

**February 6<sup>th</sup> 2022 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time– Year C – Luke 5:1-11**

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, <sup>2</sup>he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. <sup>3</sup>He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. <sup>4</sup>When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, “Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.” <sup>5</sup>Simon answered, “Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.” <sup>6</sup>When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. <sup>7</sup>So they signalled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. <sup>8</sup>But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus’ knees, saying, “Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!” <sup>9</sup>For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; <sup>10</sup>and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.” <sup>11</sup>When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him...

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Read and re-read</b> – out loud and slowly the Gospel.</li> <li>➤ <b>Meditate</b> - on reading as being spoken to you, an experience in your life</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Pray</b> - Thanksgiving – Repentance – Petition</li> <li>➤ <b>Action</b> – Attitude (Call to change / to act /to do)</li> </ul>
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In this week’s gospel we see Jesus preaching at the Sea of Galilee. At this stage of his life Jesus had a very large crowd following him to listen to his word. He was surrounded by fishermen who had just left their boats and were washing their nets. Jesus invited Simon who was busy washing his nets and not paying attention to 'put out a little from the shore' and then asked him to go out into deep water for a catch. Simon was puzzled but out of respect he agreed and got a huge catch of fish. Because Simon obeyed, trusted and let go of his pride he was rewarded and then followed Jesus.

'Push out into the deep' the invitation given to Simon is being given to each one of us today. This is not easy and takes great trust. When were the times in your life you took this risk and to your surprise received great graces and blessings?

**Prayer:**

**Lord thank you** for the ordinary people of God who have inspired us and given us hope because of their deep faith and trust in you.

**Forgive us Lord** for the times we did not leave ourselves open to the challenge given to each one of us to trust in you and believe that God knows what he is 'doing' as he constantly urges us to pull away from the shore.

**Help us Lord** to embrace Gods love for us especially when like the fishermen we feel lost, weak and not worthy. God is with us and is waiting to bring us the grace to carry out the mission he has for each one of us. All we need to do is like Simon trust in him and move out of our comfort zone.