



Liturgy Cycle C

Fifth Sunday Of The Year

A Miraculous Catch Of Fish

Introduction

After the miraculous catch of fish Peter realized as never before his own sinfulness and the holiness of Christ. He asked Christ to depart from him. But Christ showed him that his sins and weaknesses would not prevent him from sharing in his work. While our sinfulness humbles us we should not let it get us down or make us feel that we do not belong in the company of Christ. Christ came to help us to overcome our sins. Therefore we come to him with confidence and confess them. (Pause).

Lord Jesus, you forgive our sins and reconcile us once more with the Father.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, your strength helps us to rise above our weaknesses.
Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, your Spirit helps us to overcome our laziness, selfishness and cowardice.
Lord, have mercy.

First Reading (Isaiah 6:1-8)

When Isaiah was called by God to be a prophet his first reaction was to declare his unworthiness. But then, cleansed of his sins, he responded at once to God's call.

Second Reading (1 Cor 15:1-11)

Paul energetically defends the doctrine of Christ's resurrection from the dead. At the same time he insists that he is the least of all the apostles.

Gospel (Luke 5:1-11)

This relates the miraculous catch of fish and the call of Peter to share in the work of Christ.

Prayer Of The Faithful

Jesus accepted Peter as he was. But at the same time he challenged him to grow. He accepts us as we are and challenges us to grow. Let us pray that we may cooperate with his grace.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.



Liturgy Cycle C

For the leaders of the Church: that they may challenge all the people of God to grow in holiness of life. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

For all those who hold public office: that they may bring all their talents and energies to serving those for whom they work. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

For all those who suffer from an inferiority complex and who have a low opinion of themselves: that they may find the acceptance which will help them to believe in themselves. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

That we may face up to and accept our sins and weaknesses, but not be satisfied until we have tried to overcome them. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

Let us pray:

Lord, may we realise how the quality of our presence, our looks and our words brings happiness or misery, life or death to others and, realising this, may we try to treat everybody as we ourselves would like them to treat us. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Communion Reflection

It was at the very moment Peter recognised his sinfulness that Christ challenged him to become a fisher of men. Peter knew that the only thing he could rely on was the word and the power of Christ.

We must not be put off by our weaknesses, or make an excuse out of them for doing nothing. Rather we must learn to turn them to our advantage. Listen to how Paul did this.

**"Though I could boast I won't.
It's true that I've had revelations,
but to stop me from getting too proud
I was given a thorn in the flesh.
Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away,
but he said: 'My grace is enough for you;
my power is at its best in weakness.'**

**So I am not only content with my weaknesses,
but I have actually learned to boast of them,
For it is when I am weak that I am strong,
because then the power of Christ is available to me.'**