

THEME:

We are empowered to build God's Kingdom as we bring the Gospel of Christ to every household.

PROMISE:

"...rejoice because your names are written in heaven." (Lk 10:20b)

WORD:

Is 66:10-14c/ Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20/ Gal 6:14-18/ Lk 10:1-12, 17 -20

ORDERS:

- "Go on your way..." (Lk 10:3)
- "Never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ." (Gal 6:14)

DIRECTIONS:

- Obey God's call to discipleship and trust in the Lord's provisions.
- Empty yourselves and follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit.
- Proclaim the Gospel of Christ by the way you live your life.

Discipling by Example

REFLECTION:

The readings for this week are filled with iov and rejoicing. In the First reading, Jerusalem is like a nursing mother to the Judeans and in the same manner that God will comfort and care for Israel as loving-mother а cares for her children. The psalmist crv out to God with joy for what God has

done for him. Paul "never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ." (Gal 6:14)

In the Second reading, Paul contrasts those who boast on their own selfreliance against those who boast on their utter dependence on God's grace. Anyone who believes in Jesus Christ is a new creation; not depending on external physical circumstances, but on one's own participation in Jesus Christ death and ultimately resurrection. Being a new creation, we become brothers and sisters, attached into the family of the Lord of all creation and sent to proclaim the



Kingdom of God. In proclaiming the kingdom of God, we need to set our lives as an example to the people. *Proclaim the Gospel of Christ by the way you live your life.*

In the Gospel reading for this week, Jesus appointed seventy-two new disciples to go in pairs of two. They were being sent with a message: the kingdom of God has come near in the person of Jesus

Christ. Which brings us to our theme for this week: We are empowered to build God's kingdom as we bring the Gospel of Christ to every household. What is true for the seventy-two also applies to us. We in the BLD community are empowered by Jesus Christ to preach the Gospel in building the kingdom of God. The Holy Spirit comes to our aid as we go on doing our task of kingdom building on this earth. As we invite and prepare a people for his kingdom, let us invite the Advocate, the Holy spirit into us.

"Go on your way..." (Luke 10:3) Jesus

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Know

St. Junipero Serra

Today, July 1, the United States celebrates the **Optional Memorial of St. Junipero Serra**. Miguel Jose Serra was born on the island of Mallorca, Spain. He took the name Junipero when he entered the Franciscan Order in 1730. Ordained in 1737, he taught philosophy and theology at the University of Padua for twelve years. At age 37, he went to Mexico City where he spent the rest of his life working for the conversion of the peoples of the New World. Largely responsible for the spread of the Church on the West Coast of the United

Pope Francis canonized Junipero Serra during his visit to the United States on September 23, 2015. The celebration for the first Hispanic saint of the U.S. was held on the lawn in front of the National Shrine in Washington, D.C.

States, Junipero founded 21 missions and converted thousands of Native Americans.



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sent the new disciples to towns. like lambs among the wolves, carrying nothing, no money bag, no sack nor sandals. They have to rely on the hospitality of those who accept them. Much like the new disciples, we are a little nervous to go on our way in service to Christ. However, as long as we remember the theme for this week, we are assured that God will help us along the way. All we have to do is to empty ourselves and follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will equip us on our way, on what to say as we go on. We don't have to worry about what we are going to bring as we go on our way, everything will be provided for us. Obey God's call to discipleship and trust in the Lord's provisions. Everything will

follow.

Along the way, the disciples encounter successes; they healed the sick, the lame walked, and they even had authority over demonic spirits. However, even Jesus said that he saw Satan fall from the sky. The power that the disciples have are dependent on that of Jesus. The successes they been encountering are given not earned. Though, we must not lose sight of the greater triumph, that is the disciples, or we, are joined into family of new creation, those who will proclaim the good news of Jesus' return so that we can invite and prepare a people for his kingdom.

As we proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ, let us always remember to be peaceful and joyful as we claim the promise "...rejoice because your names are written in heaven." (Luke 10:20b)

Say Yes

In responding to His call to discipleship, we are asked to cast our nets and call on others to a life of humility and focus on our spiritual growth. Obey God's calling and trust in His provisions. Worry not about the material wealth for it only corrupts us when obsessed upon. It's through the prompting of the Holy Spirit that we are equipped with the tools needed to proclaim the Word of God. As we go on our way spreading the good news, our names will be etched in Heaven.