

**January 29, 2017**  
**Agents of Blessing**

*Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth:  
Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one  
God, for ever and ever. Amen*

## **LOOK**

The high of living in community is the opportunity to bless each other. Sometimes we actually say the words “God bless you”.

1. In what context have you said these words recently or had them said to you?  
How did it make you feel?
2. How have you felt blessed to be part of the St. Timothy’s community this year?

## **BOOK**

Matthew 5:1-12. Try reading this passage in 2 or 3 translations.

1. Do you sense a progression of the beatitudes? Why or why not?
2. Discuss the use of the word “happy” vs “blessed”. Are they interchangeable?
3. Which beatitude feels the most relevant for you right now?
4. How is it possible to be blessed in the midst of persecution?

## **TOOK**

We also heard the beautiful words of the prophet Micah this week, “He has told you O mortal what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” (v. 6:8)

1. There are lots of verbs in both readings. Choose one of them and talk about how it might inform your faith walk this week/month.
2. In a time of as much cursing as blessing, how can we remain faithful to our call to be agents of blessing?