

## **Commentary on the Gospel for Sat, Dec 6th 2014**

Moses was aware that his departure from this world was imminent. He prayed to Yahweh with these words, “Let the LORD, the God of the spirits of all flesh, appoint someone over the congregation who shall go out before them and come in before them, who shall lead them out and bring them in, so that the congregation of the LORD may not be like sheep without a shepherd” (Num 27:16-17). Yahweh heard the prayer of Moses and appointed Joshua as their new leader. Micaiah, the prophet lamented to Yahweh saying, “I saw all Israel scattered on the mountains, like sheep without a shepherd”. Yahweh replied, “These have no master; let each one go home in peace” (2Ch 18:16) implying the present leaders were false shepherds and he would send them a good shepherd. Even at the time of Jesus, they were like sheep without shepherd. But Jesus took up the leadership; “I am the good shepherd” (Jn 10:11). Unlike other leaders, Jesus lived for others, proclaimed the good news, cured every disease and had compassion for people. He sought the lost, and I brought back the strayed and bound up the injured, and strengthened the weak. He fed them with justice (cf. Eze 34:15-16). Today, Jesus invites us to follow him and become a leader for others in his style of leadership.

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