

January 24, 2021

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Hearing the Word

Mark 1:14-20

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."

As he passed by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting their nets into the sea; they were fishermen. Jesus said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." Then they abandoned their nets and followed him. He walked along a little farther and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They too were in a boat mending their nets. Then he called them. So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him.

Reflecting on the Word

Jesus begins his ministry in Galilee by proclaiming to all: "Repent and believe in the Gospel." He calls us to pay attention, to listen, and to believe what Jesus is saying. He calls us all to repent—to change how we think, what we believe, and how we live. He calls for a renewal of our minds and hearts to follow him. These four fishermen left their entire lives behind to become Jesus' disciples. How might we "catch" people and help them to follow Jesus? How can we change how we think and live in order to follow Jesus?

..... ON THE WAY TO MASS

What are fishermen? What do they do?

ON THE WAY HOME FROM MASS

What does it mean to be a fisher of people?

Living the Word

Help your children draw fish shapes on construction paper and cut them out. On each fish shape, write one simple way that your family can better follow the Gospel (read the Bible together, pray, participate in a parish service project, and so on). Attach a paperclip to each fish. Make a fishing pole using a yardstick and attach a length of string and a magnet to one end.

This week, have your children "fish" for a way to live out the message of this Gospel. Scatter the fish upside-down and each day catch one of them. Then do that activity together.