

# FAITH FOR SUNDAY

July 7, 2024 Year B

fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



## OPENING PRAYER

**+In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Amen**

Father God, thank you for this time with you. May the Holy Spirit be upon me, that I may receive wisdom from your Word, be open to Your holy Will and give glory to You always. Through Christ our Lord, Amen

Our Father + Hail Mary + Glory Be

## LECTIO DIVINA

Invite the Holy Spirit - Read - Reflect - Respond in Prayer - Rest in Silence

### **Gospel: Mark 6: 1-6**

Jesus departed from there and came to his native place, accompanied by his disciples. When the sabbath came he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astonished. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What kind of wisdom has been given him? What mighty deeds are wrought by his hands! Is he not the carpenter, the son of Mary, and the brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his native place and among his own kin and in his own house." So he was not able to perform any mighty deed there, apart from curing a few sick people by laying his hands on them. He was amazed at their lack of faith.

Jesus is rejected in his hometown. In his ministry, he is extending the work to his disciples. What prevented Jesus from performing miracles in Nazareth? Jesus, being rejected is a foretaste of what we can expect to experience as a disciple of Christ. How can we accept this possible consequence?

### **Reading I: Ezekiel 2:2-5**

As the LORD spoke to me, the spirit entered into me and set me on my feet, and I heard the one who was speaking say to me: Son of man, I am sending you to the Israelites, rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have revolted against me to this very day. Hard of face and obstinate of heart are they to whom I am sending you. But you shall say to them: Thus says the LORD GOD! And whether they heed or resist—for they are a rebellious house— they shall know that a prophet has been among them.

The Lord sends the prophet Ezekiel to the Israelites. Whether born or made, a prophet's mission is daunting. For Ezekiel, the spirit enters him and prepares him for the power to hear God's voice. The rebellious people are met with messages that begin with, "Thus says the LORD GOD". Why is this important to convey? Taking Ezekiel's example in this passage, how can we be prepared to do God's work?

# Notes

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM RESPONSE: Our eyes are fixed on the Lord, pleading for his mercy.**

**Reading II: 2 Corinthians 12:7-10**

Brothers and sisters: That I, Paul, might not become too elated, because of the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, an angel of Satan, to beat me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I begged the Lord about this, that it might leave me, but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." I will rather boast most gladly of my weaknesses, in order that the power of Christ may dwell with me. Therefore, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and constraints, for the sake of Christ; for when I am weak, then I am strong.

St. Paul bears insults and weakness for the sake of Christ. He defends his authority with the early Christian communities. Why was it important for St. Paul to talk about the thorn in his side? In doing so, where is the focus pointed to? What does this do for St. Paul's testimony about his own authority?

**Feast days this week**

**SUNDAY 7 FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**MONDAY 8 WEEKDAY**  
**TUESDAY 9 WEEKDAY**  
**WEDNESDAY 10 WEEKDAY**  
**THURSDAY 11 SAINT BENEDICT, ABBOT, MEMORIAL**  
**FRIDAY 12 WEEKDAY**  
**SATURDAY 13 WEEKDAY**

*reflect*

Have there been times when God could not act in my life because of my lack of faith?

*pray*

Father God, may I only boast of Your goodness, Through Christ our Lord, Amen

*live*

Your works and vocation are a result of God's grace and power.