

# Second Hand Preacher

Epiphany Sunday

January 8, 2017

**Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6**

Epiphany Sunday is also known as Immigration Sunday. It recognizes all those who find themselves away from their homeland. Some come by choice seeking a better life and some are here because they were forced out of their countries and have nowhere to call home. Our Catholic Social Teaching tells us to reach out to the poor immigrant in need of shelter. Pope Francis tells us to be welcoming to the immigrant treating them like they are our sister or brother. When we care for others, we are doing the work God intends us to do. So let us be open to the immigrant at our door.

St. Paul kind of toots his own horn. He claims he knows a little better than the other Apostles about welcoming the Gentiles. He is the apostle to the gentiles. He and his followers are spreading the message to all the people of the known world. He wants to make Jesus Christ known and loved by all people. He wants the Ephesians to know the universal message. Catholic means universal, so one could surmise that the Catholic Church is born through all those who spread the message. No longer do you have to be a Jew to love Jesus. Now all people are called to do so.

We are all called to follow in the footsteps of St. Paul. We are to bring the message of Jesus to all. We need to start with ourselves. Then we can take the message to our family and friends. Only after we are a church on the move can we take our message to the world. We are called to be intentional disciples. Hopefully we can have a personal relationship with Jesus and serve the Church with our whole heart. Join the Church in her mission to care for the immigrant and all those in need.