

BIBLE READINGS SUNDAY 14th June

Exodus 19:2-8a

Two months after leaving Egypt, they arrived at the desert near Mount Sinai, where they set up camp at the foot of the mountain.

³ Moses went up the mountain to meet with the LORD God, who told him to say to the people:

⁴ You saw what I did in Egypt, and you know how I brought you here to me, just as a mighty eagle carries its young. ⁵ Now if you will faithfully obey me, you will be my very own people. The whole world is mine, ⁶ but you will be my holy nation and serve me as priests.

Moses, that is what you must tell the Israelites.

⁷ After Moses went back, he reported to the leaders what the LORD had said, ⁸ and they promised, "We will do everything the LORD has commanded."

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This is the Word of the Lord.

Romans 5:1-8

By faith we have been made acceptable to God. And now, because of our Lord Jesus Christ, we live at peace with God. ² Christ has also introduced us to God's undeserved kindness on which we take our stand. So we are happy, as we look forward to sharing in the glory of God. ³ But that's not all! We gladly suffer,^[c] because we know that suffering helps us to endure. ⁴ And endurance builds character, which gives us a hope ⁵ that will never disappoint us. All of this happens because God has given us the Holy Spirit, who fills our hearts with his love.

⁶ Christ died for us at a time when we were helpless and sinful. ⁷ No one is really willing to die for an honest person, though someone might be willing to die for a truly good person. ⁸ But God showed how much he loved us by having Christ die for us, even though we were sinful.

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Matthew 9:35-10:8

³⁵ Jesus went to every town and village. He taught in their meeting places and preached the good news about God's kingdom. Jesus also healed every kind of disease and sickness. ³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he felt sorry for them. They were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ He said to his disciples, "A large crop is in the fields, but there are only a few workers. ³⁸ Ask the Lord in charge of the harvest to send out workers to bring it in."

10 Jesus called together his twelve disciples. He gave them the power to force out evil spirits and to heal every kind of disease and sickness. ² The first of the twelve

apostles was Simon, better known as Peter. His brother Andrew was an apostle, and so were James and John, the two sons of Zebedee. ³ Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew the tax collector, James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus were also apostles. ⁴ The others were Simon, known as the Eager One, and Judas Iscariot, who later betrayed Jesus.

⁵ Jesus sent out the twelve apostles with these instructions:

Stay away from the Gentiles and don't go to any Samaritan town. ⁶ Go only to the people of Israel, because they are like a flock of lost sheep. ⁷ As you go, announce that the kingdom of heaven will soon be here. ⁸ Heal the sick, raise the dead to life, heal people who have leprosy, and force out demons. You received without paying, now give without being paid.

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