

# *St. Philip the Apostle*

Roman Catholic Church



## **Thursday, September 1, 2022**

-- Thursday of the Twenty-Second Week in Ordinary Time

-- Fr. Sherdel's Morning Mass Intention: ***Allen E. Rhoades***

### **First Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:18-23**

Brothers and sisters: Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you considers himself wise in this age, let him become a fool, so as to become wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in the eyes of God, for it is written:

*God catches the wise in their own ruses,*

and again:

*The Lord knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain.*

So let no one boast about human beings, for everything belongs to you, Paul or Apollos or Cephas, or the world or life or death, or the present or the future: all belong to you, and you to Christ, and Christ to God.

### **Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6**

***To the Lord belongs the earth and all that fills it.***

The Lord's are the earth and its fullness;

the world and those who dwell in it.

For he founded it upon the seas

and established it upon the rivers. ***R/.***

Who can ascend the mountain of the Lord?

or who may stand in his holy place?

He whose hands are sinless, whose heart is clean,

who desires not what is vain. ***R/.***

He shall receive a blessing from the Lord,

a reward from God his savior.

Such is the race that seeks for him,

that seeks the face of the God of Jacob. ***R/.***

### **Gospel: Luke 5:1-11**

While the crowd was pressing in on Jesus and listening to the word of God, he was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret. He saw two boats there alongside the lake; the fishermen had disembarked and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, he asked him to put out a short distance from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. After he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water and lower your nets

for a catch." Simon said in reply, "Master, we have worked hard all night and have caught nothing, but at your command I will lower the nets." When they had done this, they caught a great number of fish and their nets were tearing. They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come to help them. They came and filled both boats so that the boats were in danger of sinking. When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at the knees of Jesus and said, "Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man." For astonishment at the catch of fish they had made seized him and all those with him, and likewise James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners of Simon. Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men." When they brought their boats to the shore, they left everything and followed him.

## **Reflection**

*Do not be afraid.* (Luke 5:10)

What was Peter afraid of? He had just heard Jesus preach the good news of salvation and then had seen him perform an awesome miracle. You would think he would be filled with joy, not dread!

But Peter knew that he was a sinner and that the man standing before him had just revealed the glory of God. He also knew that God's glory had a reputation for burning away sinfulness — and sinful people. So he feared that he might be doomed unless he could convince Jesus to "depart" from him before anything happened to him (Luke 5:8).

Jesus didn't share Peter's assessment of the situation. Peter had nothing to be afraid of; no one had to go anywhere!

*Do not be afraid.* Let Jesus' words to Peter settle in your heart as well. Let them convince you that it's perfectly safe to come into the presence of God. On the contrary, it's the most rewarding, joyous, saving thing you could ever do — and you can do it every single day!

*Do not be afraid* that he will condemn you for your sins. "God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him" (John 3:17). That includes you!

*Do not be afraid* that he will ask the impossible of you. Repeat with St. Paul, "I have the strength for everything through him who empowers me" (Philippians 4:13). Jesus wants to empower you!

*Do not be afraid* that you are unworthy to be in his presence. Instead, come to him and let him make you worthy: "Through the blood of Jesus we have confidence of entrance . . . by the new and living way he opened for us" (Hebrews 10:19, 20). He wants to welcome you and embrace you!

Jesus loves you far too much to reject you or condemn you. So come to him. Let his mercy wash over you, let his love fill your heart, and let his grace empower you to follow him. *Do not be afraid.*

*Here I am, Lord! Let me experience your presence today.*

## **An Act of Spiritual Communion**

My Jesus,  
I believe that You  
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament  
I love You above all things,  
and I desire to receive You into my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment  
receive You sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there  
and unite myself wholly to You.  
Never permit me to be separated from You.  
Amen.

**Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel**

St. Michael the Archangel,  
defend us in battle.  
Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil.  
May God rebuke him, we humbly pray,  
and do thou,  
O Prince of the heavenly hosts,  
by the power of God,  
thrust into hell Satan,  
and all the evil spirits,  
who prowl about the world  
seeking the ruin of souls.  
Amen.