

Newtbec

NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH

5th Sunday of Ordinary Time

HOPE: BELIEVE, LIVE AND GIVE

MONTHLY THEME: **SOLIDARITY IN DIVERSITY**

Stewards of the LORD'S MISSION



Jesus heals Simon's mother-in-law and the whole town flocks to the entrance of Simon's house. Everywhere, news of Jesus' astounding miracles intrigues the villages and towns he visits. His reputation exceeds him. Even when Jesus goes to the desert to be alone, multitudes follow. The miracle at Simon's home comes soon after the healing of the man possessed by an evil spirit at the synagogue. The peoples' bewilderment must have been at its peak as they see Jesus cleansing and healing with a single command or with a touch. Who could do that... who would do that?

WEEKLY
SCRIPTURE VERSE:

"I made myself
all things to all
men in order to
save some at
any cost"

(1 Cor 9, 22)

Yet, Jesus doesn't stay within the adulation and accolade expressed by the people. He moves on to other towns, in pursuit of the mission entrusted to him by the Father, so that many more will encounter the grace and Word of God. The Master does not require praise from followers or bystanders. He needs no pat-on-the-back nor does he clamour for fame and fortune. Popularity means nothing to him, for nothing is more important than fulfilling his mission.

St. Paul articulates the stewardship of his own mission when he says *"to the weak I became weak, to win over the weak. I have become all things to all, to save at least some"*. **We come across people today who are true stewards of the Lord's mission.** They ardently preach the Gospel, sometimes at the peril of their lives. We see this happening often these days - the cost of being a steward of the Good News.

Like Paul and other stewards of God's mission, we too can become restless and anxious, feeling the weight of our own stewardship. Be assured that the Lord understands this, especially in our present-day struggles and challenges. With all that is happening in the world, as stewards of Christ's mission, we can experience Jesus reaching for our hand as He did at Simon's home, and feel his gentle touch which can revive our drooping spirits. Let us take heart that our stewardship is recognised by Jesus and may we continue to serve actively in his vineyard daily. ✦

SCRIPTURE
of the DAY

Job 7, 1-4. 6-7;

Ps 146, 1-6.

1 Cor 9, 16-19.
22-23.

Mk 1, 29-39.