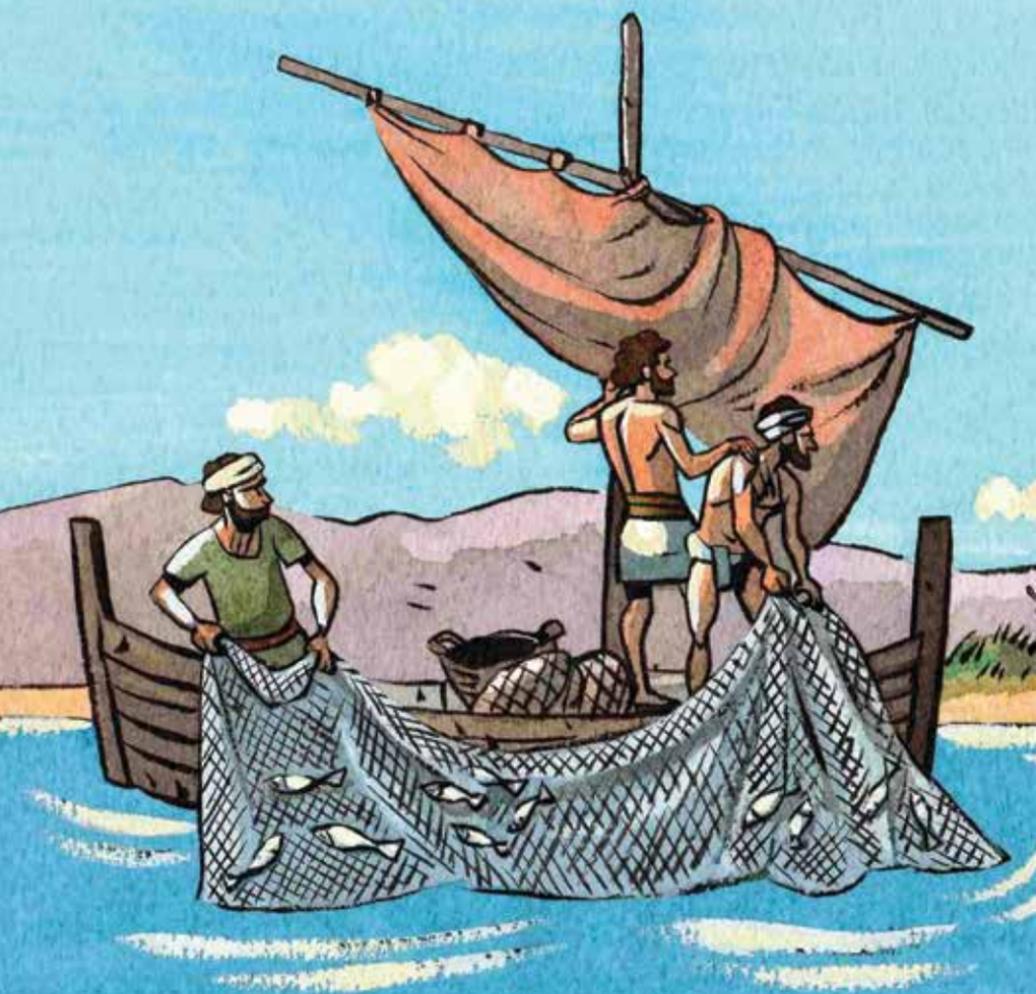


January 24

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
(Sunday of the Word of God)



First Reading (Jonah 3:1-5, 10)

The word of the LORD came to Jonah, saying: "Set out for the great city of Nineveh, and announce to it the message that I will tell you." So Jonah made ready and went to **Nineveh**, according to the Lord's bidding. Now Nineveh was an enormously large city; it took three days to go through it. Jonah began his journey through the city, and had gone but a single day's walk announcing, "Forty days more and Nineveh shall be destroyed," when the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a **fast** and all of them, great and small, put on **sackcloth**.

When God saw by their actions how they turned from their evil way, he repented of the evil that he had threatened to do to them; he did not carry it out.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9)

R. Teach me your ways, O Lord.

Your ways, O LORD, make known to me;
teach me your paths,
guide me in your truth and teach me,
for you are God my savior. **R.**

Remember that your compassion, O LORD,
and your love are from of old.
In your kindness remember me,
because of your goodness, O LORD. **R.**

Good and upright is the LORD;
thus he shows sinners the way.
He guides the humble to justice
and teaches the humble his way. **R.**

Second Reading (1 Corinthians 7:29-31)

I tell you, brothers and sisters, the time is running out. From now on, let those having wives act as not having them, those weeping as not **weeping**, those rejoicing as not rejoicing, those buying as not owning, those using the world as not using it fully. For the world in its present form is passing away.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel (Mark 1:14-20)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. **Repent**, and believe in the gospel."

As he passed by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting their nets into the sea; they were fishermen. Jesus said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." Then they abandoned their nets and followed him. He walked along a little farther and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They too were in a boat mending their nets. Then he called them. So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Key Words

The **book of the Prophet Jonah** is the story of a man who lived about 800 years before Jesus. God wants Jonah to be his prophet but Jonah runs away instead. He famously spends three days in the belly of a fish before finally accepting God's word. This story was written to help people understand that God is loving and merciful and never gives up on us.

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Nineveh was the capital of Assyria (today's northern Iraq) in Jonah's time. The people of Israel saw it as a dangerous and evil city because the people there didn't follow God's laws.

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To **fast** means to abstain from all or some kinds of food or drink. To put on **sackcloth** means to wear very rough cloth, which irritates the skin. Fasting and putting on sackcloth were signs that people were sorry for their sins and wanted to make their lives better.



When Saint Paul wrote this **letter to the Corinthians**, Christians thought the world was about to end. Saint Paul says we must change our ways and live as though that day were here—the day we will be with Jesus forever.

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Weeping means to cry and feel sad because someone we love has died or something important is lost. Saint Paul reminds us that a new world is coming very soon, where everything will be good and wonderful, and no one will ever be sad.

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To **repent** means to be sorry for doing something wrong, and to change your way of thinking and living for the better. Jesus calls us to repent and to believe in the good news of God's love.