

Dear Padre,

Mark 1:15 quotes Jesus as saying, “Repent, and believe in the gospel.” Since the Gospels hadn’t been written yet, what was he referring to?

These days when we say the word *gospel*, we tend to be talking about one of the four written Gospels of the New Testament: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. But the word *gospel* wasn’t originally tied to any particular written form of communication. In fact, the Greek word we translate to *gospel—evangelion—*simply means “good news.”

When Jesus says, “Repent and believe in the gospel,” he is basically saying, “Repent and believe in the good news.” For Jesus, the nature of that good news is clear: Jesus is announcing the coming of God’s kingdom, the initiation of the fullness of God’s reign on earth. Jesus preaches this good news in word and action and makes it real through his life, death, and resurrection.

After Jesus’ resurrection and ascension, many of his followers were inspired by the Holy Spirit to go into the world and continue Christ’s gospel proclamation. The apostles and disciples did this by word of mouth at first, but within a few decades they decided to commit the message of Christ’s good news to writing, giving us the Gospel books we know today.

Fr. Matthew Allman, CSsR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



SEMON ON THE MOUNT BY CARL BLOCH/WIKIPEDIA

A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

In these, our troubled times, rent by the tragedies of war and menaced by the baneful tendency to accentuate differences and to incite conflict, may the Good News that in Jesus forgiveness triumphs over sin, life defeats death, and love conquers fear, be proclaimed to the world with renewed fervor.

LETTER RECOGNIZING MISSIONARY WORK, OCTOBER 22, 2017



© 2021 Liguori Publications, Liguori, MO 63057-9999. Printed in USA. *Imprimatur*: “In accordance with CIC 827, permission to publish was granted on June 19, 2020, by the Most Reverend Mark S. Rivituso, Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of St. Louis. Permission to publish is an indication that nothing contrary to Church teaching is contained in this work. It does not imply any endorsement of the opinions expressed in the publication; nor is any liability assumed by this permission.” No part of this work may be used in any form without the prior written permission of Liguori Publications. Scripture texts in this work are taken from the *New American Bible*, revised edition © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. All Rights Reserved. To order Liguori Sunday Bulletins, call 800-325-9521, or visit Liguori.org.

Calendar

Monday
JANUARY 25
Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle
Acts 22:3–16 or Acts 9:1–22
Mk 16:15–18

Tuesday
JANUARY 26
Sts. Timothy and Titus, Bishops
2 Tm 1:1–8 or Ti 1:1–5
Mk 3:31–35

Wednesday
JANUARY 27
Weekday
Heb 10:11–18
Mk 4:1–20

Thursday
JANUARY 28
St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Heb 10:19–25
Mk 4:21–25

Friday
JANUARY 29
Weekday
Heb 10:32–39
Mk 4:26–34

Saturday
JANUARY 30
Weekday
Heb 11:1–2, 8–19
Mk 4:35–41

Sunday
JANUARY 31
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Dt 18:15–20
1 Cor 7:32–35
Mk 1:21–28



January 24, 2021
Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
Jon 3:1–5, 10
1 Cor 7:29–31
Mk 1:14–20

The Fish That Didn’t Get Away

We have all heard stories about the extraordinary fish that got away. We might even have such a story of our own. Two of today’s readings are fish stories, but with a slight twist. They are also “call narratives.” Last week we reflected on the call to listen and to follow; this week it is a call to go out to bring God’s mercy to others. This is a call to “catch” others, as one might catch fish—a metaphor that would have delighted fisher people.

In the beginning of the Jonah story, the prophet did not catch fish; one caught him. Later, the word he preached was very successful, his own spitefulness notwithstanding. The Ninevites were the sworn enemies of the Israelites, and Jonah did not want them to repent, but to be punished by God. Nevertheless, God’s mercy was stronger than Jonah’s spite. In the Gospel, Jesus calls his followers to set down their fishing nets and to launch into a life of catching people

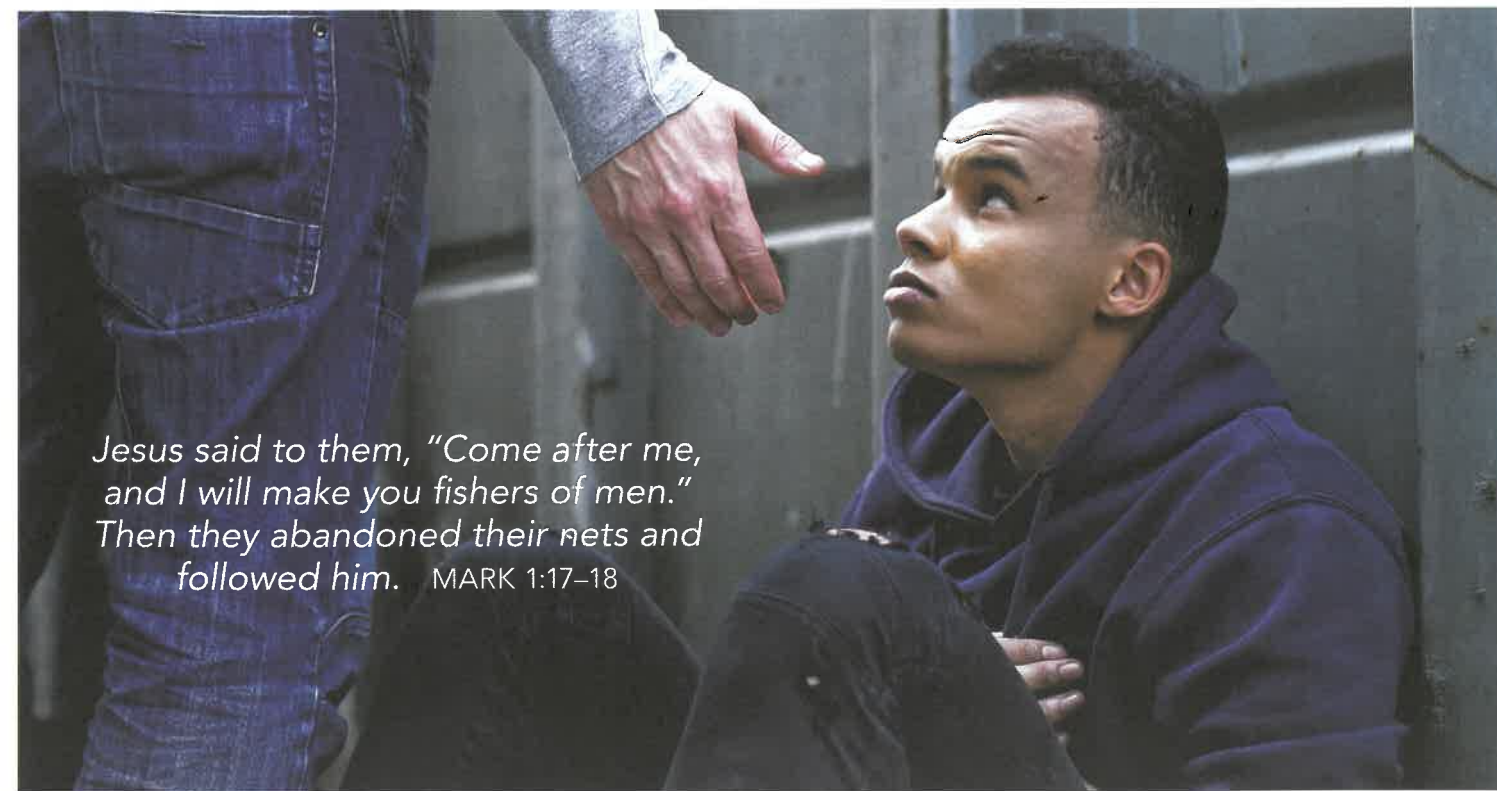
with the word of God. There is an eagerness here that is absent in the Jonah story. Furthermore, the disciples left their primary commitment—their patriarchal family—to accept Jesus’ invitation.

As Pope Francis declared, we are all missionary disciples. Are we eager to respond, as were Jesus’ disciples? Or do we think we should attend only to those whom we judge to be deserving? If so, have we forgotten that no one deserves God’s mercy? It is a free gift to all.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- ✦ *In what ways does your manner of living proclaim the mercy of God?*
- ✦ *Pray that you might realize these ways if you do not already.*



MOTION FILMS/SHUTTERSTOCK





Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church Saint Terence Mission

1130 East San Antonio Ave

Many, LA 71449

Phone: 318-256-5680

FAX: 318-256-9177

Office Hours: 8AM—4PM (M-F)

Website: www.stjohnmany.org

Email: office@stjohnmany.org

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Francis Kamau, FMH
Deacon: Michael Sullivan
Parish Secretary: Sheila Royal
Office Assistant: Shirley Rivers
DRE: Jean Rains
Groundskeeper: Michael Beasley
Housekeeper: Pam Little
Music Director: Justin Lincecum

Prayer List: Vivian Halleck, Bessie Mowad, Vicki Martin, Eddie Richard, Janice Murphy, Randy Richter, Jiles Bowling, Tom Hambleton, Ace Bowling, Bennett King, Wanda J Rivers, Norma Bergeron, Clifford Shuff, Roy & Pam Beasley, Ezra Thibodeaux, Bill & Mary Hurd, Donald Behan, Joanna Presseau, Lisa Brown, Bobby Bowen, Piper Rae Pate, Cameron Johnson, Jake & Mary Ann Rivers, Allen Nichols, James Edwards, Addie Procell, Richard DeKeyzer, Trisha Adams, Sue Ferguson, John Wayne Behan, Timbo Sepulvado, Don Speaks, Marti Vienne, Lexie King, Gary Mitchell, Justin Lincecum, Bailey Leach Salter, Brooklyn Meshell & Roy Cedars

Please note: The names on the prayer list will go through a cycle. As the names are moved to the top, they will be removed as new names are added. Please contact the office to add or remove a name.

Parish Support

(Thank you for your generosity!)
January 16th–17th, 2021

St John	\$ 3156.02
St Terence	\$ 1075.00

Second Collection: Jan. 23rd-24th

A second collection for the Church in Latin America will be held this weekend.

This Week in our Parish

Weekend Masses at St John:

Sat, 4:00 PM Anticipated Mass

Sun, 11:00 AM

Sunday Mass at St Terence: 8:00 AM

Weekday Masses at St. John:

Tues, 5PM

Wed—Friday, 8AM

Saturday January 23

3:00-3:45 PM Reconciliation at St. John

3:30 PM Recitation of Rosary at St John

Sunday January 24

7:30 AM Recitation of Rosary at St Terence

10:30 AM Recitation of Rosary at St John

Wednesday January 27

8:30AM-6:00PM St John: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

5:30 PM CCD

5:30 PM Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction

Anointing of the Sick /Ministry to the Sick

Please call the church office if someone is in a hospital, nursing home, shut-in, and would like to be visited or receive the sacraments.

Sacrament of Baptism

Call the office in advance to register for seminar.

Funerals

Arrangements may be made by calling the church office

Parish calendar online:

<http://www.stjohnmany.org/calendar>

Sanctuary Candle

The Sanctuary Candle burns night and day near the tabernacle to indicate and honor the presence of Christ. You may arrange to have the Sanctuary Candle at St. John's or St. Terence burn in memory of a loved one for a week of your choice by contacting the church office. The candle will be booked on a first-come, first-serve basis. Donations of any amount are accepted.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday January 23rd

- 4:00PM
- +Earl Ebarb
 - +Mary Ann Peck
 - +Chris & Eunice Ebarb
 - +Jenna Lee Williams
 - +Muriel Jaber

Sunday January 24th

- 8:00AM
- The Parish Family
 - +Christy Wriberg
- 11:00AM
- +Charlie Brown
 - + Steven Rodrigues
 - + Peter, Maria Hoa & Maria Loan Nguyen
 - + Danny Spohrer
 - + Timothy Rivers

Tuesday January 26th

- 5:00PM
- + Timothy Rivers

Wednesday January 27th

- 8:00AM
- +Fr. Kenneth Williams

Thursday January 28th

- 8:00AM
- +Jenna Lee Williams

Friday January 29th

- 8:00AM
- +Bobbie & Billy Ezernack



The Sanctuary Candle

Week of Jan 24th—Jan 30th

St John + Timothy Rivers
St Terence *In Thanksgiving*
Marti Vienne (SI)

Church Donations

Contributions may be placed in the basket in the back of the church, or mailed to the office. Online giving may be accessed by going to <http://www.stjohnmany.org/donations>

2020 Contribution Statements

2020 Contribution Statements will be mailed out within the next few days. Thank you for your support.

Remember in Prayer

Please pray for the repose of the souls of *Earl Ebarb*, father of *Hilda Malmay*, and *Timothy Rivers*, brother of *Joe Rivers*. "Eternal Rest grant unto them O Lord and Let the Perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in Peace." Amen. Please also pray for all those who have contracted COVID-19, for those who have died because of it, for all members of our medical community and for first responders as they assist during the pandemic.

Church Directories Are In!

The St John /St Terence Church Directories have arrived! Any family who was photographed for the directory may call the church office (256-5680) to make arrangements to pick up your free copy. After those are distributed, any copies remaining may be purchased for \$5.00 each. We appreciate all families who made the effort to be photographed and we thank everyone for their patience during the publication delay caused by the pandemic.

World Marriage Day

On World Marriage Day, February 14th, we will be honoring married couples celebrating their **decade and half-decade anniversaries** in 2021 (5, 10, 15, 25, etc.) and all of those married 50 + years.

Please call the parish office **no later than January 25th** with husband and wife's full names (including maiden), address, email, marriage date, church, etc. Recognizing married couples in our parish is a wonderful example for the young and engaged couples to witness the importance of the Sacrament of Marriage.

Altar Servers Needed

We are always in need of altar servers. Anyone interested in serving in this ministry, please contact Marion Koss at 663-0941 or Reese Koss at 315-0087.

2020 Stewardship Appeal Update

Special thanks to everyone who made an effort to contribute to the 2020 Diocesan Stewardship Appeal during this difficult year. Most recent figures indicate that **Saint John the Baptist** pledged **95.11%** of their goal while **Saint Terence** pledged **132.08%** of theirs.

New Bible Study Class Begins in February

Our new Bible Study class is slated to begin in February. *Follow Me: Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John* is your guide to a personal encounter with Christ. If you want to know what it means to really follow Christ, and if you would like to have a deeper relationship with Him, then we invite you to join us for *Follow Me*.

Participants in the class will receive a workbook and will meet monthly to view an engaging video presentation followed by group discussion and fellowship. The eight 30-minute videos, presented by Dr. Edward Sri, will guide you through the Gospel of John. Dr. Sri will explain how Christ's encounters with His disciples, the Samaritan woman, the man born blind, and others, are examples of how He lovingly and persistently calls each of us to a more intimate and life-changing relationship with Him.

Because of the pandemic, you will have the option to attend the studies in person or virtually via Zoom. Those who choose to participate in person will have a choice of two sessions. The first class will be **Tuesday, Feb. 16th at 9:30AM** for those wishing to attend the morning session and the night class will be **Thursday, Feb. 18 at 6PM**. Those who choose to attend via Zoom will watch the video at their convenience. There will be a zoom training on **Wednesday, Jan. 27th**.

The cost to register for this Bible Study is **\$20.00**. This includes the workbook, online workbook and online access for one year to the eight 35-minute videos. Books will be ordered **February 1st**.

Thank You

Special thanks to everyone who participated in or helped with the St. Terence 25th Anniversary social.

Society of St Vincent de Paul

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus says: "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." As disciples, we are called to continue God's work on earth. Taking care of God's poor is indeed living gospel values. **Through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul helps you continue God's work on earth as together we live out gospel values.** Thank you and May God Bless

Mass Online

We are live streaming the **Sunday IIAM Mass** on our Facebook page. Those who are ill or who are not comfortable attending Mass are invited to join us on social media and offer an act of Spiritual Communion.