

# LIVING FAITH

## THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



### THE GOSPEL FOR TODAY

Luke 9:51-62

As they were going along the road, someone said to him, 'I will follow you wherever you go.' And Jesus said to him, 'Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.'

To another he said, 'Follow me.'

But he said, 'Lord, first let me go and bury my father.'

But Jesus said to him, 'Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.'

Another said, 'I will follow you, Lord;

but let me first say farewell to those at my home.'

Jesus said to him, 'No one who puts a hand to the plough and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.'



### TAKING THE GOSPEL HOME

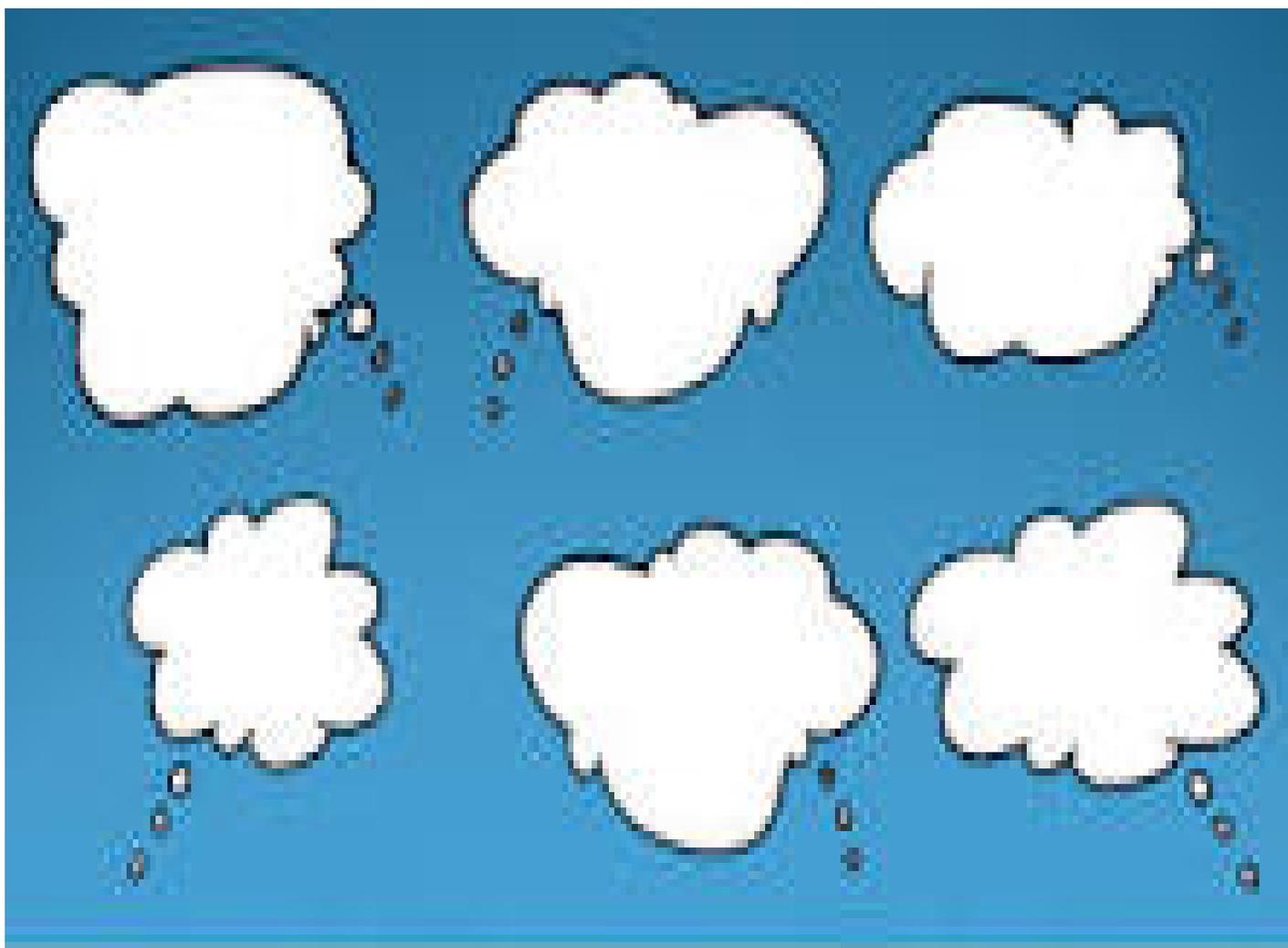
In today's Gospel, Jesus looks straight at each one of us, and asks us a question: Are you willing to follow Him? There are real benefits and real costs to being a disciple of Jesus. The benefit is that we experience the overwhelming love and fulfillment that only a relationship with Jesus can offer. We can look all over the place for ways to fill the hunger inside us but, in fact, only God can do that. The cost of discipleship is different for each person. Some people today realize that the people they thought were friends are not supportive of them trying to live a Christian life. Sometimes, family members throw obstacles in the way.

One thing is for sure. Being disciples of Jesus means having an encounter with Jesus that calls you out toward others, especially His poor.

### PONDER AND DISCUSS

- How have you experienced the call of Jesus in your life?
- When you look at other disciples of Jesus, what attracts you to them?
- What do you think are the costs of being a disciple of Jesus today?

*As a family, have a discussion about ways we can bring God's love to others and our world this coming week. Write down some of your ideas. At week's end, look back and reflect on the experiences of the week and the encounters you had.*



**THE CHURCH TEACHES**  
***CHRISTUS VIVIT (CHRIST IS ALIVE!)***  
**A POST-SYNODAL EXHORTATION FROM POPE FRANCIS**  
**TO YOUNG PEOPLE AND THE WHOLE PEOPLE OF GOD**  
**MARCH 25, 2019**

From October 3-28, 2018 Pope Francis called an extraordinary synod in Rome, calling together bishops from every country, with other observers, including young people, to address the topic of “young people, the faith and vocational discernment.” This synod took place after a long process of consultation, during which the Vatican set up a special website, on which there was an online survey that young people were invited to take. Thousands offered their input through this means. The website, is still active at: [www.synod2018.va/content/synod2018/en.html](http://www.synod2018.va/content/synod2018/en.html).



On the website, you can read all of the documents that were prepared for the synod. You can find other documents there as well, including the text of the Pope’s Apostolic Exhortation, *Christus Vivit (Christ is Alive!)*, which he gave to the world on March 25, 2019. Pope Francis first addresses the letter to young people, “to remind you of certain convictions born of our faith, and at the same time to encourage you to grow in holiness and in commitment to your personal vocation.” He also addresses the letter to the whole people of God, proposing areas for the prayer, reflection and action of all.

Pope Francis’ Apostolic Exhortation has nine chapters. Over the next nine weeks, we will explore each of these chapters, hoping that, with Pope Francis, we can all be “inspired by the wealth of reflections and conversations that emerged from last year’s Synod.

# **JULY 1**

## **A DAY OF MIXED EMOTIONS FOR NEWFOUNDLANDERS AND LABRADORIANS**

### **JULY 1, 1916**

#### **THE BATTLE OF BEAUMONT-HAMEL**



Most Canadians know July 1<sup>st</sup> as Canada Day. However, in Newfoundland and Labrador, July 1<sup>st</sup> is also known as Memorial Day. On that day, in 1916, during World War I, the Battle of the Somme began. The battle would go on for months. The losses sustained by the Newfoundland Regiment at Beaumont-Hamel on July 1, 1916, were staggering. Of the over 800 Newfoundlanders and Labradorians who went into battle that morning, only 68 were able to answer the roll call the next day, with more than 700 killed, wounded or missing. The dead included 14 sets of brothers. Our country (now province) was marked forever.

### **JULY 1, 1867**

#### **A NEW NATION- CANADA- IS BORN**

Canada Day celebrates the anniversary of July 1, 1867, the effective date of the *Constitution Act, 1867* (then called the *British North America Act, 1867*), which united the three separate colonies of the Province of Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick into a single Dominion within the British Empire called Canada. Originally called Dominion Day (*Le Jour de la Confédération*), the holiday was renamed in 1982, the year the *Canada Act* was passed. Canada Day celebrations take place throughout the country, as well as around the world.

