# COME
## follow me
### A Lenten Series focused on Mark 1:16-20

**Complete materials available at DioceseofNJ.org/ChurchGrowth**

*"As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fish for people.' And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him."* Mark 1: 16-20

## INTRODUCTION

This Lenten series, prepared for the Diocese of New Jersey by Rev. Marshall Shelly, Rector of St. Peter's Church, Spotswood, is intended to offer to faith communities an opportunity to delve more deeply into reflection and discernment on our mutual, common call to follow Jesus while at the same time becoming "fishers of people." Faith cannot exist away from community, and it cannot be sustained without being offered. We will use a re-commitment to daily prayer and meditation for individuals and households, coupled with community-focused time of weekly reflection on the broader calls and costs of discipleship.

*Each week in Lent will be designated with a particular theme:*

- Week 1: The Appearance of Christ at Our Side
- Week 2: The Cost of Discipleship, Imagined and Real
- Week 3: Casting Our Nets
- Week 4: Letting Go of Our Old Nets for New
- Week 5: Following, Immediately

*Each week's packet of materials will consist of:*

- A Weekly Guide to personal/household periods of reflection, meditation and prayer based on the Daily Office Readings joined to a thought or question to ponder
- A Curriculum Plan for a small group gathering, using sections of the calling story of the disciples, coupled with the Sunday reading from the Revised Common Lectionary
- An invitation to a weekly blog post that will seek to "break open" the titled focus for the week, posted Tuesdays in Lent

THE DEPARTMENT OF CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT & MISSION ~ THE DIOCESE OF NEW JERSEY