

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 21, 2024

This Sunday we begin the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity with its theme:

‘You shall love the Lord your God... and your neighbour as yourself.’ Rooted in what Jesus calls the greatest commandment, we are led into an endless relationship with all of creation.

Today’s readings challenge us to reconciliation and to respond to the invitation of Jesus to follow Him and be fishers of people. The first reading from Jonah is a call to conversion, recognizing the fundamental change of heart necessary to a greater awareness of our being part of the family of humanity.

Our 2nd reading speaks of the importance of the fleeting moment in which we live, challenging us to participate in affecting newness and greater awareness of the presence of God in our lives.

The gospel passage from Mark is the call of the first disciples of Jesus, a call to follow Him and participate in the vocation of being a Christian. Though traditions are varied in the various faith traditions within Christianity, we are anchored in the eternal love of God through Jesus the Christ – bound by the life-giving breath of the Spirit.

As so beautifully put by St. Julian of Norwich:

‘The fullness of joy is to behold God in everything.’

Blessings of peace! Fr. Don