

**Sunday between 10 and 16 July**

*Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)*

**First Reading - Amos 7.7-15**

A reading from the book of the prophet Amos.

In a vision, Amos saw  
a master-builder,  
using a plumb-line  
to inspect  
the condition  
of a wall.

And the Lord  
said to Amos,  
'I have also inspected  
my people Israel, and found them  
to be untrue.

And so,  
the high places  
will be made desolate,  
the sanctuaries  
will lie in ruins,  
and I will rise up  
with the sword  
against the king.'

So Amos  
spoke to the people,  
as the Lord had commanded,  
saying, 'The king  
will die by the sword,  
and all Israel  
will be sent into exile,  
away from this land.'

The priest of Bethel  
sent a message to the king,  
saying, 'The prophet Amos  
is conspiring  
against you,  
right here  
at the heart  
of the house of Israel!'

And the same priest  
said to Amos, 'Get away from this place,  
to the land of Judah.

Earn your bread there,  
and work as a prophet there.

But never again  
speak here at Bethel,  
for this is the temple  
of the kingdom,  
and the sanctuary  
of the king.'

But Amos said, 'I am no prophet,  
and no son of a prophet.

I am a farmer:  
I follow the cattle,  
and tend fig trees.

But the Lord came to me,  
and told me  
to speak these words  
to the people of Israel.'

This is the word of the Lord.

**Second Reading - Ephesians 1.3-8a**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

Let us praise  
the God and Father  
of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has  
blessed us in Christ  
with every spiritual blessing,  
freely pouring out upon us  
the full riches  
of God's love and grace.  
For God chose us, in Christ,  
before  
the foundation of the world.

And now,  
through the sacrifice  
and the life-blood  
of Christ,  
God has  
forgiven our trespasses,  
freed us from sin,  
and adopted us, in Jesus Christ,  
to be holy,  
in the presence of God.  
This is the word of the Lord.

**Gospel - Mark 6.7-13**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Mark.

Jesus called the twelve,  
and began to send them out, in pairs,  
giving them authority  
over unclean spirits.

He told them to take nothing  
for their journey,  
except a staff;  
no bread,  
no bag,  
no money in their belts,  
no extra layer of clothes,  
and only sandals  
on their feet.

He said to them, 'Whenever  
you enter a house,  
stay there,  
until you leave  
that place.

And if you are not  
welcomed there -  
if that place  
refuses to hear you -  
shake the dust  
of that place  
off your feet  
as you leave.'

So they went out  
proclaiming the message  
that all should repent.  
They cast out many demons,  
and anointed with oil  
many who were sick,  
and they were healed.  
This is the Gospel of the Lord.