

Parish Newsletter

10th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 10 JUNE 2018
CYCLE B | ISSUE 28

It's great to meet with a group of people with shared interests. The interest might be work, study, sport, a hobby, or something else. This creates a bond in the group. They encourage one another, and enjoy meeting together. It's a different kind of bond to that in a family and on occasions can be more valued.

It is usually something outside the lives of the members of the group that provides the focus. Sometimes, however, one meets with others who like to reflect and talk about deeper matters. What is life all about? Why are we here? Where are we going? What is the vision that inspires us in life? What gets us out of bed in the morning? These were questions uppermost in the mind of Jesus. He had a way of talking about such matters that people found fascinating, to the point that they followed him around the Galilean countryside. They were enthused by his picture of what he called the Reign of God, a reign far different from the oppressive regimes of the political and religious leaders of his time. The campaign of Jesus was for a time when love and respect would be the basic rule of life. This attracted an ever-increasing number of followers.



Not everyone was on his side. He was rocking the boat of establishment figures who tried to turn people off by suggesting that Satan lay behind his work. Even his family were concerned about him, thinking "he was out of his mind". But the Holy Spirit, working in him, had given him a very persuasive influence. The Spirit working in others inspired them to join him so he gathered an unusual collection of followers, men and women, all inspired by the same Spirit. They were all enthused by the same vision of the Reign of God, a reign of love. Jesus, who valued the bonds of family life, recognised that in this group he had another kind of family, and one that was important to him. So looking around at them he could say: "Here are my brothers and sisters. Anyone, who does the

will of God, is brother and sister and mother to me."

Think of, and be grateful for, the people with whom you have a sense of being on the same wavelength, people with a shared view of the meaning of life, and shared values. We are blessed when we find kindred spirits. ■

— John (Peter) Byrne



THIS WEEK (11–17 JUNE)

- 11 **Mon** ST BARNABAS, APOSTLE
- 12 **Tue** St John of Sahagun
- 13 **Wed** St Anthony of Padua, priest & doctor
- 14 **Thur** St Methodius, pat. of Constantinople
- 15 **Fri** St Vitus, martyr
- 16 **Sat** St Aurelian
- 17 **Sun** ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS



Ezekiel 17:22-24
Psalm 91:2-3, 13-16
2 Corinthians 5:6-10
Mark 4:26-34

Reflection

When was the support of kindred spirits particularly important to you?

Lesson

It is not good that a person should be alone. We need companions in life.

Prayer

Bind us together, Lord, bind us together, with cords that cannot be broken.