

**August 25<sup>th</sup> 2024 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time Year B John 6:60-69**

<sup>6-60</sup> When many of his disciples heard it, they said, 'This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?' <sup>61</sup>But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, 'Does this offend you? <sup>62</sup>Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? <sup>63</sup>It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. <sup>64</sup>But among you there are some who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. <sup>65</sup>And he said, 'For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.'

<sup>66</sup> Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. <sup>67</sup>So Jesus asked the twelve, 'Do you also wish to go away?' <sup>68</sup>Simon Peter answered him, 'Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. <sup>69</sup>We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.'

<p>➤ <b>Read and re-read</b> – out loud and slowly the Gospel.</p> <p>➤ <b>Meditate</b> - on reading as being spoken to you, an experience in your life.</p>	<p>➤ <b>Pray</b> - Thanksgiving – Repentance – Petition.</p> <p>➤ <b>Action</b> – Attitude (Call to change / to act /to do).</p>
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In today's gospel we again see the inner freedom of Jesus as he knows he is in his Father's hands and no one can come to him 'unless the Father allows it'. Already we saw him sitting on the hillside allowing people to come to him of their own free will. Today he gives each group their own space, those who reject him as well as the twelve - including the one who was to betray him. We are all invited to recommit ourselves to lives of faith in God. Our God constantly brings us into relationship with him and when we fail he gives us the graces and helps necessary to return to him and begin again. It was by his actions they were drawn to him as well as his many words of wisdom. Like his followers we sometimes find it hard to follow Him.

Who are the people who helped us overcome our resistance to follow Him?

**Prayer:**

**Thank You Lord** for the people who by their Christ like actions encourage us to follow you even in times of difficulty because as you said you are the Way that leadsto eternal life.

**Forgive us Lord** for the times we let our doubts and lack of faith prevent us from following Jesus who is always waiting on us to call on him for help .

**Help us Lord** never to become bitter or give up our values but to realise God is always there to help us try again .

