



1st Reading: Jer 23:1-6
Responsorial: Ps 23:1-3, 3-4, 5, 6
2nd Reading: Eph 2:13-18
Gospel: Mk 6:30-34



16th Sunday in Ordinary Time:

Jesus, the Good Shepherd, responds to the people with compassion.

Last week, Jesus sent the Twelve on mission to teach and heal. In today's gospel, the Twelve return from their missionary activity and Jesus listens to their reports of all they have done. The report must have been exhaustive as Jesus recognized their need for rest. As they traveled toward the Sea of Galilee for retreat and rest, the crowds continued to follow Jesus and the Twelve as they were hungry for guidance. Even though Jesus was seeking solace for the Twelve, "his heart was moved with pity" for the crowd. Jesus did not turn away, but rather Jesus's compassion was a model for those who would continue his mission, those who would continue to shepherd others. In responding to the needs of the flock, Jesus gives us the priorities of the Good Shepherd: serve the people, care for the people, build up the people.

If you continue reading Mark's gospel after this week's verses, you will find the Feeding of the Five Thousand is the next chapter. The Good Shepherd continues to model what it means to shepherd as he literally and figuratively feeds his sheep.

Reflection: At times, we may find ourselves tired and "burnt out." What spiritual practices do you turn to when facing times of weariness?

Activity: Jesus' Twelve were sent on mission. We, too, are sent to serve. As a family, create a "Summer Service List" with ways you can serve each other and the community. See link below.

Mary Magdalene was called to do something, to tell the apostles about the resurrection.



Where in the world...
FLY around the diocese to find the Traveling Icon and learn more about our diocese!



A GOOGLE EARTH ACTIVITY

July 17-24

July 22 - Feast of Saint Mary Magdalene Known as the "Apostle to the Apostles," Mary Magdalene's story may be one of mistaken identities for 20 centuries. Who then is Mary Magdalene? Regardless of her past, we do know that she was a devoted disciple of Jesus. Learn more about Mary Magdalene here:

- Vaticannews.va - St. Mary Magdalene, Disciple of the Lord
- FranciscanMedia.org - Saint Mary Magdalene
- Catholicnewsagency.com - Saint Mary Magdalene

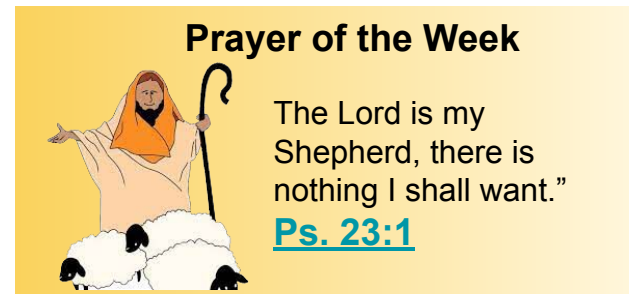


Cup of Tea?
 Mary Magdalene was the bringer of Myrrh on Easter morning. Myrrh is a very expensive spice used for healing and to soothe. In remembrance of Mary Magdalene, share a cup of tea with your family.



July 25 World Day of Prayer for Grandparents

Pope Francis has declared July 25th as the First World Day of Prayer for Grandparents & elderly. The theme chosen by Pope Francis for this inaugural commemoration is "I am with you always" (Mt 28:20).



Prayer of the Week

The Lord is my Shepherd, there is nothing I shall want."
Ps. 23:1

Links for More Ideas, Activities & Resources FYI

- thepleatedpoppy.com - Summer Service List (All Ages Faith Builder)
- teachingcatholickids.com - Five Ways to Keep Your Summer Faith-Filled (Family Faith Builder)
- catholiccurrent.org - Saint of the Week MARY MAGDALENE (Adult Faith Builder)
- Catholicmom.com - Coloring page for Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time B (Children's Faith Builder)
- Faithformationreimagined.com What does discipleship mean for Catholics? 10 question game! (All ages Faith Builder)

