

Personal Preparation for the St Thomas Aquinas Apostolic Discernment Morning: 2nd May 10am to 1pm.

What am I being asked to do?

Ideally communal discernment is enhanced by prior personal discernment which involves two steps.

Step 1

This step involves prayerfully reading and reflecting on the Scripture passage John 21 on 1-19.



Jesus and the Miraculous Catch of Fish
Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee. It happened this way: Simon Peter, Thomas (also known as Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together.

“I’m going out to fish,” Simon Peter told them, and they said, “We’ll go with you.” So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus.

He called out to them, “Friends, haven’t you any fish?”

“No,” they answered.

He said, “Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.” When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.

Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, “It is the Lord,” he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards. When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread.

Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish you have just caught.” So Simon Peter climbed back into the boat and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” None of the disciples dared ask him, “Who are you?” They knew it was the Lord. Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

Question for personal discernment:

What is touching me as I read and reflect on this Scripture passage?

Step 2

This step involves parishioners reflecting on the potential ministries listed below that have emerged from the initial four parish Listening Sessions:

- 1) Initial consultation group with Fr Gregory Jacobs SJ, six parishioners and three Faber team members on 19th September 2025 in the Parish Hall.
- 2) Friday Women's Group on November 14, 2025, in the Parish Hall.
- 3) Combined Choir and St Vincent de Paul Group on Nov 20, 2025, in the Parish Hall.
- 4) Open to any other Interested Parishioners' Group on 28th February 2026 at the Faber Centre.

Potential Ministries emanating from the reports from the Listening Sessions.

1. Parish Structures – Pastoral Council and Finance, Development and Maintenance
2. Lay involvement in the Mass and associated tasks
3. Children's Liturgy
4. Music and Liturgy
5. Care and Concern
6. Friday Women's Group
7. Building Community, Fellowship and Welcome
8. Young Families and Children
9. Outreach to University Students
10. Multicultural Engagement
11. Ecumenical Engagement
12. Other possible ministries?

The question for reflection in Step 2 of this process is:

What resonates with my desires for the parish?

You are encouraged to note down your desires which may be helpful for the May 2 Apostolic Communal Discernment morning: