

# 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday In Ordinary Time Of The Year

(1Kings 19.16,19-21, Galatians 5.13-18, Luke 9.51-62)

## Theme: Pay Back With Love

Beloved brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus; by the readings of today, our Lord Jesus Christ has invited us to allow our lives to be ruled by love. It is a noble call for us to follow the footsteps of our Master, Jesus. He did not allow the demands of the flesh, nor human emotions to distract Him from His love for God and for us. He allowed the Spirit of God to direct His actions. In the same way he wants us to live. He wants our lives to be guided by the Spirit of God.

In the gospel narrative, we see our Lord Jesus Christ turning down the request of His apostles to call down fire to consume those whom they felt had hurt them. The disciples reaction here showed a feeling of revenge or an opportunity to pay back evil for evil, but Jesus said no, rather good for evil and love for hate. Jesus means this message for all of us.

We also see from the gospel message today, that our callings as disciples of Christ, entails a full commitment to Christ. It means putting God first in all that we do. Here Jesus encourages us not to allow our domestic demands and other social activities to distract us from worshipping God. This does not mean avoiding or neglecting our family or domestic responsibilities. But simply reveals to us, that Christian living entails sacrifice and focusing of ones life, on God.

My beloved brothers and sisters; let us listen to the voice of Christ by allowing our lives to be ruled by love, and to see our Christian calling, as a total commitment to God.