

July 22, 2012

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

This morning I am in Limerick Ireland, an old Viking city. Lunch in Limerick and then on to Ennis in County Clare, which most Irish consider the most notable county in the country for traditional Irish music. We will stay in Old Ground Hotel and then visit the pubs.

In the Gospel today, Jesus invites his disciples to “come apart to a quiet place and rest awhile. It is sad but true that today in the USA Americans have significantly less time for vacations than they did 25 years ago!

During this time away, my Sunday reflections will be short. I do recommend a summer movie for you to see. It is **Bernie**, the story of a small town funeral director who gets involved with the certified crank of the town: Shirley McLaine. Go to the movie section for my review. The following is a reflection on Ordinary Time, the Liturgical Season we are now in:

Ordinary Time
The Greening and Growing Season

Bless our land from sea to sea.
Bless the fields giving life to me.
Bless the earth beneath my feet.
Bless the food we have to eat.
And yet, Creator God,
This is not ‘ordinary time.’
This is extraordinary time.
Where fertile earth lies supine.
Forests are despoiled.
Deserts are cursed by drought.
Icebergs are melted by global warming,
bringing chaos out of paradise.
What I do for the earth,
I do for all the children.
Let the Earth be for them
no desert, but precious gem.
Bless these children,
Bless their future life.
Bless the earth,
the womb of life.

From A Contemporary North American Prayer Book...WJF