



**RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION**
4 July, 2021
Ordinary Time
Year B Cycle I

**Articles from the Catechism of the Catholic Church
for this week's gospel message**

CCC 2581-2584: prophets and conversion of heart
CCC 436: Christ as prophet
CCC 162: perseverance in faith
CCC 268, 273, 1508: power is made perfect in weakness

"14th Sunday in Ordinary Time"
"A prophet is only despised in his own country!"

A prophet's job is to open people's eyes to the reality of their situation, pointing out to them the things they would rather forget or ignore. A prophet is a sort of "national conscience", always awake to situations of injustice and always speaking out about them. A prophet is commissioned to do this by God, who sends the prophet on his mission Jesus is just such a prophet, teaching and preaching about the Kingdom of God and the best way to live. Despite the welcome his message has received elsewhere, when he comes to his hometown he is faced with rejection, such that "he was amazed at their lack of faith." It is curious that they seem to accept his wisdom, and his miracles, but because he grew up among them they cannot accept him as a teacher from God. We should remember that it's often hardest to stand up for the truth among those who know us well.



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HOME	TOWN	WISDOM
CARPENTER	MARY	JAMES
JUDE	JESUS	DESPISED
OWN	COUNTRY	HOUSE



Wisdom from the Church

In the plan of life which represents each person's vocation, love is also a precious source for the self-giving which all men and women are called to make for their own self-realization and happiness.

God created human beings for happiness now and forever. But what is happiness and where can it be found? People may search far and wide for happiness, and find that it is also found right at home.

The roots for family solidarity run deep. Family relationships are where people first discover and later test their intellectual, emotional, physical, spiritual and social skills and ideas.

True Happiness:

A person is capable of choosing happiness in one's own life. A guide to Christian happiness can be found in the Beatitudes. The attitudes of happiness, found in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:3-10), can stand in opposition to the more self-centered approach too common in popular culture. Echoing the attitude and words of Jesus, the Church teaches that happiness is rooted in self-giving and loving relationships. These roots are important as one travels life's journey.

Discovering the Journey:

There is no guarantee that the path ahead will be well-lighted, easy to follow and free of danger. If one acts with an informed conscience and in faith, one walks with God. Among the companions along the way will be the community of faith—the Church as well as its guidance through her moral teachings that have served people so well for centuries. The Commandments, the Beatitudes and the example of Jesus are all invaluable gifts to be received with love and gratitude.

