

## Saturday 26 October

Rom 8:1-11, Ps 24:1b-4ab,5-6, Lk 13:1-9

### *From Baptised and Sent*

As an ecclesial community, it goes without saying that we are called to a two-fold commitment: first, to convert ourselves without ceasing, becoming ever more transparent to the Word of God and docile to the Spirit of love that gives life, and second, to work for the conversion of the world, never obscuring the merciful and patient face of God, Father of Jesus Christ, whose first and only desire is to save and not to condemn. Experience shows that hearts respond more generously when they are shown trust; we do not conquer people for divine love with fear, imprisoning them in their misfortunes..(p. 173)

### *From Pope Francis*

[John Paul II](#) asked us to recognise that “there must be no lessening of the impetus to preach the Gospel” to those who are far from Christ, “because this is the first task of the Church”. Indeed, “today missionary activity still represents the greatest challenge for the Church” and “the missionary task must remain foremost”. What would happen if we were to take these words seriously? We would realise that missionary outreach is *paradigmatic for all the Church’s activity*. Along these lines the Latin American bishops stated that we “cannot passively and calmly wait in our church buildings”; we need to move “from a pastoral ministry of mere conservation to a decidedly missionary pastoral ministry”. This task continues to be a source of immense joy for the Church.<sup>i</sup>

### *From the Good Samaritan Benedictine Story*

*When we invited the community to be involved in the Week of Prayer for Reconciliation, they took it very seriously,” [Sr Liz] said. “Families gather at home each night for prayer, and respect and understanding of differences in people would have been in their prayer that week.”*

*“As an Aboriginal community, some of the issues experienced in the cities are not as significant here, so we broadened the focus of the Week of Prayer to include an understanding and respect for the differences within our own community and the wider global community”.*<sup>ii</sup>

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<sup>i</sup> Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium*, Introduction, Section III, “The new evangelisation for the transmission of the faith”

<sup>ii</sup> The Good Oil, *The enormous spirit of the Santa Teresa community*

<https://www.goodsams.org.au/article/the-enormous-spirit-of-the-santa-teresa-community/>