

HOLY CROSS AND ALL SAINTS MONDAY MISSION

THIS WEEK'S WORD:

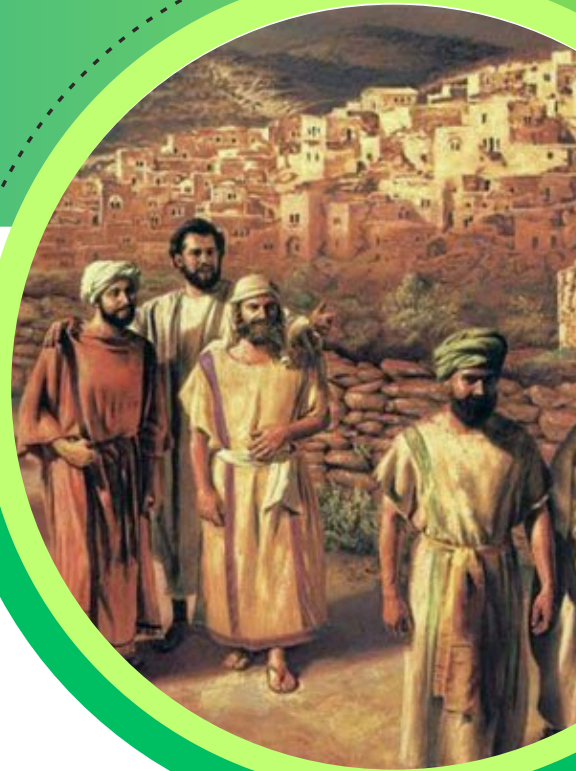
A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke 10:1-9

After this the Lord chose another seventy-two men and sent them out two by two, to go ahead of him to every town and place where he himself was about to go. He said to them, "There is a large harvest, but few workers to gather it in. Pray to the owner of the harvest that he will send out workers to gather in his harvest.

Go! I am sending you like lambs among wolves. Don't take a purse or a beggar's bag or shoes; don't stop to greet anyone on the road. Whenever you go into a house, first say, 'Peace be with this house.'

If someone who is peace-loving lives there, let your greeting of peace remain on that person; if not, take back your greeting of peace. Stay in that same house, eating and drinking whatever they offer you, for workers should be given their pay. Don't move around from one house to another.

Whenever you go into a town and are made welcome, eat what is set before you, heal the sick in that town, and say to the people there, 'The Kingdom of God has come near you.'



REFLECT

Jesus knows that when people work together they can achieve much more than when they work alone, so he send his friends out in pairs. Teamwork is the way forward for any Christian community. Prayer helps us recognise the gifts and talents of everyone, and the dignity of each of us in the sight of God.

Jesus sends seventy-two of his friends to go ahead of him, to get the people in the villages ready to hear his message. They are Pilgrims of Hope, journeying with trust in God even though it is not going to be an easy task. As Pope Francis told us, "Hope is not being optimistically naive." Hope isn't about ignoring reality or pretending everything is perfect. It's the quiet courage to believe that even in the darkest moments, a new tomorrow is possible.

No matter what challenges they faced, Jesus asked the disciples to bring peace to the people they met. On our journey through life as Pilgrims of Hope we are also asked to be at peace with ourselves, other people, the environment and with God. As we travel, we are preparing the way for Jesus to come into our own hearts in a new way so that we can bring his love to others. Last week we thought a bit about the boat we are travelling through life in, this week we are going to think about the people on our journey.

LET US PRAY

Help me, Jesus, to me to be a spark of light bringing hope to the world.

Let the seed of hope in my heart grow to be a huge tree.

Amen

MISSION

This week, think about the qualities you will need when working with other people.

What do you need God to help you with if you are going to work well in pairs or a team?

Perhaps you will ask God to help you listen, share, be more patient, helpful, organised or maybe something else.