

## Thought for the week

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent — 25th February 2018

I am finding the “Walk With Me” booklet a useful companion this Lent. Each week there is a new focus on the steps of St Ignatius of Loyola’s “*way of proceeding*”: and the step for week 2 of Lent is “*discerning*” - How do I work out what God wants of me?

We know that God’s plans for us are always for our own good, but how do we learn what that plan is?

In the Gospel this weekend, three disciples have a very strong experience of God - they see Jesus transfigured and are told that He is God’s beloved son and commanded to listen to Him.

If we want to find out something, we usually have to ask the question and then listen to the answer.

Have we asked God the question and then listened for the answer?

With the arrival of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, the disciples are able to embark on the mission Jesus set them. They were able to discern what God wanted of them.

We too need the gift of the Holy Spirit to discern God’s design for us.

How do we listen to God? Do we ask for the help of the Holy Spirit?

We do have support in our parish: the “Walk With Me” and Stations Of The Cross booklets; study sessions of St Mark’s Gospel, Mass during the week and the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Monday evenings.

Just as we would spend time listening to a friend, then we too need to give time to God: ask the question and open our hearts to the Holy Spirit, so that we may hear the answer and let God transform us.

*“Then you will be able to know the will of God - what is good and is pleasing to him and is perfect.”* (Romans 12:2)

A Parishioner