

# LIVING FAITH

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

February 10, 2019

THE GOSPEL FOR TODAY

Archdiocese of St. John's



## Lk 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, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. 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. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.' Simon answered, 'Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.' When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signalled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, 'Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!' For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; 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.' When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

## TAKING THE GOSPEL HOME

The Gospel that we hear proclaimed today tells us a lot about Jesus, and how Jesus acts in our lives. The story is about the call of the first four Apostles—Peter, Andrew, James and John. There are three insights that we can take away from this Gospel. The first is that Jesus calls people. He called the disciples, and he continues to call us today. The second insight is that Jesus calls us where we are and as we are; but he doesn't leave us there! And the third insight is that Jesus calls us to follow Him, to listen to Him, to learn from Him and to love Him. He calls us to participate in His great mission of sharing the Good News of God's love with all of humankind—wherever we are, as we are, with all of our gifts and talents, abilities and weaknesses. The call of God will never take us where God's grace does not follow us, enfold us and strengthen us.

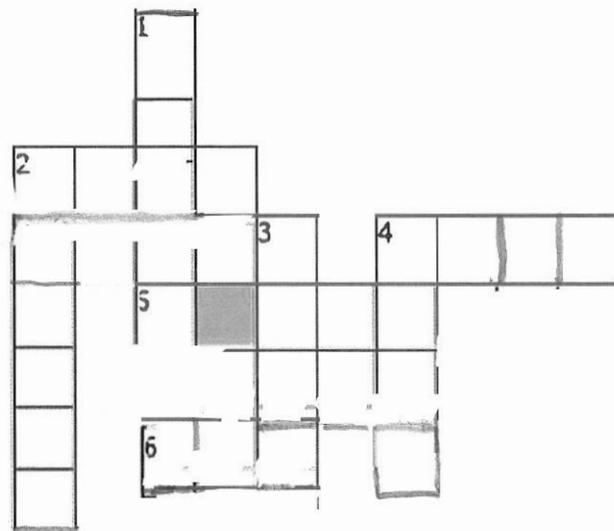
## PONDER AND DISCUSS

- How and where do people hear the call of Jesus today?
- How have you heard the call of Jesus?

# Fishing for People

Jesus replied to Simon, "Don't be afraid! From now on you'll be fishing for people!" Luke 5:10b (NLT)

This puzzle is based on Luke 5:1-11 (NLT)



## ACROSS

2. An animal which lives in water and is covered with scales
4. To go down below the surface of the water
5. The land along the edge of an ocean, sea, lake, or river
6. An openwork fabric of cords used to catch fish

## DOWN

1. The Son of God
2. To get behind someone and go where they go
3. A small vehicle for traveling on water
4. A large area of water, smaller than an ocean

Jesus	net	fish	sink
shore	boat	sea	follow

## THE CHURCH TEACHES

### The Synod on Young People: What does the Final Document Say?

In the end, the Document brings the various topics covered in the Synod into one vocational thrust, that is, the call to holiness. "Vocational differences are gathered in the unique and universal call to holiness". Through the holiness of so many young people willing to renounce life in the midst of persecution in order to remain faithful to the Gospel, the Church can renew its spiritual ardor and its apostolic vigor.



### *Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment*

For the vote on the final document, 249 bishops and priests participated; two-thirds approval or 166 votes, were required to keep a paragraph in the document. The version they voted on had 167 numbered paragraphs.

#### **A FEW QUOTES...**

"Listening is an encounter in freedom, which requires humility, patience, willingness to understand and a commitment to working out responses in a new way."

"Listening transforms the heart of those who live it, above all when they take on an inner attitude of harmony and docility to the Spirit of Christ."

"An area of particular importance in this regard is the presence of women in church bodies at all levels, including in leadership roles, and the participation of women in church decision-making processes while respecting the role of the ordained ministry," the document said. "This is a duty of justice."

## FEASTS THIS WEEK

### ST. VALENTINE

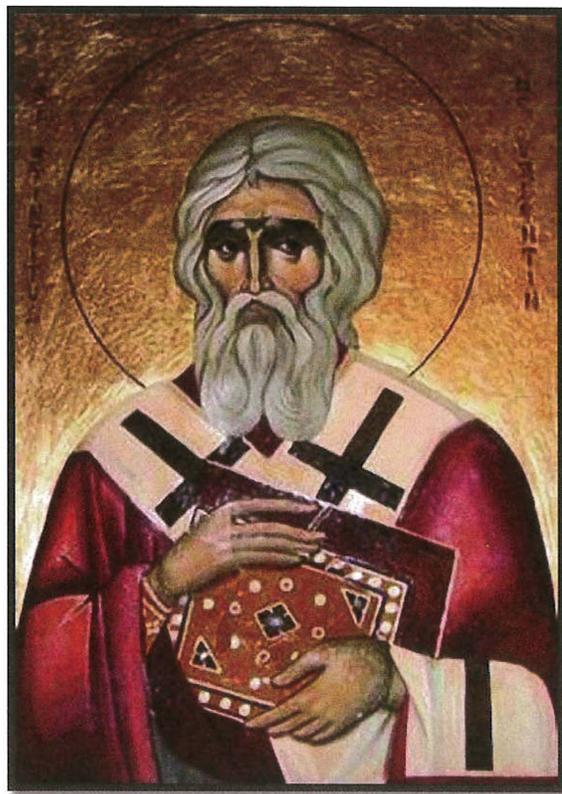
#### FEBRUARY 14

Saint Valentine, officially known as Saint Valentine of Rome, is a third-century Roman saint widely celebrated on February 14 and commonly associated with love.

Although not much of St. Valentine's life is reliably known, and whether or not the stories involve two different saints by the same name is also not officially decided, it is highly agreed that St. Valentine was martyred and then buried on the Via Flaminia to the north of Rome.

In 1969, the Roman Catholic Church removed St. Valentine from the General Roman Calendar, because so little is known about him. However, the church still recognizes him as a saint, listing him in the February 14 spot of Roman Martyrology.

One common story about St. Valentine is that in one point of his life, as the former Bishop of Terni, Narnia and Amelia, he was on house arrest with Judge Asterius. While discussing religion and faith with the Judge, Valentine pledged his faith in Jesus. The judge immediately put Valentine and his faith to the test. St. Valentine was presented with the judge's blind daughter and told to restore her sight. If he succeeded, the judge vowed to do anything for Valentine. Placing his hands onto her eyes, Valentine restored the child's vision. Judge Asterius fasted for three days and became baptized, along with his family and entire 44 member household. The now faithful judge then freed all of his Christian inmates.



St. Valentine was later imprisoned for marrying Christian couples and aiding Christians being persecuted by Claudius in Rome. Both acts were considered serious crimes. Claudius sentenced Valentine to death, commanding him to renounce his faith or be beaten with clubs and beheaded.

St. Valentine refused to renounce his faith and Christianity and was executed outside the Flaminian Gate on February 14, 269.



A short video about St. Valentine can be found here: [https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint\\_id=159](https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=159)

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