They left everything and followed Jesus
February 10, 2019 • Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Scripture recounts several instances of God calling persons to be leaders, prophets, apostles, or for other tasks. In most of them, a divine messenger appears to someone and directs them to do X. However, in today’s readings, there is no explicit directive for Isaiah to deliver God’s message, or for the fishermen to follow Jesus. Instead, the accounts focus on the way that God appears. The respective calls result from the recognition of God’s presence in the experience. That recognition creates an openness to whatever God might want.

... OUR RESPONSE IS WHAT MATTERS

Isaiah’s immediate reaction to the marvelous events he has seen was an acute awareness of his own sinfulness: “Woe is me . . . For I am a man of unclean lips” (Isaiah 6:5). In the ancient world, contact between holy objects or environments and profane things or persons was a contamination—human beings were thought to “contaminate” any place where God’s presence was known to dwell, and hence were unclean. Only after he volunteers (“Here I am. . . send me!” [Isaiah 6:8]) does Isaiah learn what he is being asked to do.

The catch of fish in Luke lacks the color of Isaiah’s theophany, but it evoked a response from Simon similar to that of Isaiah: “Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man” (Luke 5:8). He was not alone; “all those with him” were “seized” with astonishment (5:9). The overwhelming catch of fish was just as much an overwhelming experience of God for Simon as were the seraphim for the prophet Isaiah.

This is very good news for the rest of us, since our own theophanies are almost never as colorful as Isaiah’s, or as dramatic as an unusually large catch of fish. But they are there, moments in our lives when we become acutely aware of God’s presence and understand more clearly our own humanity and our need for God’s mercy. That understanding, in turn, can make us open to how God is calling us and what we are being called to do.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS):
Sat. 3:30 p.m., or any other time upon request.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:
By appointment. Contact the Parish House at least six months before the date of the marriage. Pre-Cana is required.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:
By appointment. The Diocese requires instructions beforehand for the parents. Contact the parish office.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (C.C.D.):
Sundays during the school term at 9:00 a.m. to 9:50 a.m. for Grades 1-12.

REGISTRATION AND CHURCH SUPPORT:
Parishioners should be properly registered at the Parish Office.
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 10, 2019

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?” “Here I am,” I said, “send me!”
— Isaiah 6:8

WEEKLY SCHEDULES

Lectors/ Eucharistic Ministers:
2/16  4:00 p.m. Julie Fecat/C. McDonald
2/17  8:00 a.m.  L. Remke/ P. Remke
2/17  10:00 a.m. Children’s Mass

Altar Servers:
2/16  4:00 p.m. Whitelatch
2/17  8:00 a.m. Kent
2/17  10:00 a.m. Miller/Targosky

Gift Bearers:
2/16  4:00 p.m. Volunteer
2/17  8:00 a.m. Dan & Lori Laberdeee
2/17  10:00 a.m. John Niemiec

Sacristy Cleaners: Week of February 18, 2019
Joe Pavilkey

Greeters:
2/16  4:00 p.m. Terri Porter
2/17  8:00 a.m. Phil Remke
2/17  10:00 a.m. Bob & Patty Kleinedler

Bingo February 15, 2019
Raffle: Diane Barker
Kitchen: Jenny Ingram

COLLECTION: February 3, 2019
Envelopes - $2,918.00
Loose Offering - $1,418.00
Electronic Giving - $35.00
Xavier Hall - $521.00
Diocesan Collection - $20.00
Church in Latin America - $446.00
Memorial Offerings - $125.00
Pennies for God - $7.05
Attendance - 291

Praying in Hope
Prayer Campaign for the Election of a Bishop. Archbishop Lori has invited us to join him in intentional prayer for the selection of our next bishop. The Novena of Prayer to the Holy Spirit may be found in the vestibule.
Office of Safe Environment
To report an incident of suspected child sexual abuse, contact local law enforcement, or you may confidentially contact WV Child Protective Services: 800.352.6513. To report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact the Diocese at 888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880.

PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS, FRIENDS AND FAMILY MEMBERS:
Prayer Request: Sam Bee, Doreen Coffield, Ralph Mercer, Brenda Kurko, Gerry Mele, Joe Church, Gregory “Shad” Fromhart, Don McCormick, Maggie Yeater, Miriam Kulavik, Bobby Kleinedler, Chris Colby, Richard Timko;
Homebound: Semon & Phyllis Prado, Doris Murphy, Bob Tetrick, Rachel Kerekes;
Nursing Home: Gary Dobbs, Patricia Schmidt, Helen Remke, Thelma Gitlin, Barbara Meyer, Elizabeth Potts, Marilyn Neidhardt, Helen Cuchta, Ron Jaworski.

The Catholic Charities’ Neighborhood Center in Wheeling needs volunteers, especially backup drivers, to deliver meals. Through the meal delivery program, the neighborhood Center feeds about 170 people each day. They are in dire need of volunteers willing to deliver meals to individuals receiving this service. CCNC serves individuals who are homebound and unable to prepare their own food. Your support and help is really needed and will truly be appreciated. For more information please contact Keith Miller at 304-650-9608.

The Sanctuary Candle beside the tabernacle burns this week for: Darrell & Barbara Myers Family Requested by Cindy Myers Nielsen

St. Francis Xavier Parish Family Offers our prayers and sincere sympathy to the family of Joe Cuchta, Husband of Helen Cuchta.

FYI
25 high school students from The Summit Country Day Catholic School in Cincinnati, Ohio will be here in June for a service project. If you would like their help, please call the Church Office and let us know what needs done. We must know by March 13, 2019.

NOVENA TO THE MOST BLESSED INFANT JESUS OF PRAGUE
Begins Monday, February 11 at 7 p.m.
Our Lady of Peace Parish
For nine consecutive Mondays, ending April 8*
*reception will follow at the Peace Family Center

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
Feb. 13 - Monthly cooking series: Italian
Feb. 24 - Family Fun Afternoon 4:00 Xavier Hall
Mar. 2 - 3 - Gifts From the Holy Land sold after Masses
Mar. 6 - Ash Wednesday K of C Fish Fry and every Friday in Lent
Mar. 13-14 - Bible Study begins

Central Catholic High School Lady Knights Basketball Pasta Dinner
Feb. 17 - 2-5 p.m.
At Generations. Tickets will be available at the door
For more info call 304-559-1594

THANK YOU
Your Church Family has been a blessing to our family. Thank you for all the love and support you have shown. Praying God Blesses you all throughout the New Year.
The Colbys
Chris, Teresa, Jacob & Luke

Bible Study will start Wednesday, March 13 and Thursday March 14. It is an 8 week course studying the Gospel of John. We will cancel the week of Holy Week, April 17 and 18. We will finish May 8 and 9. Registration forms are available in the vestibule and Parish Office. Sign up soon. Space is limited.

Is God Calling You to be a Priest of Jesus Christ? Come join us for a weekend of prayer and discernment.
March 1-3 @ Priest Field pastoral Center.
For more information contact Rick Teachout - 304-233-0880 ext. 442.