



## Reflection from Deacon Ross Beaudoin

Mission Impossible was a popular TV series that ran from 1966 to 1973 and 1988-90. Each episode began with the statement of a mission task that ended with “This is your mission, should you decide to accept it.”

The members of the group given the mission charge were known as the IMF, the Impossible Mission Force.

I see a parallel in the message of our scripture readings of this Sunday. In the gospel Jesus is faced with the *Impossible* task of spreading God’s message among the people of his region. Jesus had preached, performed miracles and taught in the synagogue. And what was the response in his own Nazareth? “They found him too much for them” (Mk 6:3). “He could work no miracle there,, so much did their lack of faith distress him” (Mk 6:5).

Now was the time to call in the IMF. Jesus summoned the Twelve and gave them their mission: go to the towns and villages: preach repentance, cast out demons, anoint the sick – and don’t take any thing with you (Mark 6:7-13). All twelve accepted their mission. The results were amazing. This IMF was totally inexperienced – but they accomplished the mission with flying colors.

In our first reading (Amos 7:12-15) Amos is an Impossible Mission Force of one. Amos gets his mission from the Lord through Amaziah. Amos (also inexperienced) accepts his mission and the plan of God advances among the people.

Can you and I think of one mission that God needs an IMF for today? Maybe a few (dozen) come to mind? Equity, justice, housing, food insecurity, care for the earth, reconciliation, healthcare, harmony, cooperation, a visit to a neighbor or to someone who is sick, a smile, a ”hello,” encouragement for a person or family struggling, a helping hand....

The Twelve got their mission from God in Jesus; Amos got his mission from God through Amaziah; we got our mission from God in baptism. After the pouring of baptismal water we were told: “God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has freed you from sin and *brought you to new life* through water and the Holy Spirit and *welcomed you into his holy people*. **God now anoints you** with the chrisom of salvation. **As Christ was anointed** *Priest, Prophet, and King, so may you live always as a member of his body, sharing everlasting life.*” We were brought on board as a member of the Impossible Mission Force to bring God’s love, message and grace into this world.

If you haven’t already, tune in through prayer and ask what Mission is assigned to you, and decide to accept it.

~ Peace,

Deacon Ross