

February 16th 2025 6th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year C Luke 6:17, 20-26

⁶⁻¹⁷He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ²⁰Then he looked up at his disciples and said: 'Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. ²¹'Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. 'Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. ²²'Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. ²⁴'But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. ²⁵'Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. 'Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. ²⁶'Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Read and re-read – out loud and slowly the Gospel. ➤ Meditate - on reading as being spoken to you, an experience in your life. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Pray - Thanksgiving – Repentance – Petition. ➤ Action – Attitude (Call to change / to act /to do).
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In this week's gospel we read of St. Luke's account of the "Sermon on the Mount" which could also be called the sermon on the plain. Jesus fixes his eyes on us so that we can get to know him well and recognise His presence among us. In the presence of little ones He always felt inspired and filled with 'awe' and told them "yours is the kingdom of God" which means they are the ones who have the wisdom and courage to make the kingdom a reality in the world. Jesus talked on a 'piece of level ground' when there was a large crowd. He did not want to talk down to people but converse with them at their level entering into the greatness He saw in the midst of their poverty, hunger and tears.

How do we relate to the poor and marginalised?

Do we approach them in a condescending way or are we like Jesus, fix our eyes and heart on them, so we can really get to know them.

Prayer:

Lord thank you for those who reassure us that we are not bad, that the Kingdom of God is in our hands even though we may at that moment be crying bitter tears. We can with their help find a new positive belief in ourselves.

Forgive us Lord for the times when we felt we were better than others and were sorry for them, causing them to be intimidated by our sense of power.

Help us Lord to be like Jesus fixing our eyes and heart on those who are feeling lost so that they can become empowered by believing we really do care for them.