

# Second Hand Preacher

*2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time*

January 17, 2016

## **1 Corinthians 12:4-11**

This weekend we celebrate the beginning of a short version of Ordinary Time. These weeks serve as a bridge to Lent. They display some of the ministry of Jesus. This second reading gives us a picture of the gifts and struggles of the early church. The life of Jesus was totally inspiring. His message really affects all we say and do today. This letter is one of the first expressions of faith after the resurrection.

I have to make a confession. I used the wrong reading last week. I turned the page in the missalette one too many pages and I featured this beautiful reading from 1 Corinthians. I should have written on a selection from St. Paul's letter to Titus which featured many wise words concerning baptism. This fit in very well with the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. The Holy Spirit is quite prominent in the Baptism of the Lord Gospel, so I think that is why I didn't notice the mix up until it was too late. There are so many good things to say about this passage, as the gifts of the Holy Spirit are the building blocks of eternal life.

We are all called and gifted. The Holy Spirit draws out our God-given talents so that we can thrive as Christians. St. Paul wanted to fortify the strong Church that was in Corinth. He wanted them to realize they were one body in Christ motivated by the Spirit. We are just like the Corinthians. It can seem like a very dark world out there, but we can't lose hope. We must ask the Holy Spirit to animate our lives, so we can live out our baptismal call. As you read these verses may you be filled with the Spirit.