

2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time
14th January 2024



'We have found the Messiah'

John 1

In the Gospel for this Sunday, we find John declaring Jesus as the “Lamb of God” in front of two men that have literally chosen to follow him. When Jesus notices, he invites them to his home. Andrew, one of these disciples, declares Jesus the Messiah to his brother, Simon, and brings him to Jesus as well. Jesus then accepts them and gives them a place among his disciples.

Although this may not seem like a momentous event, this Gospel shows us that Jesus is asking for us to follow him just like Andrew and Simon. The simplicity of this Gospel is intentional and reinforces that Jesus does not often ask much of us. What he does ask is for us to trust in him and his Word. Of course, we do not always follow this instruction through. We are imperfect and sometimes we allow life to get in the way of our relationship with Jesus. In this increasingly uncertain world, this Gospel is there to remind us that as long as we stay committed to following Jesus, we will be able to face all sorts of difficulties and that our relationship with him will continue to grow from strength to strength.



This week let us pray for:

- ♦ all those who are isolating or feeling isolated;
- ♦ all those connected to our community who are unwell, upset or mourning;
- ♦ strength for all of those facing difficult times.



It seems appropriate that one of the prayer intentions for Ordinary Time is for the sick and those who care for them.

Merciful God, come to the help of your people.

*Be our shelter in this time of peril and strengthen the
bonds of our community.*

*Bring healing to all who suffer the ravages of disease
and assist those whose skill and art can put an end to
this affliction.*

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Christ be with me, Christ within me,
Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, Christ to win me,
Christ to comfort and restore me,
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me,
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger

“Let us love, since that is what our hearts were made for.”

Saint Therese of Lisieux