

# [62] **THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** A

## **FIRST READING**

The people have seen a great light.

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

9:2-4

**T**hose who walked in the dark have seen a bright light.  
And it shines upon everyone who lives in the land of darkest shadows.

Our Lord, you have made your nation stronger.  
Because of you, its people are glad and celebrate  
like workers at harvest time  
or soldiers dividing what they have taken.

You have broken the power  
of those who oppressed and enslaved your people.  
You have rescued them as you did from Midian.

The word of the Lord.

## **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

27:1, 4abc

*R. (1a) The Lord is my light and my salvation.*

You, Lord, are the light  
that keeps me safe.  
I am not afraid of anyone.  
You protect me,  
and I have no fears.

*R. The Lord is my light and my salvation..*

I ask only one thing, Lord:  
Let me live in your house  
every day of my life.

*R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.*

## SECOND READING

I appeal to you, my brothers and sisters,  
there should not be serious differences between you.

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians

1:10-13, 17

**M**y dear friends,  
as a follower of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
I beg you to get along with each other.  
Don't take sides.  
Always try to agree in what you think.

Several people from Chloe's family have already reported to me  
that you keep arguing with each other.

They have said that some of you claim to follow me,  
while others claim to follow Apollos or Peter or Christ.

Has Christ been divided up?  
Was I nailed to a cross for you?  
Were you baptized in my name?

Christ did not send me to baptize.  
He sent me to tell the good news without using big words  
that would make the cross of Christ lose its power.

The word of the Lord.

## ALLELUIA

see Matthew 4:23

*R. Alleluia, alleluia.*

Jesus preached the good news of the kingdom  
and healed all who were sick.

*R. Alleluia, alleluia.*

## GOSPEL

Come with me.

† A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

4:17-23

**J**esus started preaching, "Turn back to God!  
The kingdom of heaven will soon be here."

While Jesus was walking along the shore of Lake Galilee,  
he saw two brothers.

One was Simon, also known as Peter,  
and the other was Andrew.

They were fishermen, and they were casting their net into the lake.

Jesus said to them, "Come with me!

I will teach you how to bring in people instead of fish."

Right then the two brothers dropped their nets and went with him.

Jesus walked on until he saw James and John, the sons of Zebedee.

They were in a boat with their father, mending their nets.

Jesus asked them to come with him too.

Right away they left the boat and their father and went with Jesus.

Jesus went all over Galilee,

teaching in the Jewish meeting places

and preaching the good news about God's kingdom.

He also healed every kind of disease and sickness.

The gospel of the Lord.

## Third Sunday in Ordinary Time—Cycle A

### Prayer:

Jesus, I want to come with you. Help me to come right away with you, just like Peter, Andrew, James and John. I want to be with you now and always!  
Amen!

### Readings:

Isaiah 9: 2-4  
Psalm 27: 1, 4abc  
1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17  
Matthew 4: 17-23

### Reflection:

Peter, Andrew, James and John, were fishermen. That was their job in order to take care of their family. They were preparing to do their job of fishing by cleaning the nets they used to catch the fish. They had learned from their father how to get ready to go fishing. It is hard work. Sometimes, they could be fishing all day and catch no fish. This was always a big disappointment to them. It was not easy to pick the right spot where there may be many fish. So they had to learn to be patient and keep trying different places all the time.

One day, Jesus was walking on the beach and saw Peter, Andrew, James and John, out in their boats preparing the nets for fishing. He called to them and asked them to “Come follow me”! Jesus told them that he would show them how to fish for People.

In order to catch fish or people, we have to go where they are and learn to be patient as we wait for them.

Jesus wants us to fish for people today too. Jesus wants us to tell others about what he has done for us and what he wants to do for them. To be a fisher of people we must have the right equipment. We must know what the Bible teaches and learn how to share it with others. We can't stay home and just read and talk about the Bible, it means we have to go out where the people are and tell them about Jesus. Then, we have to learn patience. We cannot force a person to believe, but we can't give up. All we can do is to keep telling people about Jesus and let Jesus take care of the rest. If we do these things we will truly become fishers of people like Jesus wants us to be.

Saint Maria De Mattias, started the Adorers of the Blood of Christ. Maria knew that Jesus wanted her to be a fisher of people. Maria was prepared to be a fisher of people on her fathers' knee. From a little girl he told her many stories about Jesus from the bible.

Maria wanted to help Jesus by bringing women, children, and men to Jesus. So she started a group of women to help her and together they helped Jesus fish for people by becoming teachers.

*(continued on page 2)*

**Discussion:**

**1. What does it take to be a fisher of people?**

(Be prepared, Go to the people, Learn patience)

**2. What did Jesus asked Peter, Andrew, James and John?**

("Come follow me")

**3. Is Jesus asking you to, "Come follow me"? How?**

(Yes)

**4. Can you be a fisher of people right now?**

(Yes---How?)

**5. Who is Saint Maria De Mattias?**

(Maria is the woman who started a group of Sisters whose name is: **Adorers of the Blood of Christ**)

**Activity:**

(Do the enclosed activity paper)

## FISHING FOR PEOPLE

Matthew 4:12-22

S Y X J S H O R E L E Z S L D  
P P E T E R P G R L R U Q T Q  
S A J S V M N O P O S D K L Z  
C O M E W I Q O X E B L W L J  
S N V G H A E X J Z R B A Y H  
T Q F S M P T F W Q O D L J H  
Y E I G A L I L E E T I K U C  
Y F A T I S O N Q Q H S I G Y  
W C O C N K Y P E Y E C N L Z  
D P A L H S M L Q T R I G Y S  
A E F N L M Q Z L N S P I N D  
V T K L D O D A X E K L S A Q  
Z E O E O R W I K B S E R E Y  
X R F L I F E E J B J S M J A  
Q F M Y M E I W D L E W G A R

1. Peter
2. Andrew
3. fishing
4. walking

5. nets
6. shore
7. people
8. teach

9. disciples
10. Galilee
11. brothers
12. Jesus

13. followed
14. sea
15. Peter
16. come