Readings for the week of June 14, 2026

Sunday:
Ex 19:2-6a/Ps 100:1-2, 3, 5/Rom 5:6-11/
Mt 9:36-10:8

Monday:
1 Kgs 21:1-16/Ps 5:2-3ab, 4b-6a, 6b-7/
Mt 5:38-42

Tuesday:
1 Kgs 21:17-29/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 11 and 16/
Mt 5:43-48

Wednesday:
2 Kgs 2:1, 6-14/Ps 31:20, 21, 24/
Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday:
Sir 48:1-14/ Ps 97:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7/
Mt 6:7-15

Friday:
2 Kgs 11:1-4, 9-18, 20/Ps 132:11, 12, 13-14, 17-18/Mt 6:19-23

Saturday:
2 Chr 24:17-25/Ps 89:4-5, 29-30, 31-32, 33-34/Mt 6:24-34

Next Sunday:
Jer 20:10-13/Ps 69:8-10, 14 and 17, 33-35/
Rom 5:12-15/Mt 10:26-33

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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A few years ago, I met a woman in my parish who was a successful lawyer. Yet in her free time, she poured her energy into a nonprofit she founded to advocate for children with special needs. When I asked what inspired her, she spoke of her niece, who was born with disabilities. Her niece was both a glorious gift and a constant challenge. Out of that painful, beautiful experience, she felt called to create something lasting for other children and parents. The nonprofit thrived, not because she had mapped it all out, but because she was deeply moved to act.

In today's Gospel, Jesus is **"moved with compassion" for the crowd, for they were "like sheep without a shepherd**." (Matthew 9:36) So he calls his disciples, ordinary men with no special qualifications, and sends them to heal, preach, and cast out demons. Their mission flows not from their skills but from his authority and the Spirit's gifts.

The Second Vatican Council teaches that the Spirit continually pours out charisms, special graces for the good of the Church and the world (cf. *Lumen Gentium* 4 & 12). These often arise from the unfolding of our lives: from what breaks your heart, what fills you with hope, what suffering has shaped you. The Spirit works through those very experiences to equip us with gifts that build up others.

What is your charism? Well, what needs around you call you to loving action? This could be where Christ is sending you. Allow your heart to be moved like Christ's. Then get to work.

— Father John Muir

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(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: We often find it hard to love the Church if we find it hard to love a particular priest, a particular bishop. That's the thing about priests and bishops and all the laborers in the field: they are human. They are sinners. Just like you and me.

Laborers
"The harvest is abundant, but the laborers are few."

This excerpt from Matthew's Gospel has become a catchphrase in the modern Church. We give ourselves vertigo with the amount of head-shaking we do over the much-lamented "decline in numbers."

Which numbers, you ask? Well, take your pick — numbers of baptized Catholic children who continue to profess their faith in adulthood, numbers of registered parishioners, numbers of priests ordained each year. All are a fraction of what they were generations ago.

That last one — the priests — that's a particular worry for us, isn't it? So we pray, "Send us laborers, Lord! Make them holy. Make them earnest."

And then we add, in the silence of our hearts: "Make them perfect."

It's no secret that part of the reason the pews are empty is because we often find it hard to love the Church if we find it hard to love a particular priest, a particular bishop, or a particular human representative of the Church.

Because that's the thing about priests and bishops and all the laborers in the field: they are human. They are sinners. Just like you and me.

We must consider this: today's Gospel lists the Apostles whom Jesus sent out in ministry to heal, console, and evangelize, and right at the end — like a record scratch — comes the name of Judas Iscariot, the betrayer. If ever a laborer failed in his work, it was Judas.

And surely, when he did, his fellow laborers were so demoralized and so disenchanted that they considered laying down their tools and leaving the harvest to wither and die.

But they did not, and we must not.

Without cost we have received, and without cost we are called to give.

So we labor on, for the day is drawing to a close, and the threshing time is near.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?
Catholic Life Explained

Question:

A member of my parish was recently arrested for a white-collar crime. I don't approve of what he did, but he is a great neighbor and a nice person. How should I treat someone like him?

Answer:

There is a litany of expressions that fit this situation: Everyone makes mistakes. Hate the sin, love the sinner. Judge not, lest you be judged. All of these proverbs and sayings highlight the fact that we are here to help each other on the way to salvation. Our hope and goal is that everyone grows in grace, drawing closer to God and to the promise of eternal life. Part of that process is our struggle, collectively and individually, with sin. And that is the ugly part. Sin is not nice, pretty, or inviting when laid out for all to see. Nor is it easy for the person caught in the spotlight.

Kindness and support are not the same thing as approval. We recognize that good people can do bad things and in their struggle, they need the help of others. Our kindness is often the flicker of hope that allows someone to face the consequences of sin while focusing on the promise of redemption. Your desire to help and support your neighbor is the response of grace to sin, and the same response of Jesus to us.

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Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:
Therefore, if you hearken to my voice and keep
my covenant,
you shall be my special possession,
dearer to me than all other people,
though all the earth is mine. (Ex 19:5)

Psalm:
We are his people: the sheep of his flock. (Ps 100)

Second Reading:
But God proves his love for us
in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us. (Rom 5:8)

Gospel:
At the sight of the crowds, Jesus' heart was moved
with pity for them
because they were troubled and abandoned,
like sheep without a shepherd. (Mt 9:36)

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Live The Liturgy
Inspiration of the Week

In his mercy, Jesus sent his Apostles into ministry — and the Apostles are still ministering today. We see them in the sanctuary, in the confessional. They are our priests, sent to shepherd Christ's sheep. This week, let's pray for our shepherds.

Observances for the week of June 14, 2026

Sunday:	11th Sunday in Ordinary Time; *Flag Day*
Friday:	St. Romuald, Abbot; *World Refugee Day; Juneteenth*
Next Sunday:	12th Sunday in Ordinary Time; *Father's Day*

Virtues, *Explained!*

God Himself is Truth. Therefore, if we belong to God, we must live truthfully — in small matters and in large ones, so that the witness we bear to the ultimate Truth of God shall always be taken seriously.

Prayer of Discipleship

Dear Jesus,
You've called every soul to yourself, aware of our faults and failures, but also our gifts, perspectives, our talents, and our dreams. As we grow to know you, help us to more fully understand ourselves and, in doing so, to use our unique positions to spread your love to the world.
Amen.

"Go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, make this proclamation: 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, drive out demons. Without cost you have received; without cost you are to give."
- Mt 10:6-8

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Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading:

God reveals to Moses His intention to make Israel a "treasured possession among all the peoples...a kingdom of priests, a holy nation." Have you ever received an incredible gift you never saw coming?

Second Reading:

Paul teaches us that as believers, we have been reconciled to God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Can you think of a time when you reconciled with a friend or family member?

Gospel:

Jesus commissioned his 12 Apostles to carry on his missionary work of healing the sick and exorcising unclean spirits. Do you have a sense of mission for your life?

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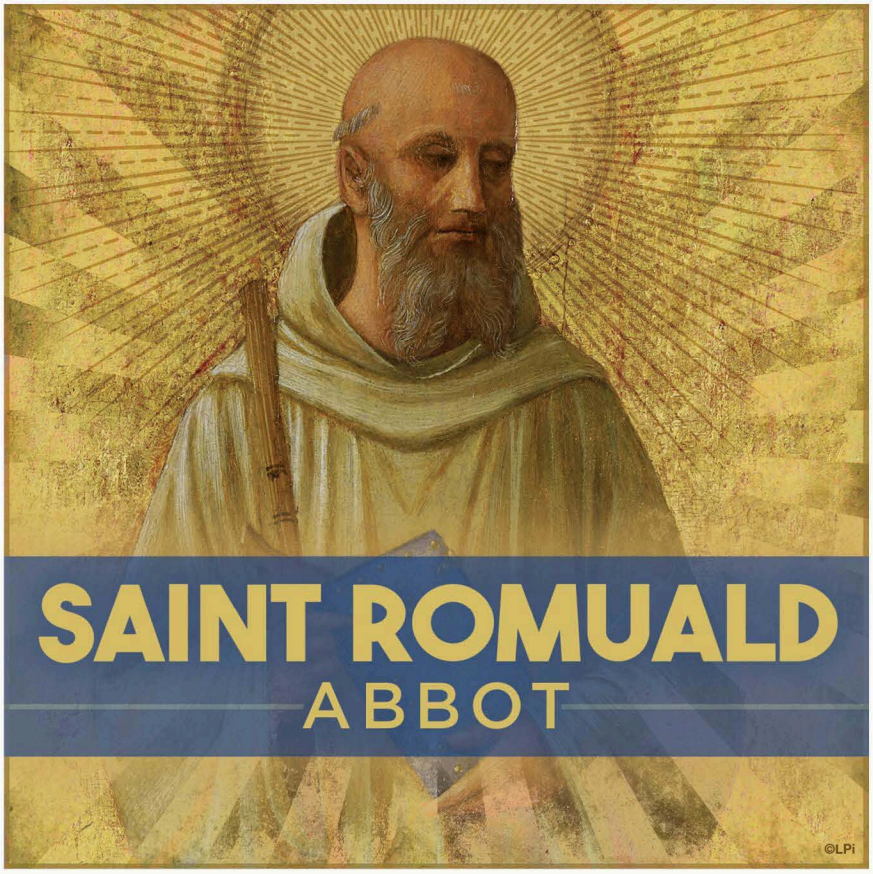

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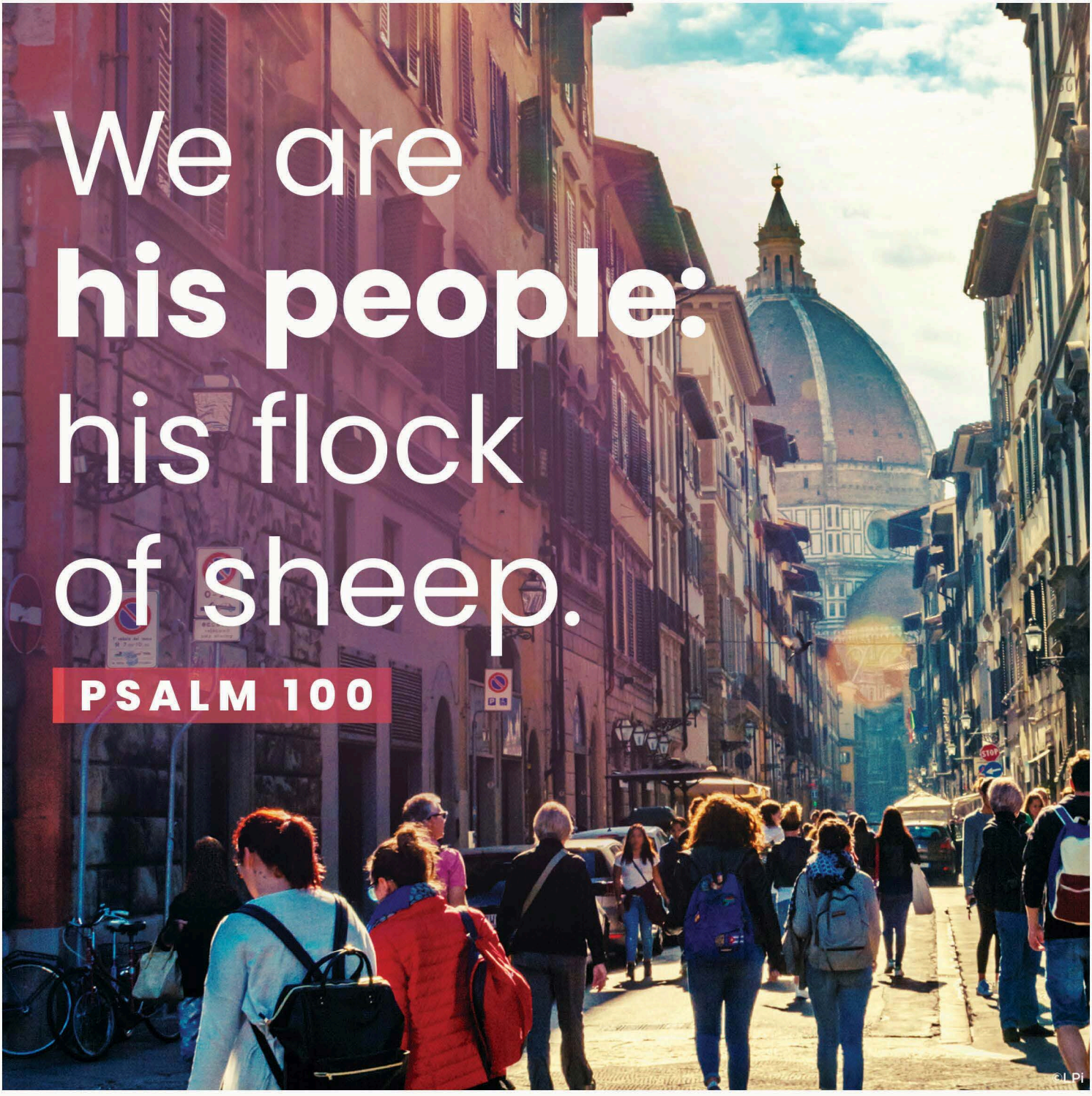

At the sight of the crowds, Jesus' heart was moved with pity for them because they were troubled and abandoned, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest." - Mt 9:36-38

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