

Lectio Divina

- **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)

February 5th 2012 5th Sunday Ordinary Time – Year B – Mark 1:29-39

In today's gospel we read about Jesus healing the mother in law of Peter and his healing ministry to all in his home town and then the neighbouring towns around. He did this because as he said when Simon and his companions found him "Let us go elsewhere to the neighbouring towns so that I can preach there too, because this is why I came." He also spent some time in prayer and silence before dawn in a lonely place to centre himself before his ministry. How do we as followers of Jesus go about our ministry? Do we try to reach out to all in all places or are we happy to stay in our comfort zone. Are we willing to have the courage to break new ground – to be reconciled with people who have hurt us badly and give ourselves new freedom and peace. We can only take bold new decisions when we are inwardly free as Jesus was.

Prayer:

Lord we thank you for all the people who have left their comfort zone and brought about the peace and joy to people in very sad situations e.g. St. Francis of Assisi, Nelson Mandela. We also thank you for all the men and women today who follow in the way of Jesus in their ministry bringing healing to all.

Forgive us for the times we became too complacent and too happy with numbers coming to our doors. We forgot about those on the margins of our society who do not come but need us to travel out of our comfort zone in order to reach them.

Help us to be like Jesus and to realise we need to pray and rest a while in his presence before we carry out our ministry to all people and know the right things to do and say.