

Epiphany V - A Voice Calling our Name - Luke 5:1-11

The Call of the First disciples

(Luke 5:1-11, 27-32; cf. 6:12-16; Mark1:16-20; Matthew 4:18-22; John 21:4-11)

The Lukan setting for the call of the disciples is that of the miracle of the draught of fishes (5:1-11). There are both similarities and clear differences with the story at John 21:4-11. The Gospel of John gives a specific number for the catch in its story: 153 fish. The key similarity is that the call of Christ is linked to the experience of everyday work. The miracle of the fishes speaks the gospel to fishermen in a graphic manner that no words could convey!

The call of God is primary for a believer. God calls us where we are in order to take us where we are not. It always creates the possibility of transformation. God is the cause and the effect, but we must play our part. The Holy Spirit does not operate in a vacuum when whispering our name to “the ears of our heart”. The Holy Spirit is specific, practical. We “beat around the bush” to avoid reality. The Holy Spirit creates reality and throws it down in front of us. Fishermen are called at the water’s edge with fish threshing about in a net.

If theology is not grounded in the Scriptures it lacks the power to persuade. The Spirit chooses to speak through the Scriptures as a primary means of conversion. But the Holy Spirit also depends on us to enter the lives of the people to speak the Words of Life and to talk in their language and into their situation. Jesus’ miracles are graphic examples of stories about him that link Palestinian culture, community matters, work issues, and home and family concerns. They address fundamental human questions, and present a shaping of story that links heaven and earth. “Jesus calls us o’er the world’s tempestuous seas”. Yes, and right where we are.

If theology is not contextual, it makes no sense. That which has lost its meaning in a particular context has no power to persuade. Convincing interpretation is required in every age. The Master entered people’s hearts with his miracles and his stories. These stories addressed their world view and also took them into a place where earth and heaven meet. For example, the parables are not just stories. They are vehicles of mission, born in the mind and heart of Christ, travelling arrow-straight into the hearts and minds and the living contexts of the hearers. They strained their minds to the limits and revealed luminous truths underneath a surface simplicity. Jesus’ teaching and stories are pictures of pathways leading to God with all sorts of strange people running down the road to meet God. “The Gospel tells us that no one on earth is excluded from the love and forgiveness of God”.

Bishop Arthur Jones

Your prayers are asked in our healing ministry for Beryl Tanner, JPeter, Bonnie SyCip, Carlyn-Fern Manning, Rom Vildzius, Loy Solasco, Aris Paraman, Isabel Yu, Johnny Manning Jr, Emerinciana Gatela, Fr. Gabriel Dimanche, Ron Jacob, Benjie Conzales, Jovel Llagas, Carol Garcia, Richard Kendall, Diana Croyston, Merly Quiapos, Susan Dalmas, Helen Irvine, Carrie Angus, Suzanne Jacobson, Janet Johnstone, Ema Duhaylongsod, Ted Whale, Amy Gonzales.

THIS WEEK:

Feb 9 Tuesday.

- Bible Study, 10am.

Feb. 11 Thursday.

- Eucharist, 10am, Chapel
- Bible Study, 7pm, Rectory

Feb. 14 Sunday.

- Regular Sunday Eucharist
- Sunday School, 9:13am

NEXT WEEK:

Feb. 15, Monday. First meeting of Vestry, 6:30 p.m. Rectory.

Feb. 16, Shrove Tuesday/Pancake Supper 5pm. A sign up sheet is on the board for those who wish to donate items such as pancake mix, eggs, butter, etc. Cash donations are also most welcome.

Feb. 17, Ash Wednesday Eucharist 10:00am and 6:00pm. Those who have kept their blessed palms from last year's Palm Sunday are asked to bring them to church next Tuesday.

Next week's readings:

Exodus 34:29-35

Psalm 99

I Corinthians 12:27-13:13

Luke 9:28-36

Dear CHT Women of the Church,

Respectfully informing everyone that Ms. Jeannette Pamplona is hereby appointed as ECW , Election Committee Chairperson in accordance with the ECW , CHT Constitution and by Laws.

Please coordinate with her team regarding qualifications and requirements for nominations at the parish office.

Deadline for nomination will be February 10 , 2010.

**Thank you very much,
ECW, CHT , Executive board**

ECW , National Board and CHT is on Christian Fellowship - Outreach Mission in Cotabato City, Southern Mindanao , February 5,6,7, 2010.

This email was sent to update parishioners and interested individuals in the events and activities of the Church of the Holy Trinity, Makati. If you do not want to receive any emails from CHT, kindly inform us via email. Thank you.