## **Stewardship Messages**

**July 2021** 

July 3/4, 2021

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"As the Lord spoke to me, the spirit entered me and set me on my feet, and I heard the one who was speaking say to me, 'Son of man, I am sending you..." -- Ezekiel 2:2-3

Do you listen and respond when God calls you? God knows His plan for each of us and He calls us to fulfill that plan. He doesn't leave us out on our own to figure out the plan. He gives us the resources that we need to do His work. But, it is up to us to respond – and use our gifts from Him to answer the call.

July 10/11, 2021

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"He instructed them to take nothing for the journey but a walking stick – no food, no sack, no money in their belts." -- Mark 6:8

Jesus' apostles clearly immensely trusted Him and His instructions and His mission for them. Imagine doing something similar in your own life – leaving for a trip without your ATM card or your cell phone. (Some people can get uncomfortable if they are missing their phones for even a few hours.) The apostles were not dependent upon their "things," but rather upon their faith that they were going to spread the news and love of God. Putting God first in all that we do helps us to get rid of the "things" and concentrate more on our journeys to share the love of Jesus Christ.

July 17/18, 2021

**16th Sunday in Ordinary Time** 

"He said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while." -- Mark 6:31

Very often it is hard to "listen" and "hear" what God is telling us when we are caught up in our busy schedules at work, at home and in our community. Spending some quiet time just listening to what God is calling you to do is as important as the "doing" itself. Spending this quiet time often can be difficult or even seem uneasy at first, but it is an important way to develop a deeper relationship with God. You can start small and work up to more time. The key is to start. Unless we talk and listen to God, we cannot know or understand His call for us.

July 24/25, 2021

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish; but what good are these for so many?" John 6:9

The miracle of Jesus feeding of the multitude is mentioned in all four Gospels. While there are several things to learn from this miracle, one of them is that our gifts, no matter how big or how small, can do great things if we take them to Christ. All of our gifts are given to us for a reason. Many may be "fed" by our gifts even though they may seem small to us.