



Liturgy Cycle C

# **Fourteenth Sunday Of The Year**

## **The Harvest Is Great But The Labourers Few**

### **Introduction**

Every Christian is sent by Christ into the world as a messenger of hope and love. The 'world' here means the area in which I live, my places of work. The people I meet every day, and so on. An active concern for the world and for other people is an essential mark of a good Christian. We are all responsible for some small corner of the Lord's vineyard where it is up to us to reap the harvest.

Lord, you send us to bring forgiveness to others as you have forgiven us.  
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, you send us to befriend the lonely as you have befriended us.  
Christ, have mercy.

Lord, you send us to bring healing and peace to the sick and the troubled as you have brought healing and peace to us.  
Lord, have mercy.

### **First Reading (Isaiah 66:10-14)**

Writing after the return from the Babylonian exile, the poet likens Jerusalem to a mother who nurses her children at her breast - a moving image of peace, contentment and love.

### **Second Reading (Gal 6:14-18)**

Paul insists that the Christian life is a new existence - it means becoming like Christ. Paul himself, through illness, flogging, and stoning, bears the marks of Christ's passion on his body.

### **Gospel (Luke 10:1-12, n-29)**

This tells how Christ sent out seventy-two disciples in pairs to visit all the towns and places he himself was to visit.

### **Prayer Of The Faithful**

Let us pray that as followers of Christ we may be active in good works so that God's kingdom may come among us.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.

For the Church: that all its members may realise that they are called by God to work so that the fruits of his Kingdom may become a reality in the world. Lord, hear us.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.



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**God offers his Kingdom to all, thus showing that in his eyes everybody is important. Let us pray that he may help those in public office to treat all his people with love and respect. Lord, hear us.**

**R: Lord, graciously hear us.**

**For all those who are closed and smug and selfish: that the Lord may touch their hearts and make them people who can care. Lord, hear us.**

**R: Lord, graciously hear us.**

**God's harvest is abundant because there are so many who are poor or lonely or in pain. That we may be generous towards those in need. Lord, hear us.**

**R: Lord, graciously hear us.**

### **Let us pray:**

**Father, the harvest of your love is abundant, but those who work to make this love visible in the world are few. Help us to take part with Joy in this splendid task, and to work for the coming of the Kingdom of your Son. We ask this through the same Christ our Lord.**

### **Communion Reflection**

**Christ said: 'The harvest is great,  
but the labourers are few.'**

**Hence what we need is:**

**More to approve, fewer to disapprove.**

**More doers, fewer talkers.**

**More to say: 'It can be done,'**

**fewer to say: 'It can't be done'.**

**More to inspire others with confidence,  
fewer to throw cold water on everything.**

**More to take one step in the right direction.**

**More to get into the thick of things.**

**More to do something about it,**

**fewer to sit on the sidelines finding fault.**

**More to point out what is right,  
fewer to keep harping on what is wrong.**

**More to light a candle,**

**fewer to curse the darkness.**

**The labourers are indeed few -  
those who are willing to put themselves out  
to bring Christ's healing, love and hope to others.  
Why can't I become one of those labourers?**