

Lectio Divina

January 22nd 2023 3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A – Matthew 4:12 – 23

¹²Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the lake, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: ¹⁵'Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles— ¹⁶the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.' ¹⁷From that time Jesus began to proclaim, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' ¹⁸As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.' ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²²Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him. ²³Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people'

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Read and re-read – out loud and slowly the Gospel.➤ Meditate - on reading as being spoken to you, an experience in your life | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Pray - Thanksgiving – Repentance – Petition➤ Action – Attitude (Call to change / to act /to do |
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In this week's gospel we see the arrest of John the Baptist and Jesus starting his ministry in Galilee at the extreme end of the Holy Land. This was a symbol of Jesus bringing God 'to the ends of the earth.' Jesus began his teaching with the message "Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." He is calling people to have a change of heart, to a new way of seeing and doing things. Jesus went and invited the two brothers Simon and Andrew, two fishermen to join him. Then he saw James and John who were also brothers and fishermen to join him. The four followed him at once. Jesus then went about his work of proclaiming the Good News to all.

What way would we respond if Jesus invited us to leave all and follow him to bring His good news to people?

Prayer:

Thank you Lord for the turning points in our lives when we realised the path we were on was not leading anywhere and we through reaching out to others saw a new light which gave us a new way and grace filled moments.

Forgive us Lord for the times we did not listen to the invitation of Jesus to bring His good news to all because we were too busy in our lives.

Lord help those who are feeling lost. Inspire some Jesus person to go and sit with them bringing them out of their darkness to see a great light.

