

Gospel 18 July 2021. Cycle B

Sunday, 16th week Ordinary Time

A LOVING AND MERCIFUL GOD



YOU ALWAYS CARE FOR US

AMBIENCE

Lord, with your way of being kind, welcoming and merciful, you comfort me. Come to me Lord that I love you; heal my wounds and give me strength so that my being is energized and I can resume the path that you show me and to which you send me.

Help me to look at the world with your eyes, with your touch and with your paternal-maternal care.

Take care of me so that I can take care of others with healing words and gestures that emanate from You.

SONG. You are mine: David Hass

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sgm9lkTNQmc>

GOSPEL - Mark 6, 30-34

“The apostles re-joined Jesus and told him all they had done and taught. And he said to them, 'Come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while'; for there were so many coming and going that there

was no time for them even to eat. So they went off in the boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But people saw them going, and many recognised them; and from every town they all hurried to the place on foot and reached it before them. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he set himself to teach them at some length."

Deepening the Gospel

Previous week, we saw Jesus sending for first time the twelve Apostles to the Mission (Mk 6, 7-13). And Mark quickly described how they had done it: «they went to proclaim repentance; and they cast out many devils, and anointed many sick people with oil and cured them. » (Mark 6, 12-13) ... Then, it can be said that they did exactly what they had seen that Jesus was doing since they met Him: heal the sick, cast out demons, teach. With this, Mark wants to make his readers to understand that the mission of the Twelve is in perfect continuity with the mission of Jesus

And now we are witnessing the return of the Twelve: "After their first mission, the apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him everything they had done and taught." It is the first time that Mark uses the word "apostles" (which means "sent" on mission). Until now, Jesus called them the "disciples" ("followers"): from now on, they share the mission of Jesus.

Curiously, when returning from the mission, the first thing that Jesus proposes is that they take distance: "Come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while." New parallelism: after his journey to Capernaum, where he had taught abundantly, healed the sick and cast out demons, (1, 21-34), Marcos pointed out: «At dawn, while it was still night, Jesus got up, went out and leave to a lonely place; and he prayed. Jesus had been very successful that day and then he withdrew to regain strength in prayer. Those from all times, who are «sent» are without any doubt, invited to do the same: Mark repeats for two times this retreat of Jesus and his Apostles, «set apart in a lonely place» (v. 31 et 32). In fact, what Jesus proposes is a revitalization for serving better to the crowds. ».

But the crowd follow them, they go ahead and, with them, the mission becomes a demand; «He took pity on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd » Here, we understand that the complaints of Jeremiah against the bad shepherds who have misled the people of Israel are echoing (It is the theme of the first reading). And, since many centuries ago, a Messiah who were a true Shepherd was expected. Mark says to us that this time, the Good Shepherd, the Messiah, is among us.

Keys for the Prayer

1. “The Apostles met Jesus and told Him everything they have done”. What does this statement mean in your life?
2. How do you live the continuity of your mission with the mission of Jesus? Where and with whom do you seek rest, after the great activity?
3. Does the need for rest keep you from feeling compassion for those who are lost, “like sheep without a shepherd”?

I WANT TO CARE LIKE YOU, IN YOUR OWN WAY

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC. Rivers of Love

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bq8st47OQcs>

CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER

Like in a stream of life
That does not search for their own desire,
But allows to be my own
the desires of other people
from near or far,
to be my reason and determination.
To give way to life.
When somebody calls
or seek for you,
you leave everything,
because that is the best thing
that it can happen to us
in this very present moment, now.
Time of others.
Take care of me, Lord,
That I may care for others.
You, care for me when I am,
And when I like to be.
You care for me when I give
My back and I do not see You.
You care for me when before an injustice
I keep quiet
And you make me to react and do something.

You care for me when I feel bad,

When I am down and sad...
You tell me: Breath,
I take courage and I stand up.
You care for me
When I am self- centered.
You help me to stop,
to look around and up,
and take again the road to others.
You care for me when the things,
The conflicts, the others...
Are indifferent to me.
You touch my life and
Makes me to see what is going on
in other people.
You create everything for the man,
The earth, the air,
The water, what is green...for us.
Make me aware Lord,
Of the great feast of life,
Of the human scenes,
Rich and bearers of mutual encouragement,
In which everybody matters
And in which is needed to be done
For each other....to care for each other;
Listening,
Welcoming
Sharing our gifts
And dreaming together a strong, human
and fraternal future.
Take care of us,
To be able to care for everyone
And everything.

SONG. Be not afraid | Jesuit Hymns

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wlyit1KD4hE>



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