## 20th Sunday – Ordinary Time – Year B

- How long as it been since you wrote a letter?
  - o A real honest-to-goodness hand written letter
  - We don't write letters much anymore
    - Phone Calls Email Texts Tweets the written letter is lost
  - When I went to college a letter from my Mother was a treat
    - Family news, who did what when, AND ADVICE
    - Don't stay out too late
    - Get your rest
    - Study hard
    - Clean your room
    - Remember what we taught you
  - o In today's scriptures we have a letter like that
    - St. Paul wrote a letter to the church in Ephesus (Ephesians)
    - Paul was a missionary he travelled all around starting new churches
    - After he left them he would write letters full of advice
    - 13 books of the NT are letters from Paul almost half the NT!
      - Paul wanted to make sure they were following the teachings of JC
- One of the best things about Paul's letters is that not only was it good advice
  - It still is
  - Listen to the advice he gives the Ephesians in today's 2<sup>nd</sup> reading:
    - 1. Be careful how you live
    - 2. Don't be unwise, but wise
    - 3. Make the most of every opportunity
    - 4. Don't get drunk on wine
    - 5. Be filled with the Holy Spirit
    - 6. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord
    - 7. Give thanks to God for everything
  - Writing letters may never be as popular as it once was
    - Thankfully we still have the letters of St. Paul
    - & They give us great advice