

Reflection Tuesday Week 27b 2023

Jonah is the reluctant prophet, but he is not the only one! All those who have been baptised, even the babies have also been called to be prophets, priests and royalty, brothers and sisters of Christ our king. How many of these are also reluctant prophets? On the other hand, many who are not church goers have become notable workers for the Kingdom of God by the help, charity and support they give generously and selflessly to others in all kinds of need. Wouldn't it be good if they could join us in prayer and worship so that we might be enriched by their presence and their goodness. Are they not also reluctant prophets in a positive sense?

However, there is an encouraging message at the heart of the Jonah story. Despite his unwillingness and his disappointment at the conversion of the people of Nineveh, they do renounce their evil ways and are saved as a result. Ultimately, the Spirit of God enters their lives because the Word of God is proclaimed to them by this reluctant prophet, Jonah.

So, however difficult it is to live the Gospel with all the fears and difficulties we have about spreading the Good News, it is the Spirit of God who produces the results not us.

To help us, Jesus suggests that we spend time with him, with the Father and the Holy Spirit in prayer and in meditating on scripture so that Jesus may take root in our hearts. Good prayer will always lead to action. They walk hand in hand!!