

[102] SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME B

FIRST READING

The remnant of the flock I will gather to me,
to bring them back to their pastures.

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah

23:3-6

I, the Lord, will bring the rest of my people back
from the lands where I have scattered them.
I will bring them home,
and they will grow into a mighty nation.
I will choose leaders who will take care of them.
Every one of my people will be there,
and they will never again be frightened or terrified.
I, the Lord, have spoken!

“I promise that the time will come
when I will choose a king from the family of David.
He will be wise and will rule the land with justice and fairness.
As long as he is king, Judah will be safe,
and Israel will live in peace.
The name of this king will be, ‘The Lord is our Protector!’ “

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

23:1-3a, 3b-4, 6

R. (1) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

You, Lord, are my shepherd.
I will never be in need.
You let me rest in fields
of green grass.
You lead me to streams
of peaceful water,
and you refresh my life.

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

You are true to your name,
and you lead me
along the right paths.
I may walk through valleys
as dark as death,
but I won't be afraid.
You are with me,

and your shepherd's rod
makes me feel safe.

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Your kindness and love
will always be with me
every day of my life,
and I will live forever
in your house, Lord.

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

ALLELUIA

John 10:27

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;
I know them, and they follow me.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL

They were like sheep without a shepherd.

† A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark

6:30-34

After the apostles returned to Jesus,
they told him everything they had done and taught.
But so many people were coming and going
that Jesus and the apostles did not even have a chance to eat.

Then Jesus said, "Let's go to a place
where we can be alone and get some rest."
They left in a boat for a place where they could be alone.
But many people saw them leave and figured out where they were going.
So people from every town ran on ahead and got there first.

When Jesus got out of the boat,
he saw the large crowd that was like sheep without a shepherd.
He felt sorry for the people and started teaching them many things.

The gospel of the Lord.

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME Cycle B

Prayer:

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for the opportunity to show and tell others about you. Help us to take care of ourselves so that we can be good ministers to others.

In Your name, we pray.

Amen

Readings:

Jeremiah 23:3-6

Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 6

Mark 6:30-34

Reflection:

Jesus sent the apostles out to preach in last week's Gospel. In today's first reading, God says that everyone who has been sent out will be brought back. They will be brought home where they can grow and live in peace. The apostles return from their preaching in today's Gospel. They want to share with Jesus and each other all that they had seen and done so they went off to a quiet place to be alone. We need to do this too. It is one of the reasons it is so important to come to Sunday Mass. We need to be together with other people who share the same beliefs and mission. We need to share our stories, our lives and our prayers. It is important to know that while we are sent out and must individually proclaim the Good News, we will also be called home to be nourished and to find peace.

Discussion

1. How is coming to Church like coming home?
2. How does it help to be with people who have the same beliefs and calling as you do?
3. Have you ever talked to people at your Church about some of the challenges and rewards of sharing the Good News? Make a note to give it a try this week.

Activity

This week's activity is a continuation of last weeks'.

Last week the students were divided into small groups and were asked to prepare a lesson to teach preschool kids next week's Gospel story about the multiplication of the loaves and fish. This week they should take some time in their groups to put the finishing touches on their lessons. Each group should then present their lesson for the other groups so they can all see what the other groups are doing similarly or differently from theirs. The lessons should include reading the Gospel, a short prayer and teaching the story. They can do skits, play a game, sing a song, make a craft, etc. Talk about each of the lessons. Learn from each other.