## MAY 3/4 Third Sunday of Easter



## Scripture Reflection

As we continue our celebration of Easter, in today's Gospel, we find the disciples returning to the familiar task of fishing. While their own efforts don't produce fruit, when they work together, with the Lord's guidance, their struggle is transformed into a huge success.

Jesus invites the disciples to have breakfast. The reading tells us, "When they climbed out on shore, they saw a charcoal fire with fish on it and bread. Jesus said to them, 'Bring some of the fish you just caught'" (Jn 21, 9-10).

Jesus chose not to prepare everything for them, but rather to involve them in providing for themselves, with His guidance. We also see this in some of Jesus's other miracles, such as the multiplication of the loaves and fishes. Jesus invites us to collaborate with Him.

Christ meets us in the everyday, and He calls us to work together in love and service as *Messengers of Hope*. All the Lord's work that we carry out in our parish would not be possible without the commitment of our clergy and you, our parishioners.

In the same way, when we come together as an archdiocese in support of the *Annual Catholic Appeal*, we sustain vital ministries and services that share Christ's love and reach out to the most vulnerable. Your gifts transform lives in our communities and sow the seeds of hope that will bear fruit for generations to come.

Today, let's embrace our call to be *Messengers of Hope*. Please give to the *Appeal* <<date and place>> or visit aca.archstl.org to learn more about the impact of your generosity.

## **Bulletin/Pulpit Announcement**

Jesus is our hope. When we remain in Him, our words and actions witness to His love. United as one Church through our gifts to the *Annual Catholic Appeal*, we become *Messengers of Hope* as we sustain life-giving ministries and services that lead others to Christ and help countless people of all faiths in situations of need and suffering.

If you have not yet made a gift to the *Annual Catholic Appeal* this year, please consider doing so today. You can pick up your pledge card after Mass or make a gift online at **aca.archstl.org**.