

## **11<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time-Reflecting God's Compassionate Love**

You and I profess faith in a God who cherishes us as His beloved children and surrounds our lives with tenderness and care, holding us continually in His compassionate love.

This Sunday's readings affirm this truth with great clarity, reminding us that we are not only recipients of God's goodness but also instruments of it-chosen to reflect His compassionate love in all we do.

In the first reading, God demonstrates His compassionate heart as He rescues Israel from slavery and carries them "on eagle's wings" and leads them from oppression to freedom. He seals them with a covenant of love and forms them into a kingdom of priests-a holy nation chosen not for privilege, but for mission.

The responsorial psalm reminds us that we are God's people, the sheep of His flock-held close by the Shepherd of our souls in His tender compassion.

In the second reading, Saint Paul proclaims the depth of God's love: Christ gave His life for us while we were still sinners. Through Him we are reconciled to God the Father and receive the gift of eternal life.

In the Gospel, Jesus embodies this same compassion as He teaches, proclaims the kingdom, and heals every disease. His heart is moved with pity for the weary and abandoned, for He sees them as sheep without a shepherd. He invites us to share in His mission of mercy.

Jesus recognizes the vastness of human need and urges us to pray for more laborers in the vineyard: "The harvest is abundant, but the laborers are few" (Mathew 9:37).

In our own time of fewer vocations, this call becomes even more urgent. The world needs more people willing to be instruments of God-bringing hope where there is despair, healing where there is hurt, and love where there is loneliness.

We answer the Lord's invitation when we reflect His goodness-showing kindness, mercy, and patience toward one another, especially those closest to us in our homes, workplaces, and communities. Every act of compassion becomes a small but powerful reflection of God's heart. Nourished and strengthened by the Word and the Eucharist, let us go forth reflecting the Lord's compassion-bringing hope to the discouraged, healing to the wounded, and kindness to all we meet. May those we encounter this week come to know the depth of God's tender love through the witness of our lives and the compassion we share.

God bless,  
Fr. Dr. Ben.