



Guardian Angels Parish

1161 Broughton Street, Vancouver BC V6G 2B3

Tel: 604-684-5775; Fax: 604-684-5757

Email: parish.ga@rcav.org; Website: guardianangelsvancouver.ca

Pastor: Rev. John Alex Pinto, OCD

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday, January 24, 2021

Dear Parishioners,

During the pandemic lots of people in high and low places lost their jobs. In Canada, they were able to get some sort of compensation for the lost of revenues. This is not so in many countries. People had to tend for themselves. Some people did not want to sit idle or just be nostalgic but entered new ventures, business, and other innovative enterprises. The pandemic taught people to change from the present into something they never would do in the normal circumstances. Life should not be taken to fit into existing moulds but according to circumstances must take opportunities in a creative way.

Today's readings invite us to change. Prophet Jonah in the first reading was not ready to change in pattern of thinking. He wanted people of Nineveh to perish and die in their sins. God wanted Jonah an agent for change. He resisted change and took recourse to run away. God had his own way of bringing change and repentance. Through Jonah He finally proclaimed gloom and doom and that brought about transformation and grace in the lives of people of Nineveh.

Peter, Andrew, James, and John lived in a world that has very much defined by the sea and fishing. Their way of life was fishing and harvesting with the fruit of their labour. They were very much accustomed to their daily routine. The Divine Saviour entered their lives and they had to change the daily rhythm of their lives. "Follow me, I will make fishers of people;" instead of gathering fish, they would now gather people to God. Instead of selling fish, they would proclaim the message of the Gospel.

If we take time and look around, we too can find God's horizon so much wider than ours. We are called and invited to look within. This, following Jesus would involve "to repent and believe in the Gospel" Mk. 1:14-15. St. Paul in our second reading cautions us not to be engrossed with the affairs of this world but look beyond to what endures forever. Please remember the present world is passing away.

I would like to thank all our parishioners for their time, talent, and treasure. Our 2020 tax receipts are ready and will be mailed to your address unless you request us to do otherwise. Kindly read my letter of thanks and appreciation for your stewardship gift of financial contribution to the parish.

Do pray for Christian unity as we celebrate Christian Unity Octave.

Sincerely in Christ,

Rev. John Alex Pinto OCD

Pastor