

# LIVING FAITH

## 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

June 14, 2026



### THE GOSPEL FOR TODAY--Mt 9:36-10:8

When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. "Then he said to his disciples, The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest."

Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax-collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment."

### REFLECTING ON THE GOSPEL

This story is really interesting, because in it Jesus sends his twelve disciples out on mission. They are not fully-formed. There are 28 chapters of Matthew's Gospel, and this story takes place in Chapter 9, only about of a third of the way through! These disciples are really in "on the job training."

What does this have to say to us? If we wait until we are fully prepared and fully ready to get out there and start making a difference in the world, we'll never start. Jesus takes us where we are, calls us into service, and leads us further. We are missionary disciples, always in training, and always being witnesses to Jesus in our world.

### TALKING WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

- Who do you know who you think of as a disciple of Jesus?
- How are you a disciple of Jesus? What are the signs that others can see?
- What are disciples called to be and to do in our world today?



# Jesus Calls for Workers

"As you go, preach this message: 'The kingdom of heaven is near.'" Matthew 10:7 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 9:35 - 10:8 (NIV)



T B L G O O D Q X S V J O S E  
 N O X K E I N C S Y D W S R I  
 G G W M C E S E T O L R S C C  
 L B G N V I L L A G E S Y O X  
 S T M A S P L I T K Z R N M L  
 I H E A L I N G R B H H A P N  
 C H M E W L S O D G J S G A E  
 K C H F T D W S I Q A H O S W  
 N J U L W R Z H S K Z E G S S  
 E Y K O A R V E E U C P U I J  
 S Z R E A Q B E A Y E H E O K  
 S C N M Y N H P S I F E S N S  
 E K I N G D O M E O B R P I W  
 X T E A C H I N G G I D H T K  
 J E S U S V P R E A C H I N G

CROWDS	KINGDOM	DISEASE	TEACHING	SYNAGOGUES
HEALING	TOWNS	GOOD	NEWS	HELPLESS
VILLAGES	HEAVEN	SICKNESS	NEAR	SHEEP
WORKERS	JESUS	COMPASSION	SHEPHERD	PREACHING

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# THE CHURCH TEACHES WE ARE CALLED TO BE *MISSIONARY DISCIPLES*

In his 2013 Apostolic Exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium* (*The Joy of the Gospel*), and in many talks since then, Pope Francis has encouraged us to think of the Church, and each individual, as “missionary disciples.” At the Angelus in St Peter’s Square on July, 15, 2018, Pope Francis talked about two aspects of the “missionary style” of Jesus, which we are called to adopt.

The first point recalls that the centre of mission is the Person of Jesus Himself. When Jesus sends the Apostles on mission, they are not going forth to spread their own message, or to demonstrate their own abilities. Rather, like rays coming out from a centre, the disciples proclaim the message of Jesus. We bring His presence and His work into the world. We are called to speak and act as His messengers.



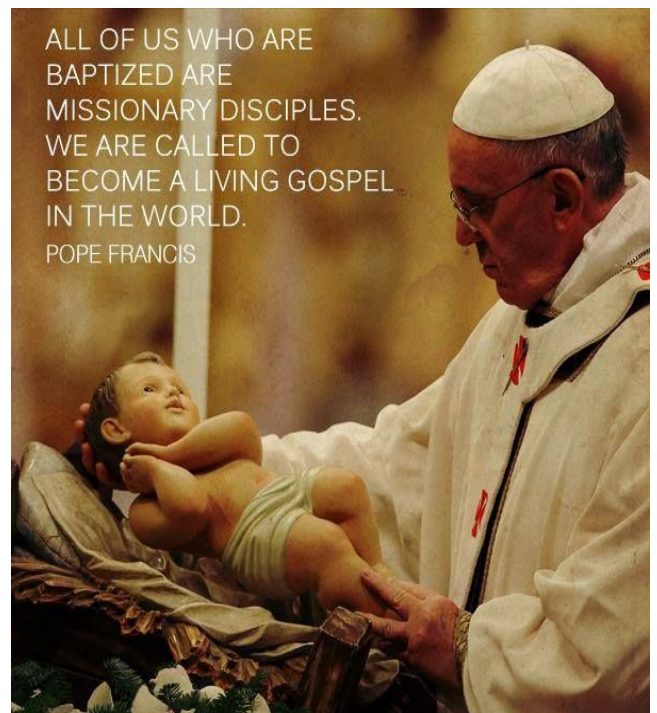
*I dream of a “missionary option,” that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church’s customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channeled for the evangelization of today’s world rather than for her self-preservation.* #27



“The second characteristic of the missionary style,” Pope

Francis said, is that the mission has “a face,” an aspect that it presents to the world. This “face” consists in “poverty of means.” The disciples were ordered to “take nothing for the journey but a walking stick.” Pope Francis said this means Jesus wants His disciples to be free, depending only on “the love of Him who sends them, strengthened only by His Word which they proclaim.” Missionary disciples are not “all-powerful managers, or irreplaceable functionaries, or divas on tour.”

In virtue of their baptism, all the members of the People of God have become missionary disciples (cf. *Mt 28:19*). All the baptized, whatever their position in the Church or their level of instruction in the faith, are agents of evangelization, and it would be insufficient to envisage a plan of evangelization to be carried out by professionals while the rest of the faithful would simply be passive recipients. The new evangelization calls for personal involvement on the part of each of the baptized. Every Christian is challenged, here and now, to be actively engaged in evangelization; indeed, anyone who has truly experienced God’s saving love does not need much time or lengthy training to go out and proclaim that love. Every Christian is a missionary to the extent that he or she has encountered the love of God in Christ Jesus: we no longer say that we are “disciples” and “missionaries”, but rather that we are always “missionary disciples”. (*The Joy of the Gospel*)



ALL OF US WHO ARE BAPTIZED ARE MISSIONARY DISCIPLES. WE ARE CALLED TO BECOME A LIVING GOSPEL IN THE WORLD. POPE FRANCIS

# Pope Leo XIV's First Encyclical Letter: Magnifica Humanitas

25 May 2026, Ottawa – Pope Leo XIV's Encyclical Letter, [Magnifica Humanitas](#), was released today. It focuses on safeguarding the human person in the time of artificial intelligence. The letter is dated 15 May, to commemorate the 135<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Pope Leo XIII's Encyclical Letter, [Rerum Novarum](#).

The Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development offers the following synopsis of the Encyclical Letter: “*Magnifica Humanitas* offers insights into the protection of the human person in the age of artificial intelligence, recognizing a profound epochal shift. It places the dignity of the human person at the centre as the criteria for guiding technical progress. The Church's social teaching accompanies these transformations, pointing to the common good, solidarity and subsidiarity as the fundamental benchmarks for understanding and interpreting the transformation currently underway. It proposes, as an alternative to the culture of power and war, a civilization of love founded on justice, dialogue and shared responsibility.”

To accompany the Encyclical Letter, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops has prepared a collection of resources on the topic of artificial intelligence. Over the coming weeks we will delve into this Encyclical, chapter by chapter. Here is a Link to the Encyclical: [Magnifica Humanitas](#)



## THE GREATNESS OF THE HUMAN PERSON IN THE FACE OF THE PROMISES OF AI

### The risk of the technocratic paradigm

- Efficiency → ⚠ becomes the sole criterion
- Profit → ⚠ guides decisions
- AI → ⚠ accelerates the problem
- Person → ⚠ reduced to performance

### Artificial Intelligence

#### What it does

- Processes data
- Recognises patterns
- Is fast and powerful

#### What it does NOT do

- ⚠ Has no consciousness
- ⚠ Does not love, does not suffer
- ⚠ Is not responsible

Simulates intelligence, but is not human

#### Risks of AI

- Speed: less critical thinking
- False objectivity: hides bias
- Simulated relationships: illusion
- Concentrated power: everything in the hands of a few

#### Criteria for a more humane AI

- Human dignity
- The common good
- Social justice
- Reliability
- Transparency

IA is not neutral, it reflects values and choices



“To disarm AI does not mean rejecting technology, but preventing it from dominating humanity.” MH 110



“The quality of a civilization is measured not by the power of its means, but by the care it is able to offer.” MH 114

### The myths of transhumanism

- Humans as something to be optimised, ‘enhanced’
- Removing limitations
- Transcending humanity
- Human-machine fusion



### The true human being:

- Relationship
- Vulnerability
- Care
- Love

A limitation is not a flaw: it is what makes us human



“For an algorithm, an error is a flaw to be corrected; for a person, however, it can be a catalyst for profound change.” MH 125

**AI should make life more human, not more efficient.**

