



Sixteenth Sunday Of The Year

Sheep Without A Shepherd

Introduction

In today's Gospel we see how Christ cared about people as a good shepherd cares for his sheep. How do we know? Because he put himself out for them. Every Christian ought to be a person who cares about others. We sometimes tell people that we care about them yet we fail to prove it by our deeds.

First Reading (Jeremiah 23: 1-6)

In this reading the shepherds who neglected the flock are severely indicated by God. At the same time God promises to send shepherds who will care about his sheep.

Second Reading (Ephesians 2: 13-18)

By his death Christ broke down the wall that divided the Jews from gentiles, and he united all peoples as children of the one Father.

Gospel (Mark 6: 30-34)

In this Gospel we see the care of Christ for his apostles as well as his compassion for the people who were "like sheep without a shepherd."

Prayer Of The Faithful

Let us pray to the Father who cared about us so much that he sent his Son to be our shepherd and friend.

R: Lord, hear us in your love.

For the Christian community: that it may never doubt the love and care of Christ the Good Shepherd, and that it may listen to his voice. We pray in faith.

R: Lord, hear us in your love.

For the whole human family: that God may fill its leaders with a strong and unselfish love so that they may work for the progress of all peoples. We pray in faith.

R: Lord, hear us in your love.



Liturgy Cycle B

For all those who are lost, and lonely, and depressed, who feel that nobody cares about them: that they may experience the love of Christ the Good Shepherd. We pray in faith.

R: Lord, hear us in your love.

Each of us have within us the gift to care and to be compassionate: that we may use the gift in the many opportunities that come our way each day. We pray in faith.

R: Lord, hear us in your love.

Communion Reflection

Christ looked at the people; and seeking that they were like sheep without a shepherd, he took pity on them.

Lord, look on us and take pity upon us,
for at times we too are like sheep.
Save us from a blind following of the herd.
Help us to follow you,
even if it means leaving the crowd
and walking a lonely path.

Lead us from death to life,
from error to truth,
from despair to hope,
from fear to trust,
from hate to love,
from war to peace.

Help us to listen to you voice,
to trust you and to follow you.
You carry all our hopes and dreams.
You alone can give us
what we hunger and thirst for- our heavenly Father's love
and eternal life in his kingdom.