

# *St. John Paul II Parish, Sellersburg IN*

## *The First Fifteen*

The Spiritual Life and Evangelization Commission has asked that all parish meetings begin with a program we are calling "The First Fifteen." We are asking all parish meetings to begin with a few minutes of faith sharing. One person in the group reads the reading provided below (which corresponds with this next week's weekend readings) and everyone is given an opportunity to reflect and share on the readings. The questions below are simply a way to stimulate your reflection. You can use them or anything that strikes you about the word of God.

**Sunday, July 22, 2018**

**Gospel Reading: Mark 6:30-34**

The apostles gathered together with Jesus and reported all they had done and taught. He said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while." People were coming and going in great numbers, and they had no opportunity even to eat. So they went off in the boat by themselves to a deserted place. People saw them leaving and many came to know about it. They hastened there on foot from all the towns and arrived at the place before them.

When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, for they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

**Questions to Ponder:**

1. Have you ever been so busy with work, family, home chores and other obligations that you wanted to run away? Where is your place of rest that takes you away for time alone, your "Happy Place"?
2. In this gospel account Jesus points out to the apostles and to us, the need for rest? Why do you think this lesson made it into the gospel? Do you ever seek a time to be alone with Jesus? A time where you can communicate one on one, to renew your relationship with God? I
3. "His heart was moved with pity for them.." What things move your heart and push you to do something to relieve the pain of others?

**End with the "Glory Be"**

**"Glory be to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen"**