

GOSPEL PEARLS

Faithful collaborators

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Jesus went up the mountain and summoned those whom he wanted and they came to him.

He appointed Twelve, whom he also named Apostles, that they might be with him

and he might send them forth to preach and to have authority to drive out demons:

He appointed the Twelve:

Simon, whom he named Peter;

James, son of Zebedee,

and John the brother of James, whom he named Boanerges, that is, sons of thunder;

Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew,

Matthew, Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus;

Thaddeus, Simon the Cananean,

and Judas Iscariot who betrayed him. (Mk 3:13-19)

Jesus, being God does not need help to do all things well, yet chooses a few to be His collaborators by sending them to testify and announce the Kingdom of Heaven to others, of every epoch. Jesus therefore encounters and saves men with the collaboration of his envoys, made indispensable by His design - the Apostles and their successors - the bishops (and their collaborators: priests). In gratitude to Jesus for this gift, let's pray lovingly for the shepherds called by Christ to protect us with the Grace of the sacraments and with vigilance over the Truths of Faith.