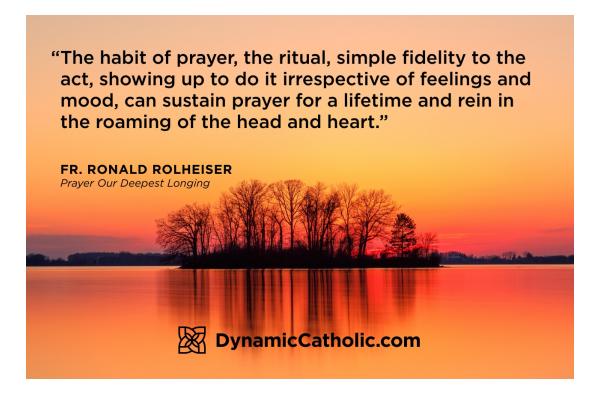
Knights of Columbus Newsletter Council 13391 January 19, 2022 Thursday

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We would like to thank all of you who joined us in the Parish Center for the Knight's coffee and doughnuts. We served over 110 doughnuts, cookies, nearly three gallons of chocolate milk and hot coffee after the morning Masses. Our next time will be the third weekend **February 18th and 19th**. Plan to join us! Our next monthly meeting will take place on February 2nd at 6:30 p.m. in the lower church level. Come join us. We are looking at ways to make a more prayerful experience for Lent. Looking for your ideas and suggestions.

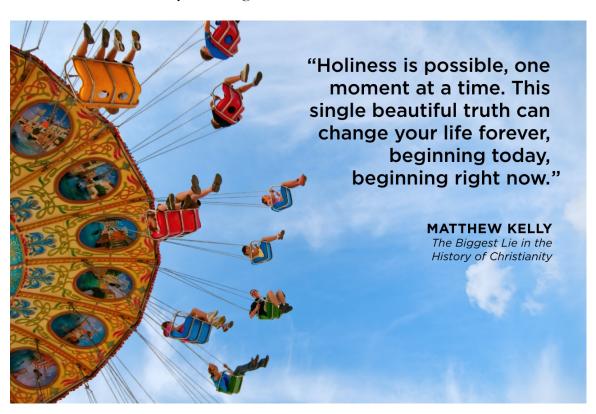
Posters in this newsletter are from Dynamic Catholic daily newsletter. Go to dynamiccatholic.com to register. https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/daily-reflections.html



Readings for the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Readings for the 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

- **First Reading** <u>Isaiah 8:23 9:3</u>: "You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing, as they rejoice before you as at the harvest, as people make merry when dividing spoils."
- **Responsorial Psalm Psalm 27**: "The Lord is my light and my salvation."
- **Second Reading** <u>1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17</u>: "For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with the wisdom of human eloquence, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its meaning."
- Gospel Matthew 4:12-23: "Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the way to the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles, the people who sit in darkness have seen a great light, on those dwelling in a land overshadowed by death light has arisen."



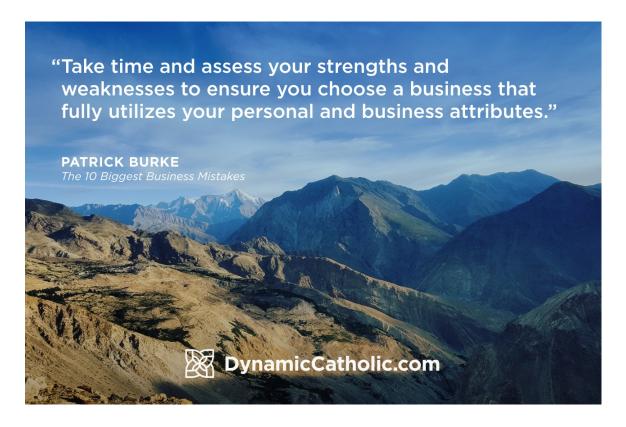
The readings for the 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A inspire us to understand that Jesus has saved us and we are called to spread that good news

to others. In the first reading we hear that Jesus ushers in a new era of freedom and salvation. The psalm reaffirms that the Lord is our salvation. In the 2nd reading Paul reminds us that we must be united in our efforts to evangelize. And in the Gospel we hear Jesus calling Simon Peter and Andrew to join him in spreading the Good News.

https://young-catholics.com/2271/3rd-sunday-in-ordinary-time-year-a/

Bishop's Barron's radio homily at the link:

https://www.wordonfire.org/videos/sermons/in-the-land-of-zebulon-and-naphtali/ Our first reading from the prophet Isiah and our Gospel are tightly linked, for St. Matthew, in articulating the meaning of Jesus, sites an only testament text – namely, our reading from the eighth and ninth chapter of Isaiah. The prophet speaks of conflict in the land of Zebulon and Naphtali, and then of a great light that shines in that area, signaling the victory of God.



Loyola Commentary

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's Gospel describes the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. In the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke (called the Synoptic Gospels), Jesus' public ministry begins after his baptism by John the Baptist and after his retreat to the desert where he was tempted by the devil. When Jesus returns from the desert, he hears that John has been arrested.

The first part of today's Gospel places Jesus' ministry in the context of the writings of the prophet, Isaiah. Matthew wants to show that Jesus is the fulfillment of the prophecies given to the people of Israel, and he refers to Isaiah to do so. Isaiah says that the Messiah will begin his ministry in Galilee, the land of the Gentiles. When Jesus begins to preach in Galilee, Matthew points to his ministry as a fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy, proof that Jesus is the Messiah.

When Jesus called his first disciples, the Gospel tells us that the fishermen (Peter and Andrew, James and John) dropped everything to follow Jesus immediately. Yet this Gospel tells us little about the prior experience that the fishermen had of Jesus. Did they know him? Had they heard him preach? What kind of person must Jesus have been to invoke such a response? We can imagine that Jesus was a powerful presence to elicit a response as immediate and complete as these first disciples gave.

The Gospel concludes with a description of the ministry that Jesus begins in Galilee. Jesus inaugurates the Kingdom of God with his work. He teaches in the synagogue and preaches the kingdom. His ability to cure people's diseases and illness is a sign of the kingdom. In Jesus' ministry, we already begin to see the Kingdom of God among us.

Family Connection

Today's Gospel tells us little about the background of these fishermen, their work, and their families. In today's Gospel, we are simply told that James and John left their father, Zebedee, in the boat and followed Jesus.

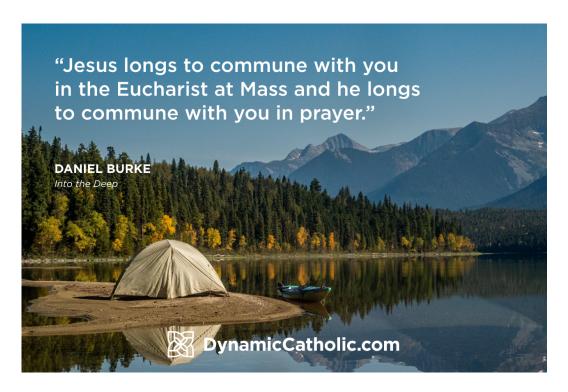
Some details about the families of these first followers of Jesus are found later in Matthew's Gospel, however. In Matthew 8:14-15 for example, Jesus goes to the home of Peter and heals his mother-in-law of a fever. Matthew 20:20-28 relates how the mother of the sons of Zebedee (James and John) approaches Jesus with the request that her sons be given places of honor in Jesus' kingdom. These brief references suggest that the first disciples' separation from their families may not have been as complete as the verses in today's Gospel might lead us to believe. Matthew points out the separation because he wants to show that Christian discipleship can require a change in our lives and even our family relationships.

Perhaps the message for us today is to balance the radical call to be a follower of Jesus with the challenge to be "fishers of men" even within our own families. Creating this balance may require that we change some of the priorities of our own family life.

As a family, detail the activities of a typical day. Discuss together what priorities are reflected in this daily schedule. How does your family respond when your daily plans are interrupted or must be changed? Together read today's Gospel, Matthew 4:12-23. Reflect together on the example of the first disciples who dropped everything to follow Jesus. Ask: Does our family schedule give evidence that we put God first in our family life? What might we do to better reflect that God is our priority?

Pray together that your family will always give evidence that God comes first in your family life. Pray today's Psalm or the Lord's Prayer.

https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgicalyear/sunday-connection/



Jeff Cavins' Reflection on The Third Sunday of Ordinary Time Jeff Cavins demonstrates how God continues to reveal his plan for humanity through Scripture. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mb0PTmz]8bs

Use this link to watch a video on Matthew 4: 1-25 includes verses 1-12 on the temptations of Jesus in the desert.

Living the Word Commentary

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Optional Song: Lord you come to the Seashore https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=16JH3OQzzBA

Focus: We are called to discipleship.

Reflection We "follow" People on social media for a whole variety of reasons – for entertainment, information, curiosity, voyeurism, or validation for our own choices and opinions. We are able to control and filter all of our interactions with the people we "follow." What did it mean for the disciples to follow Jesus? They left all the safe things in their lives behind to follow him, without any assurances of where it would take them or how much he would challenge them. Something about Jesus inspired their trusty and that was enough.

This is the unique challenge and promise at the core of Christianity. Our faith is not a set of rules or an abstract set of ideas about a distant God. It is a relationship with a person. Following Jesus is not like "following' someone on social media! We cannot have a relationship with Christ by trying to control him and filter his words to fit nearly in our existing ideologies and identities. He calls each of us personally, individually. He is calling you to come and follow him. What will you response be?

Action: Ask Jesus to prepare you to answer his call when it comes. Visit the Vocation Network website https://vocationnetwork.org.en.main and read some of the stories of people called to the priesthood or religious life. What are you being called to witness as a disciple this week in your faith community?

Questions:

- 1. What had it meant in your life to follow Jesus?
- 2. How can we recognize God's call in our lives?
- 3. How well do you handle change? In your experience, what helps to makes for a good transition?
- 4. What is the difference between being professional fishermen and being fishers of men?
- 5. There is an important difference between belief and discipleship. How do you understand that difference?

6. What "ways of being" would contemporary Christians need to leave behind to be on the path of discipleship?

Closing Prayer: In every age, O God, you have called men and women to follow the path of your Son, Jesus Christ. Give us the courage to follow his example in all things and to serve others without prejudice or exception. Through Jesus Christ your Son, who live and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and even. Amen.



Optional Song: Holy is the Lord John Michael Talbot https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zmDwA6mdLlo

Some other songs sung by John Michael Talbot

Be not Afraid https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MI49peWG2d0

Here I am Lord https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rdS6NmcBsR4

One Bread, One Body https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z01zrrOFkNE

There is a Time https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nhZOZ7ZL_o4