

“You will stand up in the presence of grey hair, you will honour the person of the aged and fear your God. I am Yahweh.”

Leviticus 19:32



SCRIPTURE
of the DAY

Jeremiah 23: 1-6

Psalms 22: 1-6

Ephesians 2: 13-18

Mark 6: 30-34

God will gather up his wandering flock and bring them back into his fold. They will be blessed and they will no longer need to fear. Not one shall be lost. He also prophesied the coming of Christ, the Good Shepherd, who will look after the sheep entrusted upon Him.

Jesus came and taught the Jews to share life with the non-Jews which was forbidden then. He broke down the barriers that separated them and restored peace to all, far and near, through the cross. By His blood shed on the cross, we are reconciled in the one Spirit to God.

In the Gospel reading, the apostles who had been sent out on the mission to preach repentance, heal the sick and cast out demons returned to Jesus. He could see that they were tired and bedraggled after all that travelling and work. He told them to leave the crowd, to retire to a lonely place and rest for a while.

When Jesus and the apostles moved away, the crowd followed them. Jesus was touched by this. **He could see that they were lost and needed to be led.** Perhaps their religious leaders were not able to give them the answers they seek. They were like sheep without a shepherd. Filled with compassion, Jesus sat down with them and taught them.

Often our commitment to our church and community also leave us feeling quite exhausted and overwhelmed. At times like this, we also need to take a break, to retreat from the crowd and spend some time alone with Jesus and be renewed.

We can trust in our Lord, the Good Shepherd, to gather us together in His arms, to love and care for us, to banish fear and bring peace into our lives. ❖

NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH

newbee

21 July 2024
16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**SALT OF THE EARTH AND LIGHT OF THE WORLD:
CELEBRATING, LISTENING AND WALKING TOGETHER IN A SPIRIT OF COMMUNION
PARTICIPATION AND MISSION (MATTHEW 5: 13-16).**



MONTHLY FOCUS

PASTORAL CARE FOR THE ELDERLY AND THE SICK

FIND YOUR WAY HOME to Jesus

Glory and praise to God for the redemption, reunification and restoration of His people through the ages.

The people had gone astray and are scattered. There was widespread idolatry and immorality. Then God spoke through Jeremiah. He gave a stern warning to the religious leaders of Judah that God will punish those who had allowed this to happen. While the evil leaders were chastised, the people however were comforted with words of hope.