

14th Sunday of Ordinary Time

5th July 2026



The Lord has sent me to bring the good news
to the poor.

Luke 4

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus and his disciples return home, to his native place. On the Sabbath, Jesus went to the synagogue and he began to teach. All who listened to Jesus were astonished. They were taken aback at the power of his teaching as well as the power of his presence. This was Jesus, a man they knew very well. He was a man who had grown up in their midst.

How had Jesus become so knowledgeable and such a powerful speaker? He was the son of a carpenter, not the son of a rabbi. As a result, many people in his hometown discounted Jesus and his message. They refused to listen to him. After all, who did Jesus think he was to preach to the people who had known him from birth?

Jesus did not get angry. Rather, Jesus replied to their comments by saying that typically a prophet is not honoured by the people who have known him from birth. Jesus realised that he simply was too familiar to them. They only saw in him what they wanted to see. Thus Jesus was unable to perform any great deeds there as they did not have faith in him.

It can be easy to discount the people whom we know the best. They are so very familiar to us that we simply may take them for granted. Take a moment and think about the people in your life: what are their gifts? How do they provide you with their love and care? Do you appreciate them? Do you appreciate their gifts and talents? Do you let them know how important they are to you?

This weekend, make time to give thanks for the many people who love and care about you! In some small way, let them know how grateful you are to have them in your life!



This week let us pray for:

- ♦ all those countries voting for new leaders;
- ♦ those who do not live free lives as a result of restrictive governments;
- ♦ all those connected to our community who are unwell, upset or mourning.

Loving God,

Awaken me to a sense of Your presence. Help me to catch glimpses of Your face in the faces of those around me. Help me to see others with Your eyes and to know them as Your own precious children. Make me aware of what I cannot or will not recognise - in myself and in others. Make me an instrument of Your peace and reconciliation.

I ask this in Your name, Amen.

**I am able to do all things
through Him who strengthens
me.**

"Freedom consists not in doing what we like, but in having the right to do what we ought."

– Pope Saint John Paul II