

**October 30<sup>th</sup> 2022 31<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time – Year C – Luke 19:1-10**

<sup>1</sup>He entered Jericho and was passing through it. <sup>2</sup>A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. <sup>3</sup>He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. <sup>4</sup>So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. <sup>5</sup>When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today.” <sup>6</sup>So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. <sup>7</sup>All who saw it began to grumble and said, “He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.” <sup>8</sup>Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, “Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.” <sup>9</sup>Then Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. <sup>10</sup>For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.”

<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 this week’s gospel we hear the story of Jesus meeting with Zacchaeus. There are three characters in this story, Zacchaeus, Jesus and the complainers. All people and all communities have lived each story at one time or another. Zacchaeus is the symbol of those who experience that salvation has come to their house. Salvation is an experience of healing and reconciliation so deep that we can believe that “God really seeks out and saves what is lost”. The complainers were very annoyed because Jesus had gone to the house of a sinner in their view. Jesus looked up and noticed Zacchaeus even though there were many around him. He did not condemn but went to his house realising the effort that Zacchaeus had made to see him. Each one of us has been in the position of the three characters in our lives. Are we like Jesus aware of those who feel less than others and calls them to be with him? Are we complainers reacting negatively when those who are different to us receive many blessings? Often we are like Zacchaeus crying out to Jesus for a glimpse of his presence in our lives.

**Prayer:**

**Thank you Lord** for the people who have been Jesus for us when we felt inadequate, no belief in our selves they come and looked up and saw more in us than we ourselves did.

**Forgive us Lord** for the times that we did not believe in the power of the Gospel to save what was lost. We have not taken time to reach out to people and share with them the good news of the Gospel and experience salvation coming into their lives.

**Help us Lord** to be more like Jesus in seeking out those who are lost. Teach us to look up and notice those who like Zacchaeus have made an appearance but hide themselves because they feel inferior and just want to catch a glimpse of Jesus.

