

**Sunday, January 22, 2023**  
**The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

- 1) Isaiah 8:23–9:3
- 2) 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17
- 3) Matthew 4:12-23 or 4:12-17

**FOCUS:** The life of a disciple calls for repentance and courage.

Jesus fulfils all prophecy and brings light to our darkness. He calls his disciples out of their way of life – from fishermen to fishers *of* men. He calls us to follow him, too, so as to bring light, truth and goodness into a world that needs repentance.

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

In the first reading, Isaiah writes of the day when all gloom is gone. Light will come to *the people who walked in darkness*, and they will rejoice. Saint Paul urges the Corinthians to have *no divisions among [them]*. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, calls Simon, Andrew, James and John to follow him. The brothers leave everything and follow Jesus.

**UNIVERSAL PRAYER**

PRIEST: As followers of Jesus, let us bring our prayers before our Father today.

- 1) For Pope Francis, all bishops, priests and those who teach the faith, may the Lord look favorably upon them in their discipleship and help them give witness to a life lived with Christ, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For elected officials, may the Holy Spirit give them grace in governing with prudence, justice and fortitude, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For the sick, may the healing touch of the Lord Jesus bring them comfort and peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For our faith community, may the Lord increase our desire to become less attached to things of this world in order to follow him who is the way to perfect happiness, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For our beloved dead, may they enter fully into the Kingdom, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Father in heaven, we ask that you hear and answer these prayers today, and we trust that y