



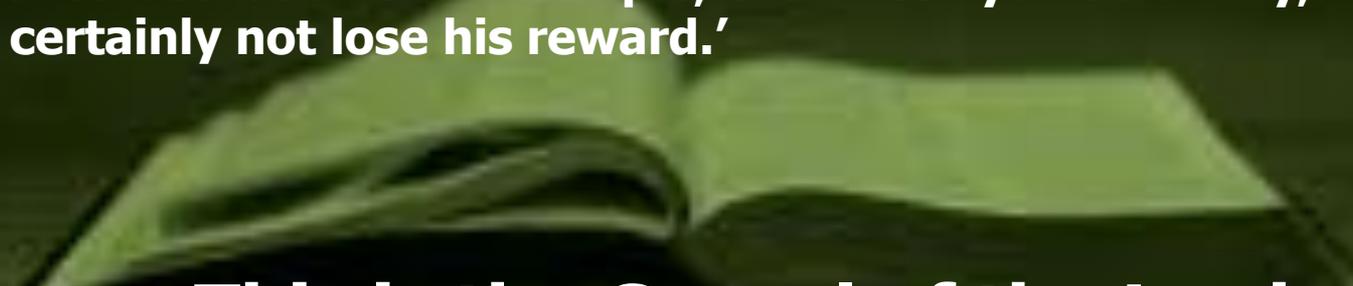
This Sunday's Gospel
12th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
Matthew 10:37-42

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Anyone who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who prefers son or daughter to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who does not take his cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me. Anyone who finds his life will lose it; anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it.

'Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me; and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me.

'Anyone who welcomes a prophet will have a prophet's reward; and anyone who welcomes a holy man will have a holy man's reward.

'If anyone gives so much as a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is a disciple, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'



This is the Gospel of the Lord

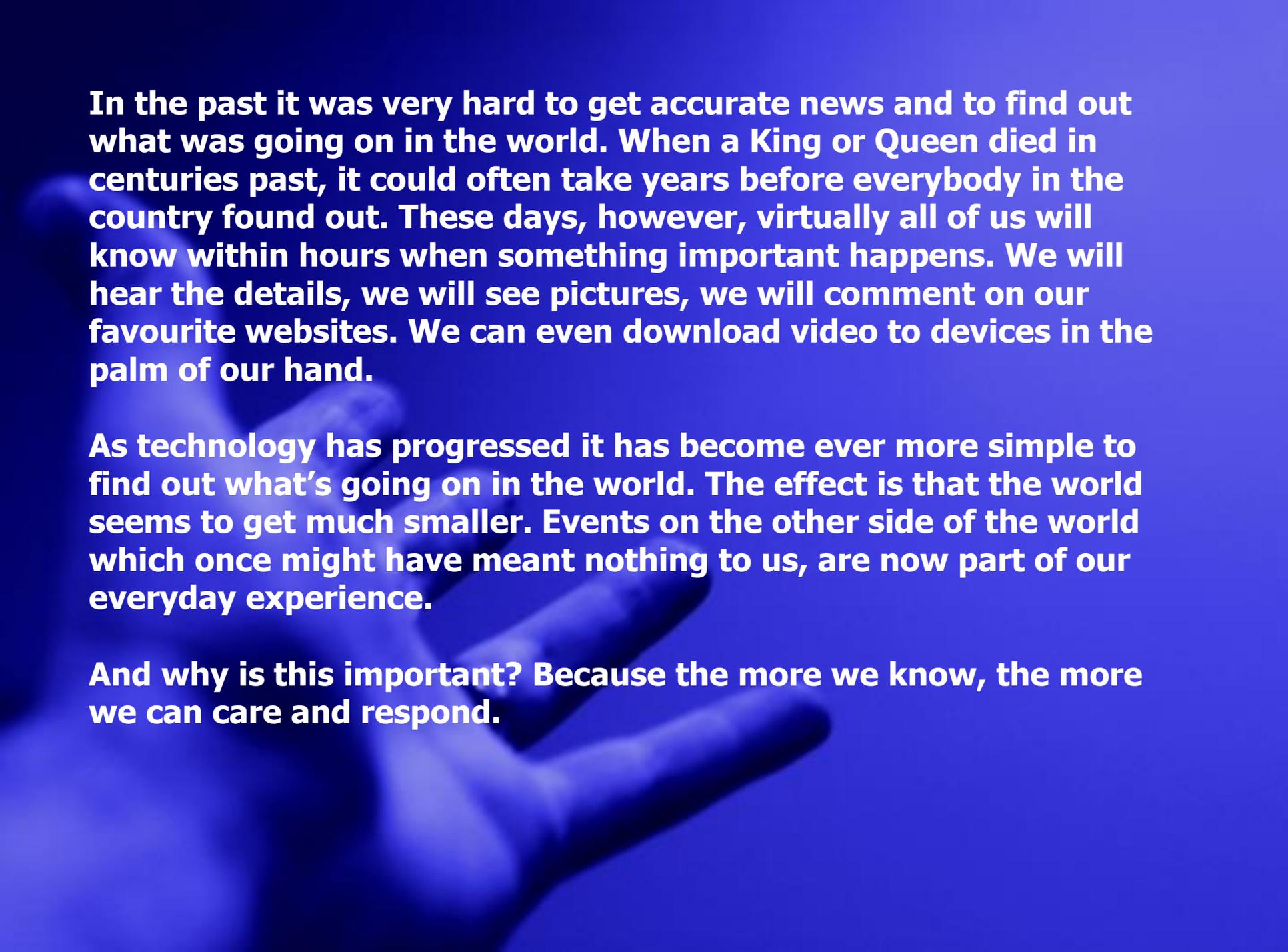
Prayer One

The Sign of the Cross

Let us remember that everything we do is
In the name of the Father, and of
the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Reflection:

*During this week in 1954, the BBC launched
the first daily TV news service.*

A hand holding a smartphone, with the phone screen showing a blue background and white text. The hand is positioned in the lower right quadrant of the image, with the fingers gripping the phone. The phone's screen is the primary focus, displaying the text of the first paragraph. The background is a solid blue color.

In the past it was very hard to get accurate news and to find out what was going on in the world. When a King or Queen died in centuries past, it could often take years before everybody in the country found out. These days, however, virtually all of us will know within hours when something important happens. We will hear the details, we will see pictures, we will comment on our favourite websites. We can even download video to devices in the palm of our hand.

As technology has progressed it has become ever more simple to find out what's going on in the world. The effect is that the world seems to get much smaller. Events on the other side of the world which once might have meant nothing to us, are now part of our everyday experience.

And why is this important? Because the more we know, the more we can care and respond.

Final Prayer

Loving Father,

Help us to accept that there is a world beyond our own immediate horizons and help us to take an interest in our fellow human beings. Help us to respond to what we find with gifts of love, prayer and generosity.

In the name of the Father and of the Son...



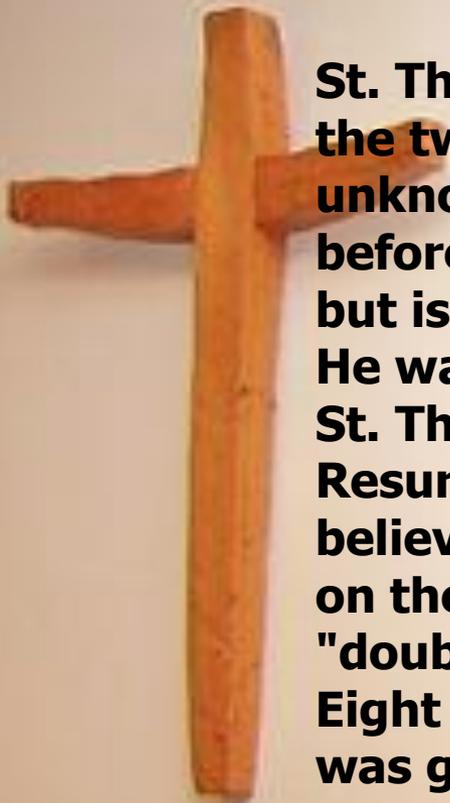
Prayer Two

The Sign of the Cross

**Let us remember that everything we do is
In the name of the Father, and of
the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen**

Reflection:

Monday 3rd is the Feast of St Thomas the Apostle



St. Thomas was born a Jew and was called to be one of the twelve Apostles. His birth and death dates are unknown, but his feast day is celebrated July 3. He lived before the formal establishment of the Catholic Church but is recognized as the patron saint of architects. He was a dedicated but impetuous follower of Christ. St. Thomas is best known for his role in verifying the Resurrection of his Master. Thomas' unwillingness to believe that the other Apostles had seen their risen Lord on the first Easter Sunday earned him the title of "doubting Thomas."

Eight days later, on Christ's second apparition, Thomas was gently rebuked for his scepticism and furnished with the evidence he had demanded - seeing in Christ's hands the point of the nails. Thomas even put his fingers in the nail holes and his hand into Christ's side. After verifying the wounds were true, St. Thomas became convinced of the reality of the Resurrection and exclaimed, "My Lord and My God," thus making a public Profession of Faith in the Divinity of Jesus.

Final Prayer



St Thomas Pray For Us



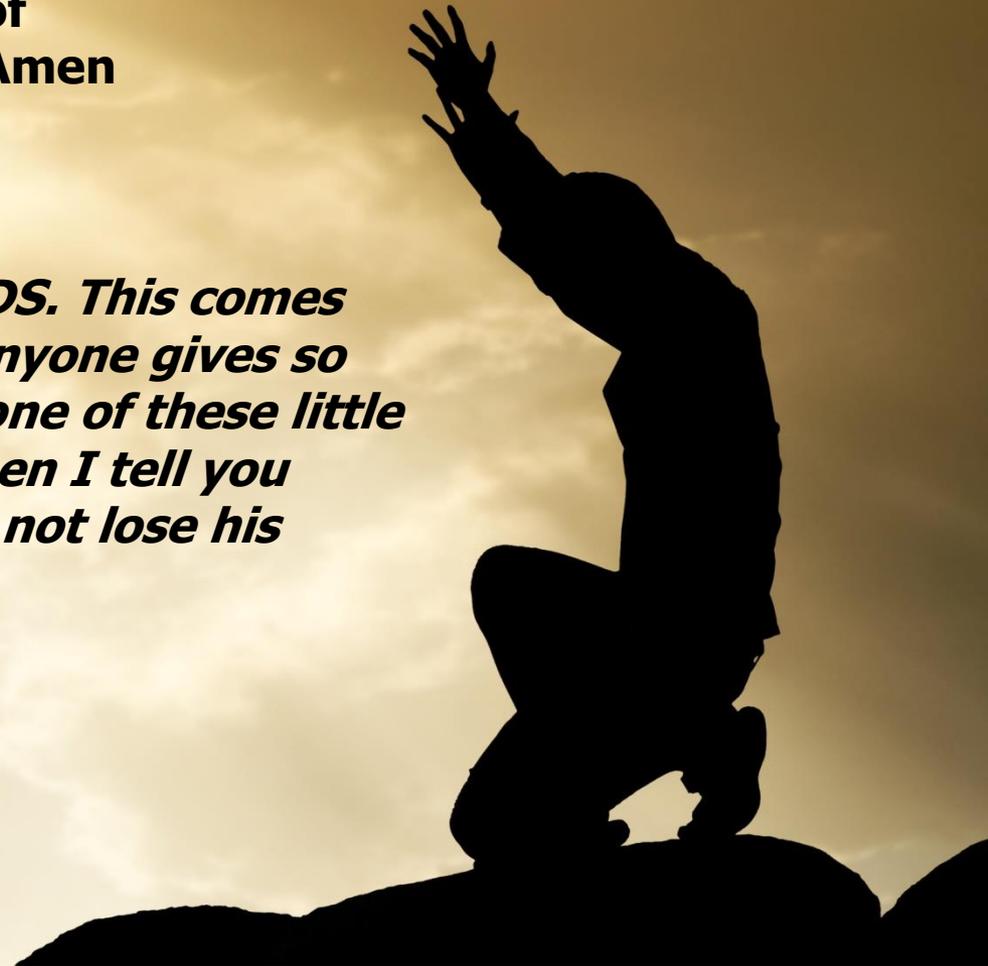
Prayer Three

The Sign of the Cross

**Let us remember that everything we do is
In the name of the Father, and of
the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen**

Reflection

Our theme this week is REWARDS. This comes from the line in the Gospel "If anyone gives so much as a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is a disciple, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward."

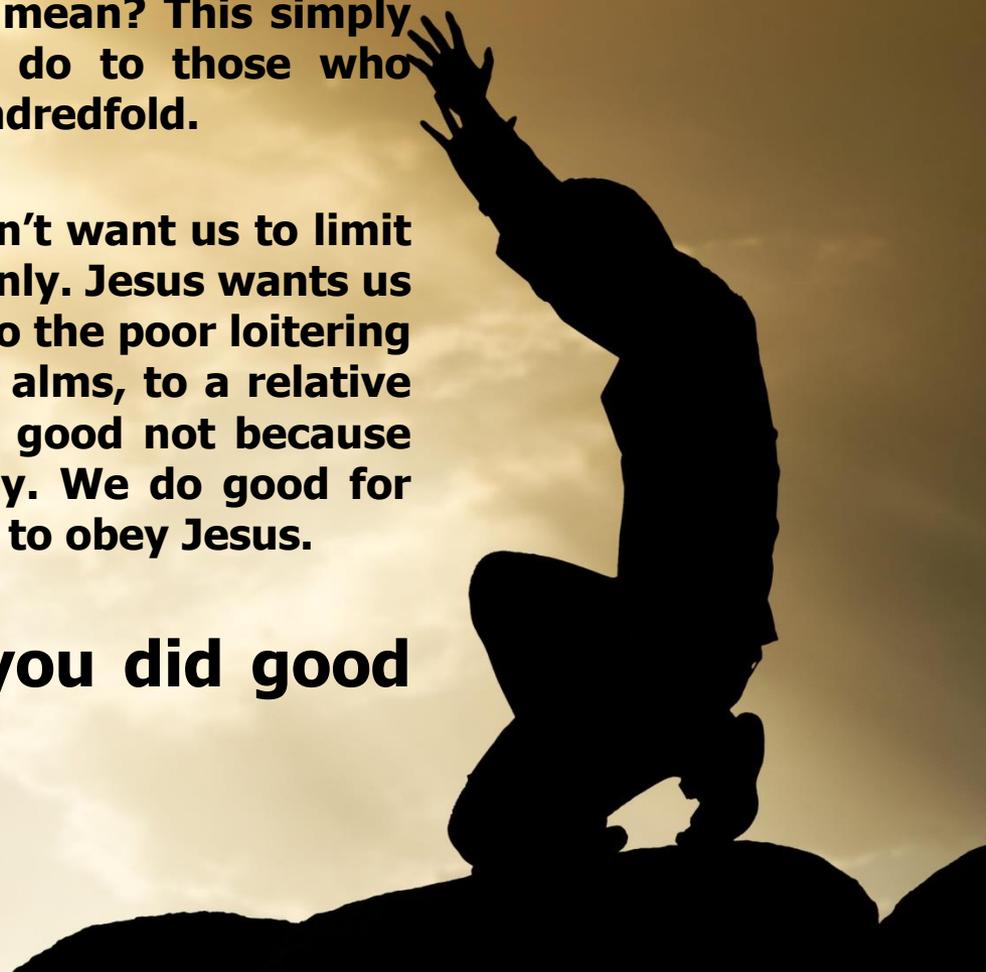


The Gospel highlights the huge demands that Jesus asks of his followers, putting their God before everything and everyone else in their lives

But Jesus also talks about giving back to those who do good to his followers. What does this mean? This simply means that whatever good that we do to those who follow Jesus we will receive back a hundredfold.

Of course we all know that Jesus doesn't want us to limit our acts of goodness to His followers only. Jesus wants us to do good to anyone who is in need: To the poor loitering in the street, to the beggar asking for alms, to a relative who ask for help and the like. We do good not because we want something in return someday. We do good for the simple reason that we simply want to obey Jesus.

When was the last time you did good to somebody in need?

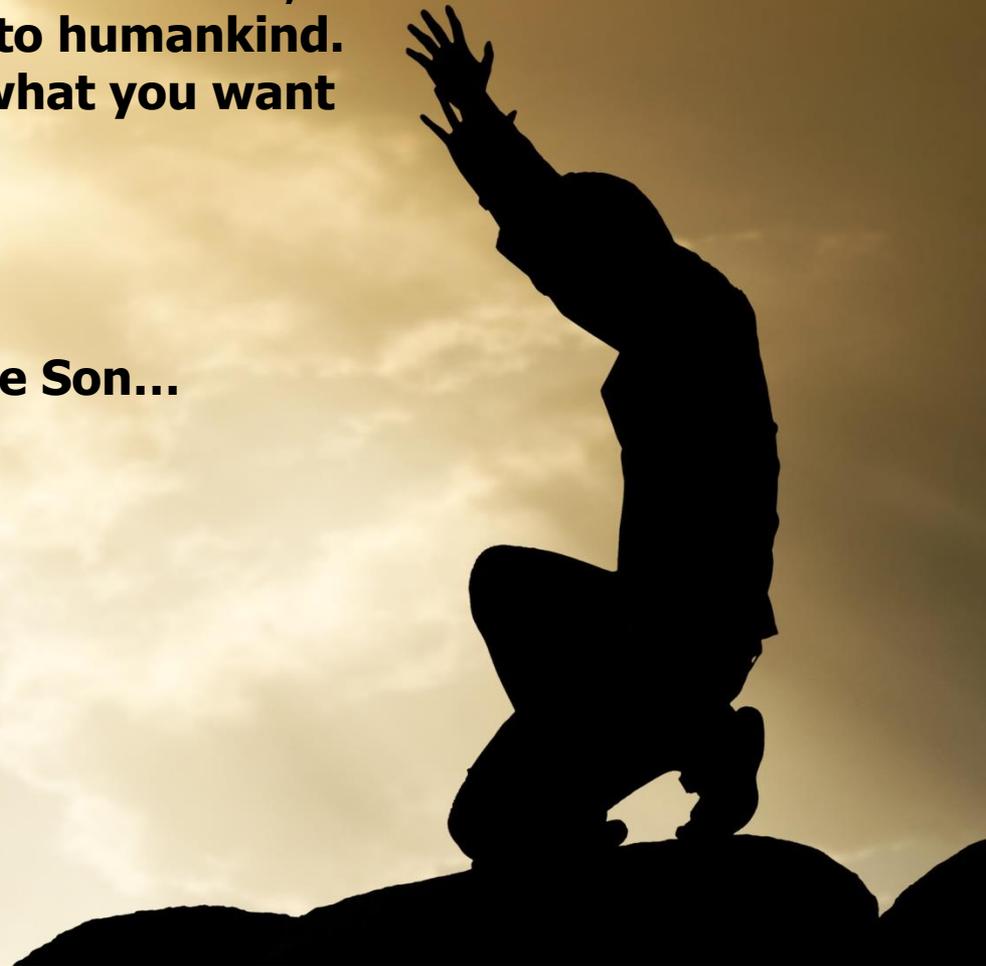


Final Prayer

God our Father, help us to put you and your will first in our lives. Help us to be of service to You, to help those in need, to be a servant to humankind. Guide us, protect us, and show us what you want us to do, and how to do it.

Our Father, who art in heaven...

In the name of the Father and of the Son...



Final Thought...



*Next Week: **Simplicity***