

eNews for Sunday, January 25, 2015

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Psalm 62: 6-14

1 Corinthians 7: 29-31

Mark 1:14-20



## St. Matthew's Cathedral eNews

### Christ + Compassion + Community

*From the Dean*

## The Nightlight

*"The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time. . ."—Jonah 31*

**I don't think I would have picked Jonah to be on my team.** He was a reluctant prophet. When God initially called him to go to Ninevah, he ran the other way. Yet, in spite of his recalcitrance, God used him to bring many of the Ninevites to faith in God. I'm glad God sees deeper into us than I do, and that he's willing to take and use all sorts of people that you and I might pass over.

I read a book several years ago that told this (supposedly true) story: There was once a young woman who wanted to go to college, but her heart sank when she read the question on the application blank that asked, "Are you a leader?" Being both honest and conscientious, she wrote, "No," and returned the application, expecting the worst. To her surprise, she received this letter from the college:

"Dear Applicant: A study of the application forms reveals that this year our college will have 1,452 new leaders. We are accepting you because we feel it is imperative that they have at least one follower."

One of the most useful lights in any house is the nightlight. It may be small, may not use much electricity, but is extremely useful in the middle of the night. The number of stubbed toes is greatly minimized because of the simple nightlight. Yes, it is important that the church have leaders, but it is even more important that the church have followers (of Jesus).

I think that God more often than not would prefer to have a few more night lights who will do the small things for Him than someone who shrinks back from small things because the small things seem too unimportant.



Photo: R.Shackelford