

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [B]

January 21-22, 2012

QUEEN OF PEACE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA 32607
Rev. Jeff McGowan

1ST READING: JONAH 3:1-5, 10

When God saw their actions how they turned away from their evil way...

PSALM 25

He guides the humble to justice, he teaches the humble his way.

2ND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 7:29-31

For the world in its present form is passing away.

GOSPEL: MARK 1:14-20

This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand...Then he called them. So they left...and followed him.

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Our readings today challenge us to “repent,” which translates, “Change your ways.” The Psalm asks God to teach us God’s ways. Jonah told the people of Nineveh to “change their ways.” Paul told the Corinthians to “change their ways.” And Jesus told the people of all time to “change our ways,” and believe in the good news. What’s the Good News? It is the Even when we are in sin, God so loves this world that God sends His Divine Son not to condemn this world but to save it. Jesus is the answer to the psalmist’s plea; Jesus teaches us how to live “Gods way.”

In the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical, “South Pacific,” the characters sing: “*Some Enchanted Evening, you will see a stranger, you will see a stranger across a crowded room.*” The lyric continues that “*you know,*” even then he is the one. It concludes, “*Once you have found him, never let him go.*”

That's the way it was for Andrew and Peter, James and John. Somehow they knew, even then. Once they had found him, they never let him go.

In our busy lives, we may be like the fishermen. When Jesus comes into our view, we know. When he calls us, we follow him, and we never let him go. And that's our good news!