

SEPTEMBER 22, 2021
Wednesday of the 25th Week in Ordinary Time
Luke 9: 1-6

“PROCLAIM JESUS TO OTHERS.”

All those who followed Jesus Christ especially the Twelve always heard the Words, witnessed the Works and learned from them. Jesus taught the disciples by words and by witnessing. He showed them how to do the mission. The beginning of the chapter nine of Luke’s Gospel, our gospel for today, speaks about the sending of His chosen Twelve for the mission. Jesus instructed them the do’s and don’ts of the journey: “Take nothing for your journey, no staff, nor bag, nor bread, nor money—not even an extra tunic. Whatever house you enter, stay there, and leave from there.”¹ This instruction was simple but need to be followed as this will be their future guideline: to travel light, in total freedom and not bring anything which can be a distraction and make travelling difficult. They must rely on the generosity and support of the people in return for their services, the traditional way of the Middle East. This was the first time Jesus commanded and sent them alone and without Him. They were instructed to do exactly what Jesus does, gave them power and authority over all demons and cure diseases and proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom. This was the beginning of the Church, the mission entrusted to the Twelve and the people who heard and accepted them must support and be hospitable to missionaries.

My brothers and sisters, this is the same mission given and entrusted to all of us corresponding to our life situation. We are to do the mission, called as individual and as a community, to bring glad tidings, proclaim the Good News of salvation by word and deeds. “We are called to help liberate people from the negative forces, addictions of all kinds that can enslave. We are called to be sources of healing and wholeness and for this

¹ Luke 9: 3-4 Holy Bible NRSVCE Canadian Bible Society

we do not need to be part of the medical profession. We are called to live lives of simplicity, using only those things which we need for life and work and rejecting all superfluity and luxury.”² We must model our lives to our Master, who gave His life for the ransom of many, who came not for the just but sinners, and to serve and not to be served by others. Let us, therefore, missionaries for Jesus to our friends, families and in our community. Let love and service govern our home, offices, parishes and society. Let us always carry and bring Jesus to others today and always.

² livingspace.sacredspace.ie