

Thursday 3 October

Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12, Ps 19:8-11, Lk 10:1-12

From Baptised and Sent

Missionary disciples must burn with the same passion and love for the world, so that all may be saved, going to seek out the men and women of every generation, of every place and city, so that no one should miss the proclamation of the Gospel of salvation. (p.92)

From Pope Francis

We are thus called to translate into concrete acts that which we invoke in prayer and profess in faith. There is no alternative to charity: those who put themselves at the service of others, even when they don't know it, are those who love God. The Christian life, however, is not merely extending a hand in times of need. The task which the Lord gives us, on the contrary, is the *vocation to charity* in which each of Christ's disciples puts his or her entire life at his service, so to grow each day in love.

How many hearts have been comforted by volunteers! How many hands they have held; how many tears they have wiped away; how much love has been poured out in hidden, humble and selfless service! This praiseworthy service gives voice to the faith, – and expresses the mercy of God, who draws near to those in need.ⁱ

From the Good Samaritan Benedictine Story

We weren't Catholics then but my brother used to do a milk round for Hough's and they reported our plight to the nuns. Mum didn't know anything about it. She went to the grocer to pay the bill. He said, "It's already been paid for." And we went to Woods the little butcher. "It's already been paid." We found out later they were collecting at St Joseph's and paid for the bread and milk and stuff until we got on our feet. My mother said, "If that's religion it'll do me." And she took us all down and had us christened.ⁱⁱ

ⁱ Morning meditation in the Chapel of the *Domus Sanctae Marthae*, "The joy of Christian memory," Thursday, October 3, 2013

ⁱⁱ Margaret Walsh, *The Good Sams*, p. 258