

Homily: Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time July 11<sup>th</sup> 2021

Title: The title of our reflection together this morning is:  
CHOSEN.

## INTRODUCTION

Today's scriptures reflect on being CHOSEN .--- In the first reading the prophet Amos ,a simple farmer, never asked God to be a prophet--- but that did not exempt him from being sent to call king and clergy to live as they ought. For that he suffered ridicule and rejection.

We all know well from the Gospels that Jesus chose the disciples--- not VICE VERSA, --- and the more we study their lives the more we wonder why Christ chose such fallible folk to carry on his mission. In between those two stories, Paul offers me a profound meditation on God's choice to share his divine life with me. Together all today's readings invite me to a midsummer –reflection on who I am--- and where am I going.

After contemplating the heights, --- St Paul describes,--- the Gospel calls me back to the simplicity of discipleship. Mark's rendition of Jesus' sending the 12 out to preach, --- is starkly short.--- Mark's essential point is that Jesus gave the disciples his own power and authority and that is precisely what makes sense of his explanation that they should travel with nothing

but a walking stick and sandals --- indispensable equipment for going the distance.

We are chosen not because of our talent or achievements but because we are willing to be here and answer the call. That's all the qualifications required. Knowing that can humble us enough to make us the kind of servants our world needs today. ---In order to be able to carry the message to others, we first have to follow Paul's advise and bask in the wonderful warmth of God's love for me . Jesus' awareness of God's love formed the basis of his authority, and that is what he shares with me

## CONCLUSION

The fact of my Baptism tells us I am chosen by God. My awareness of God's love not only tells me where I am going but helps me to reach out to others who need to experience that love. We are not only simply chosen; like the first disciples we are empowered.

AMEN.