

## *Jesus chooses the twelve Apostles*

Homily, 19th January 2018

Mark 3,13-19

father G. Papparone o.p.

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We will never get tired of thanking the Lord for deciding to choose some people that could carry on his mission in this world.

*He chose some whom He called "apostles",* that means "empowered", "sent".  
Twelve persons destined to carry on his mission in the world; the rising Church.

His mission, as we heard in the Gospel, does not simply consist in transmitting his oral teaching, but also in **cast out demons**: the text underlines this: "to be with him and to cast out the demons".

The apostle, whose first successor is the bishop, is therefore someone who has the power to cast out the demon, but who has also the duty of being a man of prayer: "to be with him".

I believe that "being with him" doesn't simply mean "praying", but living in communion with Jesus, acting together with him, shaping his life style and behaviour according to his.

There are people who have to live in a very special way their communion with the Lord in order to accomplish his mission.

Let's then pray for these people who have been chosen by Jesus, because our world absolutely needs their presence, their commitment, their dedication, their blessing.

We have to be thankful to them and don't have to think of them as privileged people; they are chosen to offer a service, maybe to live a more demanding and a harder life than ours, more binding.

Let's then be with them through our prayer and let's be grateful to Jesus, who, through them, wants to reach our lives, save us and free us from the devil, and let's also be grateful to these people who accept to be chosen and answer "yes" to him.

As a matter of fact, if there weren't anybody saying "yes" to the Lord, the Gospel would disappear from Earth.

Let's be thankful, let's pray and, in our turn, let's try and do what is necessary to be saved.

Let the Lord Jesus Christ be praised.