

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

FEBRUARY 6, 2022



THIS WEEKEND'S READINGS

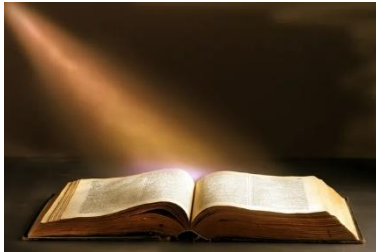
First: Isaiah 6:1-2a, 3-8
Second: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 or 15:3-8, 11
Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

FOCUS: Listen for God's call and follow the Lord.

In all of today's readings, people hear the Lord calling them to service, and all of them change course to follow their vocation. Young or old, we all have the responsibility to listen for the Lord's direction and answer with enthusiasm, as did Isaiah, Paul, Peter, James and John.

LITURGY OF THE WORD: Isaiah recounts his glorious vision of the Lord and his commissioning. Paul reminds the Corinthians of the Gospel he preached and lists the resurrected Jesus' appearances, culminating in his own call and conversion.

In the Gospel, after preaching from Simon's fishing boat, Jesus tells him to put out nets into deep water. They catch a great number of fish and this leads Peter, James and John to follow Jesus.



MASS INTENTIONS

5 p.m.: Kenneth Oboyski, Carl Crist
and Robert Engbers

10 a.m.: Stanley Lewis, Richard Muir
and Billy Steinberg

TREASURER'S REPORT

January 23-30: Totaled \$ 4,547.41

Envelopes: \$ 2,184.00 – Online: \$ 2,363.41

THANK YOU!

EDUCATION: THE KEY TO FREEDOM

Members of St. Paul's Faith and Racial Justice Group were struck by Fr. Zach Presutti, SJ's, charisma.

"You found yourself believing that anything is possible," said Julie Laurenzi of his inspiring words. Fr. Zach, who was ordained last June, was the guest speaker at the group's recent Zoom meeting.

He holds a master's degree in clinical social work and has logged many hours in correctional facilities statewide, including Otisville. A component of the time spent in prisons has been facilitating reflective retreats rooted in the spirituality of St. Ignatius of Loyola, the Jesuits' founder. As a result of that immersion, Fr. Zach established



Thrive for Life (www.thriveforlife.org) in 2017. It has a mission of "transforming lives behind and beyond prison walls" with education, citing that 70 percent of those released from prison will return in three years. That number drops to 14 percent for those with an associate degree and to 5.6 percent with a bachelor's.

He founded an offshoot of Thrive for Life in 2019, Ignacio House, which is near Fordham University. It is transitional living for those coming out of prison who are continuing their college education.

"The colleges contact Fr. Zach," said Julie of the route from prison to Ignacio House. It is in this "house of studies" that men finish their degrees. "That leads to employment."

Ignacio House was featured in the December 30, 2021, edition of Catholic New York (www.CNY.org) after a visit by Cardinal Dolan.

"We invite parishioners of St. Paul's to read about this program and support it as the Spirit leads," she said, as her group intends to do, mentioning possible donations through Amazon Smile or care packages for the men.

"As Fr. Zach says, 'Christianity is all about building relationships.'"

AARP'S TAX-AIDE

Thanksgiving. Christmas. New Year's. Taxes.
And that taxing time is upon us.

But once again, free tax-preparation assistance is available through AARP Foundation Tax-Aide. For an appointment, call 2-1-1 (the United Way's Help Line) between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Monday-Thursday or 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Friday. There are 15 sites in Orange County, including locations in Pine Bush, Montgomery, Middletown and Walden.

An information packet will be provided beforehand so at the time of the appointment, all of the required documentation is brought. There will be a brief interview, and then a second appointment will be made to review and sign the completed return.

All Tax-Aide counselors will be fully vaccinated, and everyone entering the site must wear a mask.

MY TRUE IDENTITY

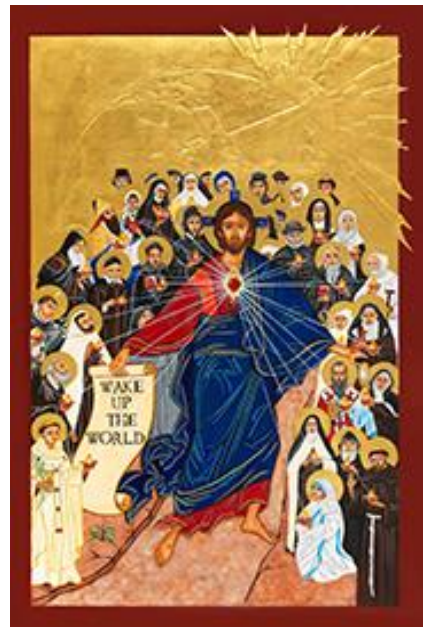


The first thing that struck me when I came to live in a house with people with developmental disabilities was that their liking and disliking me had absolutely nothing to do with the many useful things I had done until then. Since nobody could read my books, the books could not impress anyone, and since most of them never went to school, my 20 years at Notre Dame, Yale and Harvard did not provide a significant introduction.

Not being able to use any of the skills that had proved so practical in the past was a real source of anxiety. I was suddenly faced with my naked self, open for affirmations and rejections, hugs and punches, smiles and tears, all dependent simply on how I was perceived at the moment. In a way, it seemed as though I was starting my life all over again. Relationships, connections, reputations could no longer be counted on.

That experience was and, in many ways, is still the most important experience of my new life, because it forced me to rediscover my true identity. These completely unpretentious people forced me to let go of my relevant self - the self that can do things, show things, prove things, build things - and reclaim that unadorned self in which I am completely vulnerable, open to receive and give love regardless of any accomplishments.

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WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE

World Day for Consecrated Life was celebrated in the Church last Wednesday, but in parishes this weekend, February 5-6, 2022.

Please pray for all those who have made commitments in the consecrated life and be sure to thank them on their special day. May they continue to be inspired by Jesus Christ and respond generously to God's gift of their vocation.

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2022 CARDINAL'S ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL: Charitable & Pastoral Outreach



The Cardinal's Appeal funds the many archdiocesan apostolates who are hard at work serving the faithful through ministries such as Youth Faith Formation and Catechesis, Young Adult Outreach, Family Life and Respect Life, Adult Faith Formation, and Black and Hispanic Ministry. Help us support this growth of the Church through a gift to the Appeal!

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"My humanity is bound up in yours, for we can only be human together."

—Desmond Tutu,
1931-2021

South African Anglican cleric who received the Nobel Prize for Peace for his role in the opposition to apartheid

