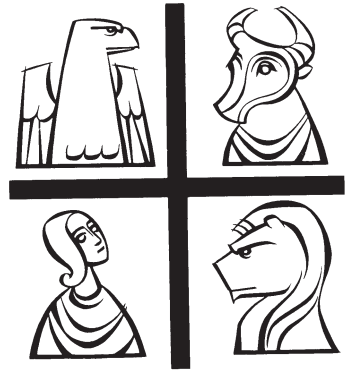


Reading Matthew in Lent

Gospel of Matthew 10:1–15



The Twelve Apostles

- ¹ And Jesus called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every affliction.
- ² The names of the twelve apostles are these:
first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother;
James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother;
- ³ Philip and Bartholomew;
Thomas and Matthew the tax collector;
James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus;
- ⁴ Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

Jesus Sends Out the Twelve Apostles

- ⁵ These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them,
“Go nowhere among the Gentiles and enter no town of the Samaritans,
- ⁶ but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.
- ⁷ And proclaim as you go, saying,
‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’
- ⁸ Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons.
You received without paying; give without pay.
- ⁹ Acquire no gold or silver or copper for your belts,
- ¹⁰ no bag for your journey, or two tunics or sandals or a staff,
for the labourer deserves his food.
- ¹¹ And whatever town or village you enter,
find out who is worthy in it and stay there until you depart.
- ¹² As you enter the house, greet it.
- ¹³ And if the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it,
but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you.
- ¹⁴ And if anyone will not receive you or listen to your words,
shake off the dust from your feet when you leave that house or town.
- ¹⁵ Truly, I say to you, it will be more bearable on the day of judgment
for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah than for that town.

Prayer

Compassionate God,
your word calls labourers to the harvest.

Send us who are blest with the gift of your kingdom
to announce its coming with gladness
and to manifest its healing power.

We make our prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever.

Amen.

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