

**Let us praise the name of the Lord!**

Isaiah 66:10-14c

Psalm 66:1-7, 16+20

Galatians 6:14-18

Luke 10:1-12, 17-20

In the first reading Isaiah tells the Israelites to rejoice, be glad, and exult in Jerusalem where they shall find comfort. Their bodies will flourish as their hearts rejoice. Prosperity will spread like a river, and the Lord's power shall be known to his servants and his wrath to the enemies.

The psalmist shouts joyfully to God and encourages everyone to sing praise and glorify the Lord's name. The Lord changed the sea into dry land so his people could pass through with ease. The Lord gives life to our souls and keeps us from stumbling. The psalmist asks all who fear God to hear what God has done for him in showing kindness and listening to his prayers, not rejecting him.

Paul speaks to the brothers and sisters in Galatia telling them that he never boasts in anything other than the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. Follow this rule, he says, and receive peace and mercy. Paul bears the marks of Jesus on his body and warns those who would make trouble for him. He also calls for the grace of Jesus to be with the spirits of the faithful.

In the Gospel Jesus appointed seventy-two disciples to go out in pairs. They are being sent as lambs among wolves and are to take nothing with them, not even money or sandals. They will give a blessing of peace when they enter a household and this blessing will remain with those who are truly peaceful, otherwise it will return to them. They are to shake the dust off their feet in towns that do not receive them. They returned joyfully indicating that even the demons are subject to the name of Jesus.



The works of the Father are tremendous,  
The graces of the Son great,  
Imparted to us by the Holy Spirit.

The seventy-two disciples were elated because the demons are subject to Jesus' name, but the Lord points to a greater reason for them to rejoice, namely, that their names are written in heaven and they have salvation. While we may not be sent out as the disciples were, keep in mind that those we meet in our daily routines may need an uplifting word and on this day we may be the only ones to supply it.

*I urgently desire to encourage all the members of God's People, particularly those living in America, to take up the project of evangelization and cooperate in carrying it out. In accepting this mission, everyone should keep in mind that the vital core of the new evangelization must be a clear and unequivocal proclamation of the person of Jesus Christ, that is, the preaching of his name, his teaching, his life, his promises and the kingdom which he has gained for us in this Paschal Mystery.* (Pope John Paul II)

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