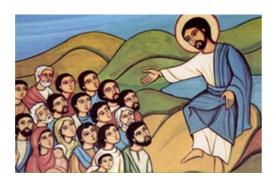
## THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURES January 29, 2023

## **Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13 † 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 † Matthew 5:1-12a



Reflection by: Sister Jeanne Goyette, OP

Consider Your Own Calling . . .

As we consider our own calling, an inspiring song comes to mind: <u>IN THE NAME OF LOVE - Do You Remember the Call?</u> (created by Michelle Sherliza, OP with music by Sr. Jennifer Corlett, OSU and Fr. Mark Hobson). Lines from the hymn invite us to ponder . . .

Do you remember the call?
When did you hear your name out loud?
Can you remember the word that you heard when the story began in you?
Do you remember the vision, the dream? And the courage to love for life?
In the name of love.

We were called, as St. Paul reminds us in the letter to the Corinthians, even though most of us were not wise by human standards, nor powerful or of noble birth. Rather God chose us inexperienced, weak in many ways, and searching for answers. In time we began to realize that Jesus Christ "became for us wisdom from God, as well as righteousness, sanctification, and redemption." And our only boasting could be in the Lord who loves us unconditionally and enables us to love others and all that God has created.

Our calling, our dream, therefore, is to remain close to the heart of Jesus where we are loved, taught, and are graced to act. The Beatitudes provide the way into the depths of the heart of Jesus. It is there that we realize how we are blessed and have the courage to love for life. To be poor in spirit, to mourn, to be meek, merciful, pure of heart, to hunger and thirst for righteousness, to be peacemakers, and to rejoice when insulted and persecuted because of God – all bring us into the mystery of God's love.

So let us take time to meditate on the Beatitudes, knowing that in doing so we are humbly seeking to consider our calling to love and to act IN THE NAME OF LOVE.