



PREACHING MISSION

October 15, 2017 – Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekend before World Mission Sunday

In the Gospel for today Jesus once again speaks to the religious leaders who keep rejecting Him and trying to turn the people against His teachings. The parable uses the image of a royal feast that the invited guests, like the elders and priests, refuse to attend. So the king tells his servants: “Go out, therefore, into the main roads and invite to the feast whomever you find.’ The servants went out into the streets and gathered all they found, bad and good alike, and the hall was filled with guests” (Matthew 22:9-10).

Our Lord wants all people of every land and generation to be welcomed into His Kingdom. But we must not only accept the invitation, but also prepare ourselves by following His way of merciful and generous love. We must dress ourselves in the “wedding garment” of a life faithfully lived. We must offer ourselves to Christ, first through baptism and then through the daily commitment of thoughtful prayer, compassionate service to His people, and sincere effort to seek the Divine will. And, on this weekend before World Mission Sunday, we are reminded that we must we must share our belief in our beloved Savior with others, through word and example, by prayer and sacrifice.



PREACHING MISSION

October 22, 2017– Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

World Mission Sunday

On this World Mission Sunday, we have the wonderful opportunity to contemplate the meaning of faith in our own lives – and our own role in spreading our belief in Christ. St. Paul, the great missionary of the early Church, valued the members of the Body of Christ, and wanted them to appreciate each other in our Savior. “We give thanks to God always for all of you...unceasingly calling to mind your work of faith and labor of love and endurance in hope of our Lord Jesus Christ.... For our gospel did not come to you in word alone, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with much conviction” (1 Thessalonians 1:2-3, 5).

Paul and the other Apostles and disciples transformed the world through their far-flung journeys to preach the Good News. Today we must realize that we are still a missionary Church. The ministry, passion and death of Jesus were not just ancient historical events. Through His resurrection, Christ saved us from the consequences of sin and death. Our Lord lives as truly now as He did two thousand years ago. And it is up to us to share our faith through prayer, example and support for the Missions through the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.