



The mission of the seventy-two continues in the life of the Church today. The Church is, by nature, missionary (cf. *Ad Gentes*, 2), and every baptized person shares in this vocation. We are sent daily to proclaim the Good News—not only in word, but in action. This includes caring for the marginalized and being stewards of God’s creation.

One cannot speak of mission today without addressing the urgent call to ecological conversion. A striking incident last May, occurring just after Mother’s Day, reminded our nation of this very call. A mother elephant was seen grieving the tragic death of her calf, struck by a lorry along the East-West Highway. The image of her standing guard beside her dead male calf stirred national emotion. It revealed the deeper wound of a planet suffering from unbridled human expansion and negligence. Many lamented this tragedy as the result of poorly planned infrastructure that disregards natural wildlife corridors—another sign of how modern development often prioritises economic gain over ecological integrity.

This sorrowful event is not isolated. It echoes Pope Francis’ critique of a “throwaway culture” and the urgent need to respect the interconnectedness of all creation (*Laudato Si’*, 22, 139).

As Christians, ecological awareness is not optional—it is integral to our faith. “The ecological crisis is a summons to profound interior conversion,” the Pope writes (*Laudato Si’*, 217). Such a conversion leads us to see creation as a gift, not a commodity.

Our call today, like that of the seventy-two, is to live and proclaim the Gospel. But this also means caring for the Earth, our common home, in ways that reflect God’s justice, mercy, and love—for all creatures, great and small.✚

“Living our vocation to be protectors of God’s handiwork is essential to a life of virtue.”

Laudato Si’, 217

SCRIPTURE of the DAY

Isaiah 66: 10-14

Psalms 65: 1-7, 16, 20

Galatians 6: 14-18

Luke 10: 1-12, 17-20 (or 10: 1-9)

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NEWBEC

NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH | 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time | 6 July 2025

CELEBRATING, LISTENING AND WALKING AS PILGRIMS OF HOPE

MONTHLY FOCUS & RATIONALE: ECOLOGY (STEWARDSHIP)
CALLED TO STOPPING THE PLUNDER AND EXPLOITATION OF RESOURCES



Creation is A Gift *Not A Commodity*

Before sending them out, imagine the immense task Jesus faced in preparing seventy-two individuals for a unified mission. These disciples were chosen not for their perfection, but likely for their openness to growth, obedience to his teachings, and willingness to walk in faith. Their mission was clear and purposeful: to proclaim the Kingdom of God, to bring peace, and to heal. They returned with joy, having witnessed the fruits of their labor. This joyful return reflects the power of communal mission grounded in faith and obedience.