

## Fifth Sunday in Ordinary time – 9<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Headings	Gospel (Luke 5:1-11)	First Reading (Isaiah 6:1-8)	Second Reading (1 Corinthians 15:1-11)
<b>Context</b>	This Gospel describes the call of the first disciples. It happened by the lakeside as Jesus was preaching to the crowds. It describes the encounter between Jesus and Peter, Andrew, James and John. Jesus invited them to follow him and they responded by leaving their boats and going with him.	The First reading is focused on the call of Isaiah to be a prophet. He received a vision when he was in the temple in Jerusalem. Isaiah's first reaction was to think that he was unworthy. In the vision a burning coal was brought to him as a sign of cleansing him of sin. Immediately he accepted God's call.	In this passage Paul gives a summary to the Corinthians of the message of the Gospel. Paul is keen to stress the importance of the death and resurrection of Jesus for our salvation. The reality of the resurrection is evident from his many appearances to his followers. Paul had no doubt about the resurrection because Jesus revealed it to him also.
<b>Key verse</b>	<b>“ Put out into deep water and pay out your nets for a catch... and when they had done this they netted such a large number of fish that their nets began to tear”</b>	<b>“I saw the Lord seated on a high throne; his train filled the sanctuary;” Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. His glory fills the whole earth”</b> <b>“Whom shall I send? Here I am send me”</b>	<b>“I taught you what I had been taught myself, namely that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures...and last of all he appeared to me too”</b>
<b>Key themes/ messages</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jesus asks Simon to drop his nets for a catch of fish.</li> <li>• Simon was reluctant to do so but agreed to the request. Simon and his companions were amazed at the large haul of fish.</li> <li>• Jesus reassured him and told him “Do not be afraid”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In this vision Isaiah sensed the glory of God which is beyond all his imagining.</li> <li>• The repetition of the word holy was for emphasis, meaning that God is perfect in every way.</li> <li>• Isaiah accepted God's call in spite of feeling unworthy.</li> <li>• Notice that the use of Holy, holy, holy in the mass is drawn from this vision</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paul lists Peter as the first witness of Jesus' resurrection and himself as the last. Together they were key witnesses of the resurrection.</li> <li>• Paul catalogues a total of six appearances after Jesus rose from the dead. The followers of Jesus were fully convinced that he had risen from the dead.</li> <li>• Paul felt unworthy of an apostolic mission in light of his former hostility to the Church.</li> </ul>
<b>Questions/ application to our lives</b>	How often do feelings of unworthiness make you afraid to approach God? What do you do with that fear? Jesus calls on the fishermen to “put out into the deep”. Are we willing to take risks to spread the gospel? The disciples were quick to leave all and follow Jesus. Are you as quick to respond to the call of Jesus?	Have you ever had an experience of the Lord's Holiness? How did it change your relationship with him? How might you respond if so? When the liturgy calls upon you to “Go and announce the gospel of the Lord”, how eager are you to comply?	How does this passage help to shape your understanding of the resurrection of Jesus from the dead? How does it help you to look forward to your own rising to eternal life? Are you fully convinced Jesus rose from the dead? How can you become as convinced as the apostles were of the resurrection of Jesus? How has the grace of God in your regard not been in vain?
<b>Further reading</b>	<i>Catechism 208, 388, 448, 541, 787, 1427</i>	<i>Catechism 208, 332, 1137-1138, 2584</i>	<i>Catechism 186, 552, 601, 624, 639, 641,642, 659</i>