



World Day of Prayer for Vocations

HOMILY AIDS

Sunday, May 12, 2019

First Reading: Acts 13:14, 43-52

Summary: Gentiles gather to receive the Good News with joy, and the disciples rejoice despite persecution.

The vocation angle: Three groups interact in this passage: the disciples who proclaimed Christ boldly; the gentiles who received the message with joy; and the Jewish leaders who reacted with jealousy and anger. Today, the Church needs men and women who will enthusiastically proclaim Jesus to a hungry world, despite public derision. We need “good shepherds” to be “instruments of salvation.”

Second Reading: Revelation 7:9, 14-17

Summary: Saints from every nation gather in heaven to praise the Lamb, who wipes away all hunger and sadness.

The vocation angle: “Choose now what you wish to have chosen at life’s end,” wrote St. Anthony Mary Claret. Every vocation has heaven as its ultimate goal and is also ordered toward bringing other people to heaven. Ask young people: “When you stand before the throne of God, whom will you have helped attain heaven?”

Gospel: John 10:27-30

Summary: Jesus is the Good Shepherd who gently calls his followers to eternal life with the Father.

The vocation angle: Those who hear Jesus and follow him can take solace in His protection, for “no one can take them out of the Father’s hand.” Encourage young people who struggle to discern their vocations to trust in the mercy of the Good Shepherd! Listen carefully to His voice by reading scripture, seeking the sacraments, and spending time in quiet prayer. Trust that God has a plan, no matter how hard it seems to respond.