



BE STILL

Take a moment to allow whatever is in your heart to rise and offer your thoughts to the loving care of the Lord today.

Sing, play or listen to:

Be still for the presence of the Lord (CWB II 454) or via: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZJMaOxdu6B4>

Gathering Prayer

Loving God,
In these early weeks of the year
we ask for wisdom to see your presence
as we make our way through each day.
Allow us to draw near to you
and to sit in your presence
as we open our hearts to hear your word.
Amen.

THIS WEEK WE CELEBRATE

- Wed 31 January: St John Bosco, priest (memorial)
- Fri 2 February: The Presentation of the Lord (feast)

GOSPEL READING

(Gospel for third Sunday in Ordinary time)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark:

I will make you into fishers of men

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

As he was walking along by the Sea of Galilee he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake – for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men.' And at once they left their nets and followed him.

Going on a little further, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they too were in their boat, mending their nets. He called them at once and, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the men he employed, they went after him.

The gospel of the Lord

MK 1:14-20

Ponder

Re read the Gospel.

Pope Francis in *Evangelii Gaudium* (2013) noted that in the presence of God, during a recollected reading of the text it is good to practice *Lectio Divina* – the reading of God's word in prayer asking that it 'enlighten and renew' us. The following questions may help with this:

- Lord, what does this text mean to me?
- What is it about my life that you want me to change by this text?
- What troubles me about this text?
- Why am I not interested in this?
- What do I find pleasant about this text?
- What is it about this word that moves me?
- What attracts me?
- Why does it attract me?

Reflect

Galilee is etched into the religious memory of Christians. It is around the Galilee area that Jesus preaches and teaches and it is to Galilee that the risen Jesus journeys, ahead of his disciples.

Perhaps this week is a time to reflect on where our Galilee is. Where is Jesus leading us as we move into this new year?

PRAY

Loving God,
in this new year I pray:
to live deeply, with purpose,
to live freely, with detachment,
to live wisely, with humility
to live justly, with compassion,
to live lovingly, with fidelity,
to live mindfully, with awareness,
to live gratefully, with generosity,
to live fully, with enthusiasm,

Help me to hold this vision
And to daily renew it in my heart,
Becoming ever more one with you,
I ask this in the name of Jesus,
Amen.

(adapted from The New Year, Joyce Rupp taken from *Out of the Ordinary* © 2000, 2010 by Joyce Rupp. Used with permission of Ave Maria Press)