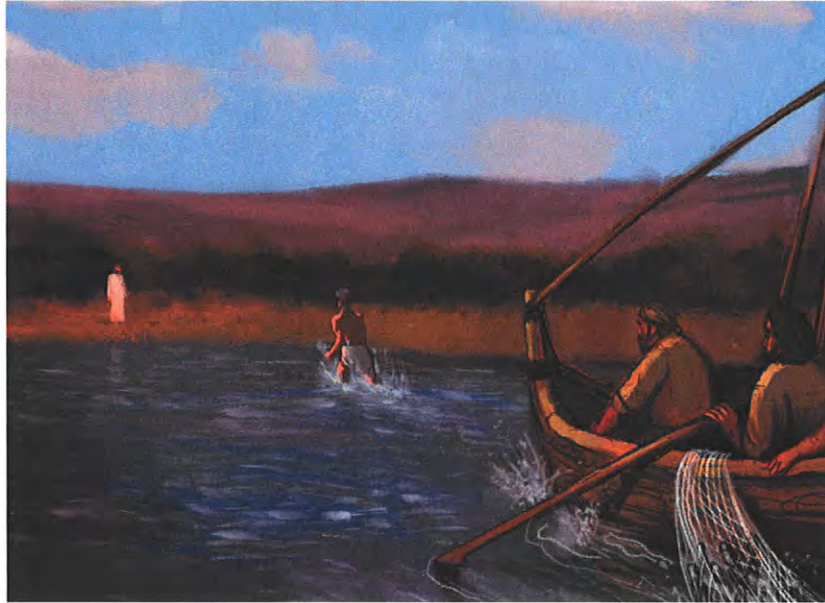


THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



To Be Faithful Witnesses

Almighty God,
you reveal yourself
in the ordinary moments of our day.
Help us to open our eyes and our hearts
to your presence
that we may lead others to you.

May we boldly and joyfully proclaim our
love for you,
in our words and actions.
Grant us the grace and the wisdom
to be your faithful witnesses,
unafraid to be called disciples.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, May 1, 2022

Do You Love Me?



Today's readings; Acts 5:27–32, 40b–41; Psalm 30:2, 4, 5–6, 11–12, 1; Revelation 5:11–14; John 21:1–19. In the post-resurrection stories, Jesus shows up in ordinary places. Encountering his disciples and friends at routine tasks, he draws them into an extraordinary event and often breaks bread with them, opening their eyes to God in their midst. Today, in John's account of the Gospel, Jesus watches from the shore while the disciples fish. When he directs them where to cast their net, their catch is overwhelming. Immediately, the beloved disciple recognized Jesus, responding to the abundance by saying, "It is the Lord."

Jesus invites the disciples to breakfast and afterward quizzes Peter. Three times Jesus asks, "Simon, son of John,

do you love me more than these?" And to Peter's reply, Jesus says, "Feed my sheep." Peter was unsure why Jesus asked the same query thrice. Jesus, however, wanted to be sure that this apostle who had denied him three times was sure of his love.

Christ comes to us in the Scriptures and the Eucharist; he also shows up in the routines of our lives. He is found in kind words and actions of others, in prayer, and during unguarded moments of the day. He asks us the same question, "Do you love me?" Our response is found in the way we treat members of our family, neighbors, coworkers, and the marginalized.



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, May 2 The Gift of Time

“Do not work for food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life.” Jesus’ words invite us to consider whether our efforts are spent on what is lasting or whether time is devoted only to earthly pursuits. Where do you devote your time? How might you use it to serve and lift someone else up? *Today’s readings: Acts 6:8–15; Psalm 119:23–24, 26–27, 29–30; John 6:22–29.*

Tuesday, May 3 Become What You Receive

When the crowd seeks a sign, Jesus replies, “I am the bread of life.” The gift of the Eucharist, the Bread of Life, sustains and nourishes, while joining us to Christ and each other. St. Augustine directed Christians that, in receiving the Eucharist, “become what you are: the Body of Christ.” This week when you receive the Eucharist, consider how you are joined with other members of the Body of Christ. *Today’s readings: 1 Corinthians 15:1–8; Psalm 19:2–3, 4–5; John 14:6–14.*

Wednesday, May 4 Slow Down

Jesus tells the crowds, “I will not reject anyone who comes to me.” Can you say the same thing? Consider the people who seek your attention during the day. Do you take time for them or are you in a hurry to get on to the next thing in your life? In our need to accomplish tasks, it can be easy to miss the opportunity to take in the gifts another offers. This week slow down to appreciate the people that God sends on your path. Be open to the chance to allow another to enrich your life. Say a prayer of gratitude for the people who have accepted and made time for you. *Today’s readings: Acts 8:1b–8; Psalm 66:1–3a, 4–5, 6–7a; John 6:35–40.*

Thursday, May 5 The Gift of Baptism

In today’s reading from Acts, first an angel of the Lord speaks to Philip, and then the Spirit directs him. With these prompts, Philip explains the Scriptures to an individual and then baptizes him. Have you ever felt nudged to do something? That may have occurred when you had an urge to contact a person. God continues to prompt his followers. In baptism, we are claimed by God and called to serve. Pray for the grace to be open to the opportunity that may come your way today. *Today’s readings: Acts 8:26–40; Psalm 66:8–9, 16–17, 20; John 6:44–51.*

Friday, May 6 Real Presence

Faith is mysterious. The gift of faith is apparent in Ananias, who knows that Saul has persecuted Christians. This gift is apparent too in Saul, who regained his sight after Ananias laid hands on him. And this gift of faith allows us to believe that the real presence of Christ is in the Eucharist. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, as the priest says the Eucharistic Prayer, the substance of the bread and wine changes and becomes the Body and Blood of Christ. While participating at Mass, listen carefully to the words of consecration. *Today’s readings: Acts 9:1–20; Psalm 117:1bc, 2; John 6:52–59.*

Saturday, May 7 What Would You Do?

When Jesus asks, “Do you also want to leave,” Simon Peter responds, “Master, to whom shall we go?” Many of the disciples had found Jesus’ teachings hard to accept and did not believe. Today also people struggle with belief. What is your response to Jesus’ query, “Do you also want to go?” Do you acknowledge the Spirit and life in Jesus’ words? *Today’s readings: Acts 9:31–42; Psalm 116:12–13, 14–1, 16–17; John 6:60–69.*

