

HOMILY: FOURTEENTH Sunday in ordinary TIME JULY 3RD 2022

THEME: THE PEACE OF CHRIST IN ME:

INTRODUCTION:

TODAY'S GOSPEL TELLS US Jesus sent 72 OF his disciples as bearers of peace, healing and good news of salvation to others .HOWEVER, I must first possess these gifts before I can share them with others. Let us turn to the Lord from whom all good gifts flow.

Lord Jesus you give me a peace the world does not give...You heal the wounds caused by my sin and the sins of others. .. Help me to open my heart and mind to receive your good news of salvation.

When Jesus in the gospel sent out the 72 disciples he said that their first words upon entering a house were to be: 'peace to this house'. They were to be ambassadors of peace and goodwill .Without peace nothing is possible.

Peace is not a negative thing. Peace is not just the absence of war or enmity. Peace is a positive thing. It implies openness. Peace disposes me to reach out to others. Peace helps me to break down barriers of suspicion, Fear, Prejudice, Bigotry .

WORKING FOR PEACE MEANS, WELCOMING PEOPLE CLOSE TO ME. THOSE WHO ANNOY ME, DISGRACE ME, THOSE WHO PROVOKE ANGUISH WITHIN ME. To take the PATH of

Peace I MUST ACCEPT PEOPLE AS THEY ARE with all their limitations and weaknesses. The people I need to make peace with are not my friends but my enemies.

Shortly before communion the priest says “the peace of the Lord, be with you always.” What a wonderful gift is being offered to me ... the peace of Christ. A peace that the world cannot give. The hand I reach out to my neighbor. Then Christ invites me “to offer one another a sign of peace”. The hand I receive Christ in communion is the same hand I extend peace to my neighbor.

### Conclusion

We come to mass to receive blessings from the Lord. If I take nothing else away with me but peace, my time would be well spent. I must be prepared to give back something of what I have received. The end of mass is not like a football game or movie where I simply get up and leave at the end of mass we are all sent out. Having received Christ we are sent out into the world with his peace.

AMEN