



9 February 2025

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year C

Called to Be God's Partners

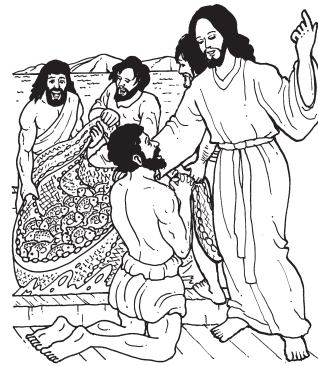
The God who created the universe single-handedly and holds it in His hand does not save it single-handedly. He seeks the collaboration of all. But there are those who are called by the same God to be special instruments of His love.

We call these people "prophets" and "apostles." Their lives are a mixture of ordinary weakness and exceptional strength, of humiliating defeats and resounding victories. But in spite of such disconcerting contrasts, if they do their best, as Isaiah, Paul, and Peter did, "the world will be better for this," and good will triumph over evil.

On this 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time, we witness a miraculous catch of fish which symbolizes the mission of Jesus and his associates to save mankind from the forces of evil, symbolized by the stormy seas.

In every generation and community of believers, Jesus, the Divine Fisherman, continues to invite people to share in his mission of saving mankind from the clutches of evil in all its forms. The response to Jesus' invitation demands generosity and perseverance.

In this Eucharist, we will pray in a special manner that all those who are called to fulfill this task may respond generously and persevere faithfully till the end of their life.



INTRODUCTORY RITES



Entrance Antiphon

(To be recited only when no Entrance Hymn is sung.)

O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.

(Ps 95 [94]:6-7)

Greeting

P – In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit!

All–Amen!

P – The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

All–And with your spirit!

Penitential Act

P – My brothers and sisters, to prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred Mysteries, let us call to mind our sins, and ask the Lord for pardon and strength.
(Pause)

P – You were sent to reveal to us the love of the Father.
Lord, have mercy!

All–Lord, have mercy!

P – You came to heal the contrite of heart. Christ, have mercy!

All–Christ, have mercy!

P – You call people to be your coworkers in the great mission of saving mankind from all forms of evil. Lord, have mercy!

All–Lord, have mercy!

P – May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All–Amen!

Gloria

All–Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are

the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen!

Collect (Opening Prayer)

P –Keep your family safe, O Lord, with unfailing care, that, relying solely on the hope of heavenly grace, they may be defended always by your protection.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

All–Amen!



1st Reading *Is 6:1-8*
Isaiah's call to the prophetic ministry came after a dramatic experience of God's holiness and the sincere awareness of his own sinfulness. God's intervention through an angel both purified the young man of his sins and empowered him to accomplish his mission among the people of Israel.

R –A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

In the year King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a high and lofty throne, with the train of his garment filling the temple. Seraphim were stationed above.

They cried one to the other, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts! All the earth is filled with his glory!"

At the sound of that cry, the frame of the door shook and the house was filled with smoke. Then I said, "Woe is me, I am doomed! For I am a man of unclean lips, living among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!"

Then one of the seraphim flew to me, holding an ember that he had taken with tongs from the altar. He touched my mouth with it, and said, "See, now that this has touched

your lips, your wickedness is removed, your sin purged."

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?" "Here I am," I said; "send me!"

The Word of the Lord!
All–Thanks be to God!

Responsorial Psalm Ps 138

R –*In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises, Lord!*

R. M. Velez

* I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with all my heart, for you have heard the words of my mouth; in the presence of the angels I will sing your praise. I will worship at your holy temple and give thanks to your name. **R.**

* Because of your kindness and your truth; for you have made great above all things your name and your promise. When I called, you answered me; you built up strength within me. **R.**

* All the kings of the earth shall give thanks to you, O Lord, when they hear the words of your mouth; and they shall sing of the ways of the Lord: "Great is the glory of the Lord." **R.**

* Your right hand saves me. The Lord will complete what he has done for me; your kindness, O Lord, endures forever. Forsake not the work of your hands. **R.**

2nd Reading *1 Cor 15:1-11*
In the community of Corinth, there were some who doubted the resurrection of the dead at the end of time. This gave Paul the opportunity to restate this basic truths of the Christian faith and especially of Jesus' resurrection from death – a fundamental truth which is the

foundation of the resurrection of all believers.

R –A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

I am reminding you, brothers and sisters, of the Gospel I preached to you, which you indeed received and in which you also stand. Through it you are also being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you, unless you believed in vain. For I handed on to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures; that he was buried; that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures; that he appeared to Cephas, then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at once, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. After that, he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one born abnormally, he appeared to me.

For I am the least of the apostles, not fit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the Church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me has not been ineffective. Indeed, I have toiled harder than all of them; not I, however, but the grace of God that is with me. Therefore, whether it be I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

The Word of the Lord!
All–Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:19

All–Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Come after me
 and I will make you
 fishers of men.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel *Lk 5:1-11*
From the very beginning of his apostolic mission, Jesus conquered the hearts of people through his teaching and the miracles he performed. Today it is the turn of Simon Peter

and his associates to see in their miraculous catch of fish a manifestation of God's presence in the young Rabbi from Nazareth.

P –The Lord be with you!

All–And with your spirit!

P –A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

All–Glory to you, O Lord!

While the crowd was pressing in on Jesus and listening to the word of God, he was standing by the Lake of Genesaret. He saw two boats there alongside the lake; the fishermen had disembarked and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, Jesus asked him to put out a short distance from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.

After he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, “Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch.” Simon said in reply, “Master, we have worked hard all night and have caught nothing, but at your command I will lower the nets.” When they had done this, they caught a great number of fish and their nets were tearing. They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come to help them. They came and filled both boats so that the boats were in danger of sinking.

When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at the knees of Jesus and said, “Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man.” For astonishment at the catch of fish they had made seized him and all those with him, and likewise James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners of Simon. Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid; from now on, you will be catching men.” When they brought their boats to the shore, they left everything and followed him.

The Gospel of the Lord!

All–Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Homily

Profession of Faith

(Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed)

All–I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, (*bow*)* and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.* For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen!

Prayer of the Faithful

P –Aware of the great need to have ordained ministers in our communities, let us present our humble petitions to the Lord who calls people to be his partners. Let our response be:

All–Lord, send more laborers to your harvest!

C –For the Catholic Church, the boat of Peter steered by the Pope: May Jesus continue to instruct the nations from it as he did during his life on earth. Let us pray! **R.**

C –For the Holy Father, the successor of Simon Peter, the fisherman from Galilee: May he enjoy the fruits of his apostolic

ministry under the guidance of Jesus, the Divine Fisherman. Let us pray! **R.**

C –For our priests and all those who are involved in the pastoral ministry: May they always work in docile obedience to the teaching of Jesus and with full dedication to the good of their flock. Let us pray! **R.**

C –For those called to the priestly ministry in the Church: May they respond with generous availability and persevere in the good work till the end of their life. Let us pray! **R.**

C –For our community and each of us: May we show appreciation for the work done by our parish priests and their assistants, and support them with our prayers and collaboration. Let us pray! **R.**

C –That the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life. Let us pray! **R.**

P–Lord God, source of our hope and salvation, continue to bless us with many and holy coworkers of Jesus in the pastoral ministry that we may serve You in joyful faithfulness. We ask this through Christ, Our Lord.

All–Amen!



Preparation of the Gifts

P –Pray, brethren . . .

All–May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

Prayer over the Offerings

P –O Lord our God, who once established these created things to sustain us in our frailty, grant, we pray, that they may become for us now the Sacrament of eternal life.

Through Christ our Lord.

All–Amen!

Preface V

P –The Lord be with you!

All–And with your spirit!

P –Lift up your hearts!

All–We lift them up to the Lord!

P –Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

All–It is right and just!

P –It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For you laid the foundations of the world and have arranged the changing of times and seasons; you formed man in your own image and set humanity over the whole world in all its wonder, to rule in your name over all you have made and for ever praise you in your mighty works, through Christ our Lord.

And so, with all the Angels, we praise you, as in joyful celebration, we acclaim:

All–Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

Memorial Acclamation

P –The mystery of faith!

All–When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again!



All–Our Father ...

P –Deliver us, Lord ...

All–For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever.

Sign of Peace

Breaking of the Bread

All –Lamb of God, you take

away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. (2x)

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Communion

P –Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the Supper of the Lamb.

All–Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Communion Antiphon

(To be recited only when no Communion Hymn is sung.)

Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.

(Cf. Ps 107[106]:8-9)

Prayer after Communion

P –O God, who have willed that we be partakers in the one Bread and the one Chalice, grant us, we pray, so to live that, made one in Christ, we may joyfully bear fruit for the salvation of the world.

Through Christ our Lord.

All–Amen!



P –The Lord be with you!

All–And with your spirit!

P –Bow down for the blessing. *(Pause)*

–May the good Lord protect you from all physical and moral evil.

All–Amen!

P –May He strengthen your faith and increase your zeal that you may participate ever more fully in the pastoral endeavors of your community.

All–Amen!

P –May He prosper your undertakings and reward all your efforts at doing good to all.

All–Amen!

P –May almighty God bless you: the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All–Amen!

P –Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life!

All–Thanks be to God!

CASTING A DIFFERENT NET

Kalakbay at Katoto

People are attracted by uniqueness, not uniformity.

The world is awash in individuals who claim to speak for God, who style themselves as followers of the Gospel. In the Philippine setting, there are lots of newfangled churches, that all refer to themselves as “apostolic” or similar terms. Why, there is even one who claims to be the appointed son of God!

So what specific difference

do genuine prophets have, at least from the point of view of today’s readings?

First, let us start with points of commonalities. **All of them speak of an important personal experience of God. Isaiah’s passage is framed in the context of a theophany – a Divine manifestation, that for Isaiah, sealed his mission as a prophet: “Here I am; send me.”** Paul, for his part, refers to the appearances of the Risen Lord to his disciples, himself



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included, for whom “grace has not been ineffective.” In the Gospel, the Lord shows a different side to the experience of Peter and the group of discouraged, tired, and cynical disciples who labored all night to no avail. The gospel passage’s ending is rather telling: *“they left everything and followed him.”*

There are hearers and there are hearers. There are those of us who merely hear, and nothing more. But there are those of us who are also doers. There are those of us who are mere admirers. But there are those of us who try to be followers.

There are “doers” who jump right into the arena of action. They are the perpetual “do-gooders” who claim that the only way to show one’s belief is to be constantly on an adrenaline surge. Their brand of faith is performative faith reduced to its bare essentials, understood as shallow and endless social action and activism of any kind.

And then, of course, there are the **thinkers**. These are hearers who hear with their minds, even before sound bytes actually fall on their ears. Their knowledge of the faith is flawless.

We ought not to forget the **ritualists** who reduce faith to a call to duty. That duty, of course, has to do with “hearing Mass” at least on Christmas and Easter, and, occasionally, on Sundays.

All three readings today, speaking as they all do about a particular experience of God, are a call to a unique response that is both collective and eminently personal. They speak about making a difference as a Christian, being of a different

mould, being unique. Isaiah models this unique faith-discipleship for us: *“Here I am, Lord. Send me.”* Here, we are face to face with a common call addressed as much to Isaiah as to God’s people responded to by him in a distinctly personal way. That uniqueness is due to his response of becoming a disciple-in-mission. This same uniqueness juts out of St. Paul’s testimony. *“Cephas and the twelve”* saw the risen Lord, along with *“five hundred brothers at once,”* as did James. But his personal testimony counts as most important, over and beyond what “others say.” His faith, like that of Isaiah, was deeply personal and real. And that deeply personal faith made him leave everything in order to begin casting a different net.

Here is where the Gospel now challenges us. The Lord tells us as he told his discouraged disciples: *“Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch.”*

But as Isaiah, Paul, and Peter show us, being a follower of the Lord really means casting a different net. It means being a disciple through and through – being hearers and doers of the Word; working as much for faith-content as faith-context; enriching our intellectual faith, deepening our fiduciary attachment to a personal Lord and Savior, and engaging our performative faith in the human society and in the world, so full of injustice and gross inequality of all kinds.

We are called to cast a different net ... to be faithful disciples-in-mission, in ministry, in service. In other words, it is all about making a difference in our own little way... for Jesus’ sake ... for his Church ... for His mission. *“Here I am Lord. Send me.”*



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