

*Second Sunday after Pentecost*  
*Matthew 4, 18-23*



# MATTHEW 4



ANDREW  
ARRESTED  
BOAT  
BROTHERS  
DEMONS  
DISCIPLE  
DISEASE  
FISHERMEN  
FOLLOWED  
GALILEE  
HEAL

HEAVEN  
JAMES  
JERUSALEM  
JESUS  
JOHN  
JUDEA  
KINGDOM  
MENDING  
NEAR  
NEWS  
PARALYZED

RETURNED  
SHORE  
SICKNESS  
SIMON  
SYNAGOGUE  
TEACHING  
TURN  
WALKING

# MISSING PIECES

Does the picture look a little unfinished to you? A lot of things are left out, but you can finish it by filling in as many missing pieces as you can find. Look carefully!

"A WICKED AND ADULTEROUS GENERATION ASKS FOR A MIRACULOUS SIGN! BUT NONE WILL BE GIVEN IT EXCEPT THE SIGN OF THE PROPHET JONAH. FOR AS JONAH WAS THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS IN THE BELLY OF A HUGE FISH, SO THE SON OF MAN WILL BE THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS IN THE HEART OF THE EARTH."

MATTHEW 12:39-40





# AARON



H I G H P R I E S T O D F K L S Q N  
 R M X A W X A K J O C C V D Z T I A  
 A P S S I N B M C V R O H T N U O M  
 U O Y S N D Z R E P N F Z H Q T E S  
 K R C I M I U L O S Y Q S K P A Y E  
 K T A S N S A B M T E M B Y B A Y K  
 K A P T D R B V S T H S G E K Y M O  
 X N P A X A V Z U P R E E S W R A P  
 L C O N X E I M V W E Z R Y O I M S  
 S E I T I L I B I S N O P S E R E E  
 C X N O T P E R M I T T E D S S X C  
 G A T I E J U J S A U Z F O O O F J  
 I I M U V I M T W C Y D G M D X X K  
 V J E X S I A X F M O K Y U R F X W  
 I N N U X F D N A L D E S I M O R P  
 N V T B F S Z K J E M M O X G B Z R  
 M U E T A N I D R O B U S G B X H Q  
 P G O L D E N C A L F Y S W K D V Z

BROTHER

HIGH PRIEST

NOT PERMITTED

EGYPT

MOSES

GOLDEN CALF

MOUNT HOR

RAMESES

STAFF

SUBORDINATE

LEVI

APPOINTMENT

SPOKESMAN

RESPONSIBILITIES

EXODUS

DIVINE

ISRAEL

PROMISED LAND

ASSISTANT

IMPORTANCE





**Our  
Fathers**

## WHAT WE ASK OF FATHER

All of our wants we bring to one person — our father. All the desires we wish fulfilled we ask of our father. We know he is God's representative.

For everyone the word father has a special meaning. It is the loving name of the first court of appeal. You want something? Ask father! Father is the channel of both the necessities and the fun things of life. It is father who is the source, the supplier, the one who gives — the one who refuses. And in all we say, "God bless father!"

There are the material things we seek, the heart's desires that we want, the limitless aches that we expect father to soothe. But there are other greater expectations when we think of father, when we approach him with a desperate yearning for what we hope to achieve in this world and beyond.

We expect father to smoothe our path, to raise for us a mountain from which to hurl our dreams, to build us a shelter against the harms of life. We look for a series of guideposts leading us to our ultimate triumphs. And we need encouragement to the very end of life.

All these we expect from father. These many enrichments which we seek, even while we know their perfection is beyond this life's giving — for all these we look to our fathers with love.

## A FATHER PRAYS

“With all my heart I seek you,  
let me not stray from your commands.  
Within my heart I treasure your promise,  
that I may not sin against you.  
Blessed are you, O Lord;  
teach me your statutes.  
With my lips I declare  
all the ordinances of your mouth.  
In the way of your decrees I rejoice,  
as much as in all riches.  
I will meditate on your precepts  
and consider your ways.  
In your statutes I will delight;  
I will not forget your words.”

Psalm 119: 10-16

## HAPPINESS FOR FATHER

May our sons be like plants,  
well-nurtured in their youth;  
Our daughters like wrought columns,  
such as stand at the corners of the temple.  
May our garners be full,  
affording every kind of store;  
May our sheep be in the thousands,  
and increase to myraids in our meadows;  
may our oxen be well laden.  
May there be no breach in the walls, no exile,  
no outcry in our streets.  
Happy the people for whom things are thus;  
happy the people whose God is the Lord.

Psalm 144: 12-15



## A FATHER'S PRAYER

Lord Jesus, we pray . . .  
for the children,  
for the fathers and mothers,  
for those who guide  
for those who teach  
for those who learn  
for all who direct our ways  
along the paths  
that lead to You.

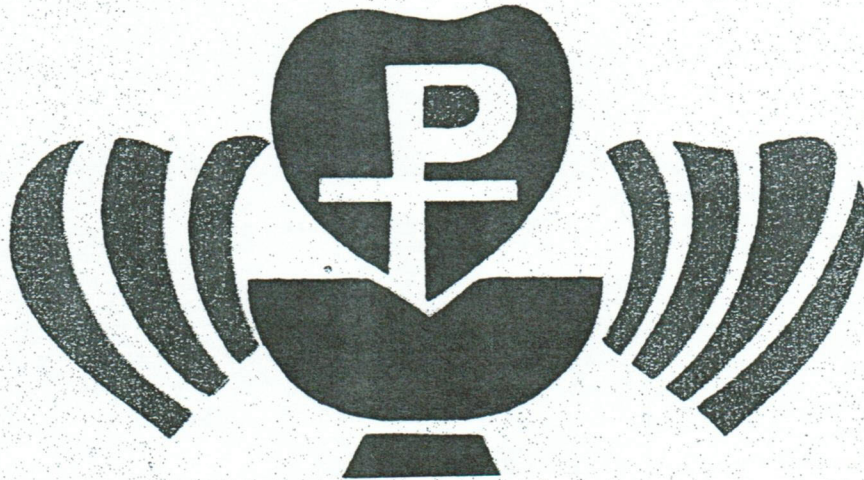
Lord Jesus, we pray . . .  
that the Spirit shall light  
the way of noble deeds,  
the walkways of the good,  
the acts of faith  
the thoughts of hope  
the deeds of love  
that glory may be God's  
for now and all eternity.



## GOD'S ADVICE TO FATHER

"My son, forget not my teaching,  
keep in mind my commands;  
For many days, and years of life,  
and peace, will they bring you.  
Let not kindness and fidelity leave you,  
bind them around your neck;  
Then will you win favor and good esteem  
before God and man.  
Trust in the Lord with all your heart,  
on your own intelligence rely not;  
In all your ways be mindful of him,  
and he will make straight your paths."

Proverbs 3: 1-6



## A FATHER'S PRAYER OF HOPE

May the work of my hands, with Your most kind aid, O Lord, bring a flow of abundance to fill the cups of our needs.

May the grains of my labors be ground into the flour of our daily bread, that we may be filled at Your feast of life.

May I grow in Your fulfilling grace that in my hours of work and my nights of rest, I may be a living prayer of love and praise to Your bounty and Your ever present goodness.

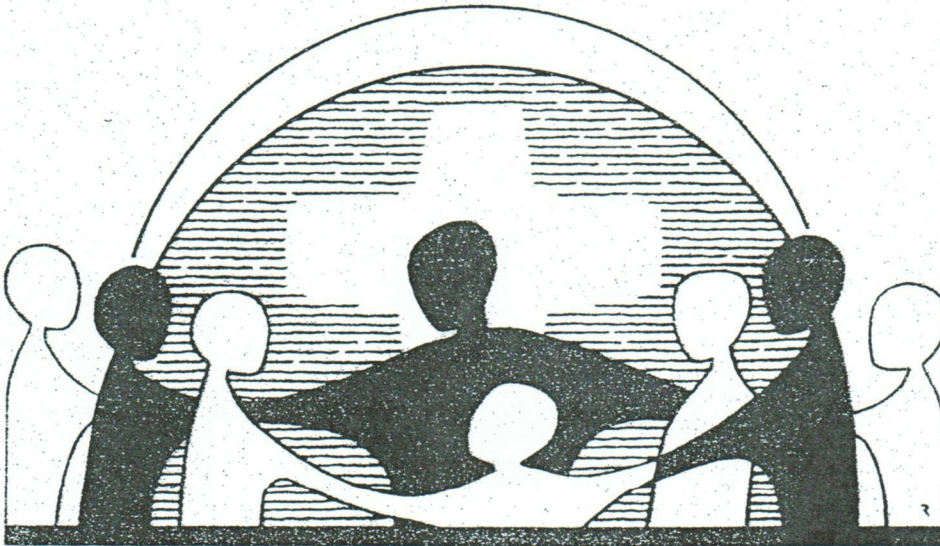
May I deserve to be the channel through which others receive grace and strength, that their fullness should one day be the joyous gift of You, the Giver. We thank You, O Lord.



## A FATHER'S BLESSING

O Lord God, receive my family into Your grace and protection. We know that all of our efforts will be as nothing unless You with infinite mercy, shall make them worthy and fruitful. Give us Your heavenly blessing and permit us to be instruments, however imperfect, of Your almighty strength and infinite goodness.

We ask this for ourselves and the children You have been pleased to entrust to our human care. And we give thanks to You, for Your constant and loving assistance. Amen.



**Father** (Heb. *'āb*; Gk. *πατήρ*). Besides its common use in the strict sense as referring to one's immediate male ancestor, the word "f." is often used in the Bible in a broader sense, e.g., of a grandfather (Gn 28,13), forefather or ancestor (Gn 15,15; Jos 24,6; etc.; Mt 3,9; 23,30; etc.), ancestral head of a people (Gn 10,21; Dt 26,5; etc.), etc. In keeping with good Greek usage Heb 11,23 uses *οἱ πατέρες* in the sense of "parents." The term "f." is also used figuratively in many ways: as the first to introduce a cultural practice (Gn 4,3of), as the maker of something (Jb 38,28: the f. of the rain), as the benefactor or protector of someone (Jb 29,16; Ps 68,6). So also this term was used as a title of respect in addressing one's superior (1Sm 24,12), a prophet (4Kgs 6,21; cfr. 8,9), a priest (Jgs 17,10; 18,19), a counsellor (Gn 45,8), a member of the Sanhedrin (Acts 7,2; 22,1), etc. When Jesus says, "Call no one on earth your father" (Mt 23,9), He is condemning the spirit of adulation and complacency with which the great rabbis of His day were addressed as *'ābī*, "my f." In the early Church the elders of the community were addressed as "f.s" (1Jn 2,13f). In 2Pt 3,4 the phrase "our f.s" may refer to the earlier generation of Christians, or it may refer to the distant ancestors in the OT, as in 1Cor 10,1; cfr. Rom 4,12; Jas 2,21. God was called "F." in the OT as well as in the NT (→ God III, D; Abba; Our Father).

## PRAYER FOR A SPOUSE

Almighty God, You have given me a wife to be my helpmate, my spouse, and my spiritual companion. Help me always to be faithful and share with her our mutual aspirations and hopes, that following Your will together we may merit heaven and give You glory.

Bless us in our daily works so that we may effectively serve You and our Christian family. We ask this through Your Immaculate Daughter, Mary, the Mother of Your Son, and the spouse of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## TO EVERY FATHER

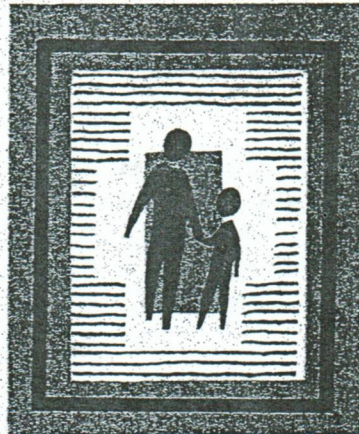
Go into the darkness  
with your hand in God's,  
Seek no other light,  
than the brightness of Jesus.  
Walk with assured safety  
in the Way He has shown.  
Find the Truth you must have  
through the peace of Christ.  
We all know that when He appears,  
we shall be like Him —  
We know we shall see Him  
just as He is.

## FATHER — A MAN OF GOD

“With three things I am delighted,  
For they are pleasing to the Lord and to men:  
Harmony among brethren, friendship among neighbors,  
and the mutual love of husband and wife.  
Three kinds of men I hate;  
their manner of life I loathe indeed:  
A proud pauper, a rich dissembler,  
and an old man lecherous in his dotage.  
What you have not saved in your youth,  
How will you acquire in your old age?  
How becoming to the grey-haired is judgment,  
and a knowledge of counsel to those on in years!  
How becoming to the aged is wisdom,  
understanding and prudence to the venerable!  
The crown of old men is wide experience;  
their glory the fear of the Lord.  
These are nine who come to my mind as blessed,  
a tenth whom my tongue proclaims:  
The man who finds joy in his children,  
and he who lives to see his enemies' downfall.

Happy is he who dwells with a sensible wife,  
and he who plows not like a donkey yoked with an ox.  
Happy is he who sins not with his tongue,  
and he who serves not his inferior.  
Happy is he who finds a friend  
and he who speaks to attentive ears.  
He who finds wisdom is great indeed,  
but not greater than he who fears the Lord.  
Fear of the Lord surpasses all else,  
its possessor is beyond compare.”

**Sirach. 25:1-11**



## PRAYER TO CHRIST THE KING

Christ Jesus, I acknowledge You King of the universe. All that has been created has been made for You. Make full use of Your rights over me.

I renew the promises I made in Baptism, when I renounced Satan and all his pomps and works, and I promise to live a good Christian life and to do all in my power to procure the triumph of the rights of God and Your Church.

Divine Heart of Jesus, I offer you my efforts in order to obtain that all hearts may acknowledge Your Sacred Royalty, and that thus the Kingdom of Your peace may be established throughout the universe. Amen.





## PRAYER FOR PROTECTION FROM THE DEVIL AND ALL EVIL

Almighty Father, Your only-begotten Son overcame the powers of the devil and all evil when He died on the cross. By His death and rising, He conquered the powers of hell.

Give us the strength to resist evil in our lives plus the lures, temptations, and lies of the devil, so we will be able to love You in the manner which You desire. Keep us from sin, and help us to fight the wily ways of Satan. Assist us as we help and support others who fight evil in this world. Help us to turn to You and our Mother, Mary, in times of temptation and to seek Your graces and strength through the sacraments. May Your kingdom reign forever through Your Son Who rose from the grave. We ask this in Jesus' name, in union with the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

St. Michael, the Archangel, protect us from the powers of Satan.