

Lectio Divina

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| > Read and re-read , out loud and slowly
the Gospel | > Pray - Thanksgiving - Repentance -
Petition |
| > Meditate on reading as being spoken to
you, an experience in your life | > Action - Attitude (Call to change / to
act / to do) |
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August 3rd 2014 18th Sunday of Ordinary Time - Year A - Matthew 14: 13 - 21

In this week's gospel we read about Jesus as experienced by the people. He was the kind of leader people felt drawn to. They 'go after him' even when they have to travel long miles on foot. They follow him when he and his disciples 'withdraw by boat to a lonely place' where they can be by themselves. We also see Jesus as being so sensitive that when he hears that a great man has been martyred he felt a need to go to a lonely place. We also see him as very selfless even when in distress he reaches out to those in need.

Are we like the disciples sending people away when they need help? Do we follow the example of Jesus acting with compassion and helping those we encounter even when we are tired or sad in ourselves?

Prayer:

Thank you Lord for the people who come searching for us when we go to a lonely place because of depression or so other sadness. They enable us to step out of our sadness and again join our community.

Forgive us Lord for the times when because of sad news in our Church about clerical abuse we withdraw to a lonely place instead of reaching out like Jesus did even though he was full of sadness after hearing about the death of John the Baptist.

Help us Lord to realise that to be a follower of Jesus we do not have to work miracles as he did. What we are called to do always is to adopt his attitudes, expressed by his gestures in today's gospel

