

## NEW CREATION

**But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.**

**Advise from St. Peter in 1Peter 3:15-16**

Unless I am on the way to becoming a **genuinely transformed person** in the image of Jesus, then my baptism and all my other religious experiences have very little value.

Christianity is not an end in itself. It is simply a very effective, and, we believe, the most effective way, of **becoming that altogether new kind of human person** that Jesus and Paul speak about. This new person has a deep sense of both God's utter transcendence and utter immanence, the God who constantly calls us beyond where we are and who, at the same time, deeply penetrates our being and our every experience. This new person lives a life of perfect integrity and truth, a life of deep compassion and concern. This new person lives in freedom and peace.

Commissioning of the 72- a meaningful number as a multiple of 12 which is the product of 3 x 4. 3 being the number to represent the Godhead and 4 to represent mankind. **When man interacts with God it produces a heavenly product.**

Carry no money bag, no sack, no sandals; and greet no one along the way.

Have a **singular purpose** of expanding the kingdom of God on earth.

**The kingdom of God is at hand for you!**

**Peace**

One word that occurs in all three readings today is "peace". Isaiah, in the First Reading, speaks of **God sending "flowing peace, like a river"**.

Paul speaks of the **peace and mercy that come to all who become that transformed person in Jesus Christ.**

And, in the Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples to **bring peace with them** to every house they enter. This peace is not dependent on outside circumstances. It can exist even when we are surrounded by storms.

I will spread prosperity over Jerusalem like a river.

We carry a wonderful message for many people who need to hear it.

We are the only ones who are able to reach certain people who long to hear God calling them. These are people in our families and social circles.

If we ignore our calling then we are a hinderance to the Church of our Baptism.

Pray for the Holy Spirit to bring the needs of our loved ones to our awareness.

Turn to God for the grace to fulfill our calling.

Receive the Eucharist more than once a week.

Go before the Lord at Adoration on Friday evenings.

Make a visit during the week in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

Make up your mind to make a "Christ Renews His Parish" weekend this Fall.

It reminds one of the story about the man who was seen picking up beached starfish from the strand and throwing them back into the sea. Someone who was watching said, "You're wasting your time. There are thousands of them; throwing back a handful will make no difference." "It will make a difference to each one thrown back," replied the man. I too can start with just one person – today.