

## **Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

February 9, 2025

Dear Parishioners,

In today's first reading, Isaiah is called to be a prophet. He immediately knows that he is inadequate and unworthy. He is not properly equipped. He is a sinful man. He wants the Lord to find someone else. But the Lord does not find someone else.

Instead, the Lord sends an angel to touch his lips, to forgive his sin, to equip him to be a prophet. When Peter is called in today's Gospel, he immediately sees that he is unworthy to the task. He tells Jesus, "Depart from me, Lord, I am a sinful man." Find someone else. Jesus does not find someone else. Instead, he says to Peter, "Do not be afraid, from now on you will be catching people." Jesus said, "Yes, I know you're unworthy, but I call you to be an apostle."

Like Isaiah, Paul, and Peter, we may all feel unworthy to the task God calls us to. We could easily point to all of our mistakes and sins, to all of our shortcomings and failures. But the point of the gospel is that, despite our unworthiness, Christ still counts on us and sends us out, so that others might know God's love through our witness and through our service. With God's help, we can do whatever we are called to do. Let us not be afraid and put our trust in the One who has called us.

God bless you all!

Fr. Rolando