

Catholic Parish of St Luke  
26 Benyon Grove, Orton Malborne, Peterborough. PE2 5XS.

## MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

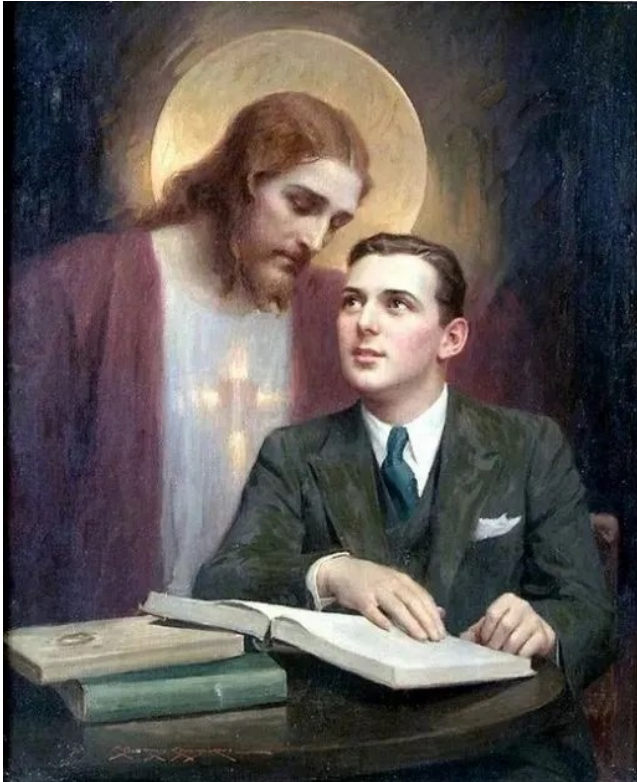
Thursday, 7th September 2023 at 7.30pm

Welcome back !

- Hope you all had a good summer break.

### SPIRITUAL TOPIC THIS WEEK

#### *They left everything and followed him*



*'Come unto me'*

*Drawn by Charles Bosseron Chambers (1882-1964),*

#### Today's Reading—Luke 5 : 1-11

Jesus was standing one day by the Lake of Gennesaret, with the crowd pressing round him listening to the word of God, when he caught sight of two boats close to the bank. The fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats – it was Simon's – and asked him to put out a little from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.

When he had finished speaking he said to Simon, 'Put out into deep water and pay out your nets for a catch.' 'Master,' Simon replied, 'we worked hard all night long and caught nothing, but if you say so, I will pay out the nets.' And when they had done this they netted

such a huge number of fish that their nets began to tear, so they signalled to their companions in the other boat to come and help them; when these came, they filled the two boats to sinking point.

When Simon Peter saw this he fell at the knees of Jesus saying, 'Leave me, Lord; I am a sinful man.' For he and all his companions were completely overcome by the catch they had made; so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were Simon's partners. But Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on it is men you will catch.' Then, bringing their boats back to land, they left everything and followed him.

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#### REFLECTION

'Come unto me', depicts Christ looking straight at the young man, perhaps calling him to the priesthood. Just as Jesus called the twelve to follow him as his apostles, as in our Gospel reading today, God continues to call men and women today equally to a life of sacrifice and service to others, following Christ fully and unconditionally. Like every grace, this vocation can only be accepted as an unmerited gift from God.

Simon was called by Jesus to go beyond his comfort zone, to put the boat of his past life behind and to follow Christ. Simon placed his skills and talents before Jesus, and trusted him so they might be used for a greater good. An adventure was about to unfold. This encounter was radical and life-changing....

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#### QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

How would you summarize the priority of the Messiah?

How important was his ministry of teaching?

What did you learn about his calling of his disciples?

What does it mean to really follow Jesus?

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## **OTHER TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION**

### **Budget & Financing the Men's Fellowship**

*Suggestions from the group.*

*How do we raise funds?*

*What is needed ?*

*Treasurer, Secretary, etc.*

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### **Social Event with the Ladies' Group**

*Again, suggestions from the group*

*Pre Christmas gathering ?*

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## **SOCIAL**

Catch up on sharing experiences over the summer break over a snack or supper.

This week :

Home Baked Sausage Rolls

Vegetable Mild Korma Curry with Rice

Naan & Papadam

Chilled "Dinky Bottled" Beer

Fruit Juice, Cola, Tea or Coffee

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