

Friday 11 October

Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2, Ps 9:2-3,6,16,8-9, Lk 11:15-

From Baptised and Sent

The missionary disciple must, like Jesus, be involved in the struggle against evil. This should be one of our main concerns, because it genuinely demonstrates our filial relationship with God and our communion with Jesus. Curiously, however, being witnesses demands that disciples confront their own humanity. On the one hand, they must be aware of being able, by virtue of grace and effort, to participate in the Lord's mission. But along with these great possibilities, disciples must also be aware of their limitations. (p. 117)

From Pope Francis

Ours is a hopeful perspective, but one which is also demanding. The temptation is always within us to resist the Holy Spirit, because he takes us out of our comfort zone and unsettles us; he makes us get up and drives the Church forward. It is always easier and more comfortable to settle in our sedentary and unchanging ways. In truth, the Church shows her fidelity to the Holy Spirit in as much as she does not try to control or tame him. And the Church shows herself also when she rejects the temptation to look only inwards. We Christians become true missionary disciples, able to challenge consciences, when we throw off our defensiveness and allow ourselves to be led by the Spirit. He is freshness, imagination and newness.ⁱ

From the Good Samaritan Benedictine Story

Imagination is learning to see beyond what we have to what could be if we simply rearranged our present resources in other ways: foster parenting rather than orphanages, computers rather than typewriters, water piped from wells through dry areas rather than crops left to die from drought, basic housing for the poor rather than rain-sogged tents. Imagination comes out of new ways of seeing old things done differently. It takes the resources we have and makes new and better ways of using them. It is God speaking to us through human ideas reshaped through the creative energy of the human soul.ⁱⁱ

ⁱ Morning meditation in the Chapel of the *Domus Sanctae Marthae*, "Vigilant against worldliness," Friday, October 13, 2017

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