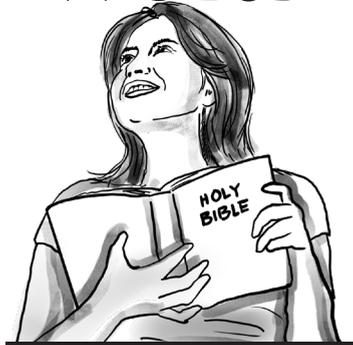




## FAITHFUL MINISTERS OF THE WORD



by Fr. Gil A. Alinsangan, SSP

The Lord God spoke in various ways to the Israelite ancestors through the prophets (Heb 1:1). As a prophet (Greek *prophetes*), the person speaks in the name of God and declares, “Thus says the Lord,” or “The word of the Lord.” Another source of God’s word is the priest. Malachi declares, “A priest’s lips preserve knowledge, and instruction [*torah*] is to be sought from his mouth, because he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts” (2:7). Still, it can happen that the messenger or keeper of God’s word does not always prove true to his calling, is partial in his instruction, or is a mere pretender, saying that he is sent by the Lord but is not.

In the First Reading, the priest Amaziah forbids Amos to prophesy in the royal sanctuary of Bethel, accusing Amos of prophesying for money. Amaziah is incensed that Amos prophesies the overthrow of the sanctuary, the fall of the royal house, and the captivity of the people as punishment of Israel’s idolatry and the wealthy’s abuse of the poor and the needy. In reply, Amos says that he was not a “professional” prophet, belonging to a guild of prophets, but that Lord has plucked him out of his herd to challenge the rulers’ hypocrisy and injustice.

While Amos proves faithful to his calling in indicting the king, priests, and leaders, the priest Amaziah tailors his instruction to remain in favor of his royal patron Jeroboam II. For driving out Amos and opposing his prophecy, Amaziah will be among those driven to exile and die in an

unclean (pagan) land (Am 7:17).

Like the Lord God who sends Amos to speak his word, Jesus, in the Gospel, sends the Twelve (Apostles) to the towns and villages of Galilee to announce the Good News. As emissaries of Jesus, they are given authority to heal and to drive out demons. Like Amos, the shepherd of Tekoa, they may appear like ordinary men, but they have full authority from God, like the prophets of old. Still, they should remain humble, bring just enough provisions, and carry the spirit of gentleness and mercy of the one who sent them—Jesus. To those who receive them, they bring healing and the message of peace and salvation. But those who reject them reject Jesus and the one who sent Jesus, God himself (Lk 10:16). These will suffer the dire consequences of rejecting the prophet.

Two challenges are brought out

here: that the messengers be true to the spirit of God’s word, and that the hearers are to listen to their message, not as the word of man but as the word of God.

In the early period of Christianity, aside from the Apostles and evangelizers like Paul and his company, there were other teachers who visited the community. How would the Christians know if they were authentic teachers or merely making use of the word of God to earn a living? An ancient Christian document called *Didache* (“Teachings of the Twelve Apostles”) gives this advice (n. 11.2): “Whoever comes to you and teaches all these things (teachings of the Apostles) you are to welcome him. However, if a teacher has himself wandered from the right path and has begun to teach a teaching that is at odds with what is set out here, you should not listen to him. On the other hand, if his teaching promotes holiness and knowledge of the Lord, then you should welcome him as you would the Lord.” And so that their hospitality might not be abused, and for the teacher to remain in simplicity, the *Didache* adds: “Every apostle who arrives among you is to be welcomed as if he were the Lord. But normally he must not stay with you for more than one day, but he may stay a second day if this is necessary. However, if he stays a third day, then he is a false prophet! When he leaves you, an apostle must receive nothing except enough food to sustain him until the next night’s lodgings.”

### PASTORAL CATECHESIS FOR THE YEAR OF *MISSIO AD GENTES*

#### *Biblical Roots of Mission Engagement*

Fr. James H. Kroeger, MM

Simply stated, mission is central to the Church and Christian life! Thus, we need to hear again the great mission commandment of Christ Jesus himself: “As the Father has sent me, so am I sending you” (Jn 20:21). The resurrected Christ says to his disciples: “Go, therefore, make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And know that I am with you always, until the end of time” (Mt 28:19-20).

Saint Paul’s letter to Timothy tells us that “God desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth” (1 Tm 2:4). Paul asserts that “everyone who invokes the name of the Lord will be saved” (Rom 10:13). Again, Paul writes to Timothy: “Make the preaching of the Good News your life’s work, in thoroughgoing service” (2 Tm 4:5).

Paul, the ardent missionary, points out that no one can come to believe in Jesus Christ if he has not heard the Word of God; the message that awakens faith has to be proclaimed by messengers sent out for the task. “So then, faith comes from hearing the message and the message comes through preaching Christ” (Rom 10:17). Friends, allow these biblical words to set your hearts on fire!

## THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

### Entrance Antiphon

(Cf. Ps 17[16]:15)

(*Recited when there is no opening song.*)

**As for me, in justice I shall behold your face; I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.**

### Greeting

(*The sign of the cross is made here.*)

**P**—The Lord be with you.  
**All**—And with your spirit.

### Introduction

(*These [or similar words] may be used to address the assembly.*)

**P**—Jesus sends the Twelve out to preach and bring the Good News to the people. This mission will be carried on not only by the direct successors of the apostles—the bishops—but also by all ordained ministers, religious men and women, and lay people. By virtue of our baptism, we are all sent to bear witness to Christ in word and deed. At the same time, we must receive God's messengers who preach repentance and announce the Good News to us.

### Penitential Act

**P**—Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.  
(*Pause*)

**P**—Have mercy on us, O Lord.  
**All**—For we have sinned against you.

**P**—Show us, O Lord, your mercy.  
**All**—And grant us your salvation.

**P**—May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.  
**All**—Amen.

**P**—Lord, have mercy.  
**All**—Lord, have mercy.

**P**—Christ, have mercy.  
**All**—Christ, have mercy.

**P**—Lord, have mercy.  
**All**—Lord, have mercy.

## Gloria

**Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

### Collect

**P**—Let us pray. (*Pause*)

O God, who show the light of your truth to those who go astray, so that they may return to the right path, give all who for the faith they profess are accounted Christians the grace to reject whatever is contrary to the name of Christ and to strive after all that does it honor.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

**All**—Amen.

## LITURGY OF THE WORD



### First Reading (Am 7:12–15) (*Sit*)

*The temple priest suspects Amos to be a professional who prophesies for gain. Amos replies that the Lord has chosen him, a shepherd, to bring his message to a people who wallow in pleasure and are deaf to the cries of the poor.*

### A reading from the Book of the Prophet Amos

AMAZIAH, priest of Bethel, said to Amos, "Off with you, visionary, flee to the land of Judah! There earn your bread

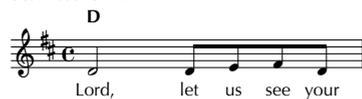
by prophesying, but never again prophesy in Bethel; for it is the king's sanctuary and a royal temple." Amos answered Amaziah, "I was no prophet, nor have I belonged to a company of prophets; I was a shepherd and a dresser of sycamores. The LORD took me from following the flock, and said to me, Go, prophesy to my people Israel."

—The word of the Lord.

**All**—Thanks be to God.

### Responsorial Psalm (Ps 85)

**R**—Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.



1. I will hear what God proclaims;/ the LORD—for he proclaims peace./ Near indeed is his salvation to those who fear him,/ glory dwelling in our land. (**R**)

2. Kindness and truth shall meet;/ justice and peace shall kiss./ Truth shall spring out of the earth,/ and justice shall look down from heaven. (**R**)

3. The LORD himself will give his benefits;/ our land shall yield its increase./ Justice shall walk before him,/ and prepare the way of his steps. (**R**)

### Second Reading (Eph 1:3–14)

*Paul sings a hymn of thanksgiving to God for the spiritual blessings given us in Christ, among which are holiness, goodness, wisdom, and love. We participate in God's plan for creation when we use our gifts for the benefit of all.*

### A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians

BLESSED be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavens, as he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and without blemish before him. In love he destined us for adoption to himself through Jesus Christ, in accord with the favor of his will, for the praise of the glory of his grace that he granted us in the beloved. In him we have redemption by his blood, the forgiveness of transgressions, in accord with the riches of his grace that he lavished upon us. In all wisdom and insight, he has made known to us the mystery of his will in accord with his favor that he set forth in him as a plan for the fullness of times, to sum up all things in Christ, in heaven and on earth.

In him we were also chosen, destined in accord with the purpose of the One who accomplishes all things according to the intention of his will, so that we might exist for the praise of his glory, we who first hoped in Christ. In him you also, who have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and have believed in him, were sealed with the promised holy Spirit, which is the first installment of our inheritance toward redemption as God's possession, to the praise of his glory.

—The word of the Lord.

**All—Thanks be to God.**

**Alleluia** (Cf. Eph 1:17–18)  
*(Stand)*

**All—Alleluia, alleluia. May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our hearts, that we may know what is the hope that belongs to our call. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Gospel** (Mk 6:7–13)

**P**—A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark  
**All—Glory to you, O Lord.**

JESUS summoned the Twelve and began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over unclean spirits. He instructed them to take nothing for the journey but a walking stick—no food, no sack, no money in their belts. They were, however, to wear sandals but not a second tunic. He said to them, “Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave. Whatever place does not welcome you or listen to you, leave there and shake the dust off your feet in testimony against them.” So they went off and preached repentance. The Twelve drove out many demons, and they anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

—The Gospel of the Lord.

**All—Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Homily** *(Sit)*

**Profession of Faith** *(Stand)*

**All—I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.**

**I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, (at the words that follow, up to and including and became man, all bow) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and**

**the dead and his kingdom will have no end.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**I believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**Prayer of the Faithful**

**P**—Let us pray to the heavenly Father that we may become faithful disciples as we take on God's call to love unconditionally. Let us pray:

**R—Lord of love, hear our prayer.**

**C**—May the Church, the People of God, become a family of disciples and one beacon of light who faithfully lives out the person of Christ, the one true light. We pray: **(R)**

**C**—May all civil leaders and public servants become faithful disciples of Christ. May they faithfully accomplish the duties and responsibilities they have sworn to. We pray: **(R)**

**C**—May you grant all of us gathered here today who face life's difficulties, the grace of holy endurance and the will to remain faithful to you. We pray: **(R)**

**C**—May our beloved dead enter your heavenly glory. We pray: **(R)**

**C**—Let us pray for the urgent concerns of our community and our personal intentions (*pause*). We pray: **(R)**

**P**—Heavenly Father, hear our heart's desire. May your will be done in our lives. May our selves be configured to the person of Christ, the perfect disciple of the Father.

Through Christ our Lord.

**All—Amen.**

**Presentation of the Gifts***(Stand)***P**—Pray, brethren...**All**—May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**Prayer over the Offerings****P**—Look upon the offerings of the Church, O Lord, as she makes her prayer to you, and grant that, when consumed by those who believe, they may bring ever greater holiness.

Through Christ our Lord.

**All**—Amen.**Preface VIII***(Sundays in Ordinary Time)***P**—The Lord be with you.**All**—And with your spirit.**P**—Lift up your hearts.**All**—We lift them up to the Lord.**P**—Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.**All**—It is right and just.**P**—It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For when your children were scattered afar by sin, through the Blood of your Son and the power of the Spirit, you gathered them again to yourself, that a people, formed as one by the unity of the Trinity, made the body of Christ and the temple of the Holy Spirit, might, to the praise of your manifold wisdom, be manifest as the Church.

And so, in company with the choirs of Angels, we praise you, and with joy we proclaim:

**All**—Holy, Holy, Holy... *(Kneel)***Acclamation** *(Stand)***All**—When we eat this bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.**MAY DEPARTURES****Austria, Germany, Liechtenstein & Switzerland (May 12 - 24, 2022)**  
with Fr. Alex Thomas**MARIAN JOURNEY (May 13 - Jun 1, 2022)**  
Portugal, Spain, France, Germany & Italy  
with Fr. Arvin Soriano**CENTRAL EUROPE (May 15 - 28, 2022)**  
Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg & Germany  
with Fr. Jun Sescon**BALKANS (May 15 - 30, 2022)**  
Germany, Austria, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia Hercegovina  
with Fr. Jerome "Jigs" Rosalinda**OBERAMMERGAU DEPARTURES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE IN SEPTEMBER.****WE ALSO OFFER HOLY LAND, MARIAN, EASTERN EUROPE, BALKANS, GREECE AND TURKEY, MEXICO TOURS & PILGRIMAGES.**Call us at (+632) 8929-0144 or (+632) 8929-0155  
+63917-5616440 (Globe) & +63999-9935580 (Smart)  
join@journeys.com.ph | www.journeys.com.ph**THE COMMUNION RITE****The Lord's Prayer****All**—Our Father...**P**—Deliver us, Lord...**All**—For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever.**Invitation to Peace****Invitation to Communion**  
*(Kneel)***P**—Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.**All**—Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**Communion Antiphon**

Cf. Ps 84(83):4-5

**The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow finds a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.****Prayer after Communion***(Stand)***P**—Let us pray. *(Pause)*

Having consumed these gifts, we pray, O Lord, that, by our participation in this mystery, its saving effects upon us may grow.

Through Christ our Lord.

**All**—Amen.**THE CONCLUDING RITES****P**—The Lord be with you.**All**—And with your spirit.**Solemn Blessing****P**—Bow down for the blessing. *(Pause)*

May the God of all consolation order your days in his peace and grant you the gifts of his blessing.

**All**—Amen.**P**—May he free you always from every distress and confirm your hearts in his love.**All**—Amen.**P**—So that on this life's journey you may be effective in good works, rich in the gifts of hope, faith, and charity, and may come happily to eternal life.**All**—Amen.**P**—And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, (+) and the Holy Spirit come down on you and remain with you for ever.**All**—Amen.**Dismissal****P**—Our celebration is ended.

Go in the peace of the Lord.

**All**—Thanks be to God.