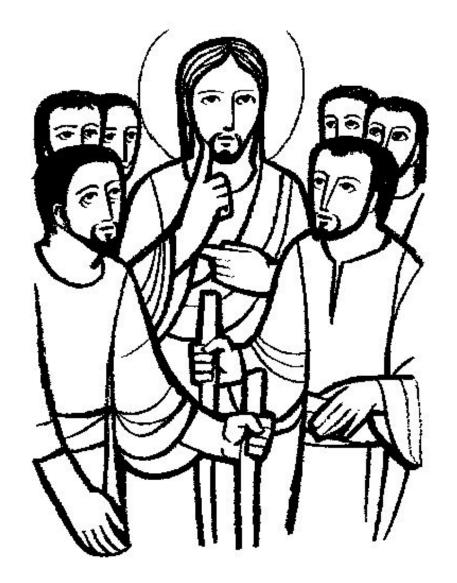
rely on but his presence among us ("I will be with you every day..."): a presence which can be made visible only through our Christlike lives.

- Amos (First Reading) is not a prophet by profession, i.e. one who is paid for his prophetic ministry. His ministry is free, and from this position of complete freedom, his proclamation of the Word of God will gain strength.
- Similarly, Jesus sent the Apostles out without purse or food or supplies. They were rich with his presence and the power of his saving love. By trusting in him and putting their hopes in him, they were able to carry out their mission.
- By putting our hope in Jesus Christ our Lord and trying our best to imitate him, especially in his loving concern for those in spiritual and material needs, we too will be able to bring him new disciples, or we will at least be witness to his saving presence among us. Unless we live as Jesus lived and wants us to live, we cannot accomplish our prophetic mission, and the world will not come to know the true Jesus: his meekness, poverty and loving concern for sinners, the poor, the outcast, the oppressed and all those who are suffering.

Sacred Heart Church Sai Kung (E-mail: sacredheart@netvigator.com)				
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		(with answering machine)	Sundays:	9.00 am (English)
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Parish Priest:	Fr Carlo Tei	carlotei@gmail.com	Anticipated Sunday Masses	
			Saturdays:	6.00 pm (English)
	Fr Sergio Ticozzi, Sr Mary Leung			7.30 pm (Chinese)
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			Weekdays:	7.00 am (Chinese)
Secretary:	Miss Tse Choi Ping		Confessions:	
Office hours:	Mon-Fridays: 9.00	0am - 1.00pm; 2.00pm - 5.30pm	Sundays before Mass and during the 7.45 am Mass	
	Sundays: 8.45	5am – 12 noon	Weekdays on call	
Parish Council		Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:		
Chairlady:	Miss Candy Ch	an Tel: 23265322	Thursdays:	2.30 pm
			1 st Thursday of the month:	8.00 pm

Kids' Corner

Colour the picture below based on today's Gospel reading.



 $http://www.mscperu.org/grafic/graficoslit/bTO/15_to_b.htm$