

# *St. John Paul II Parish, Sellersburg IN*

## *The First Fifteen*

The Spiritual Life and Evangelization Commission asked that all parish meetings begin with a program we are calling "The First Fifteen." We are asking all parish meetings to begin with a few minutes of faith sharing. One person in the group reads the reading provided below (which corresponds with this next week's weekend readings) and everyone is given an opportunity to reflect and share on the readings. The questions below are simply a way to stimulate your reflection. You can use them or anything that strikes you about the word of God.

**Sunday, January 21, 2017**

**Gospel Reading: Mark 1: 14-20**

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.

**Questions to Ponder:**

Jesus calls the apostles first to repentance. Repentance literally means to – "change your mind", to go from rebellion against God's call to obedience to God's will.

1. Were you a "rebellious teen"? Did you find God and Church something you questioned and asked your parents why you "Had" to go to Church?
2. All of the first apostles Jesus called were fishermen. They dropped their nets and left their boats, left behind family and fellow workers and followed Jesus. Would you be willing to leave everything and follow Jesus if he asked? Since so many would be effected by your decision what things can you do to follow God's call right where you are today?
3. Different types of fishermen need different skills: sailing, casting, mending nets, reading charts, etc. If Jesus asked you to be "fishers of men", what skills could you bring to this call?

Let's end with the "**Glory Be**"

**"Glory be to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen"**