

21st Sunday – Ordinary Time – Year B

1. All three of the texts today call us to
RENEWAL and COMMITMENT - yet each in its own way.

First Reading: **Time of Crisis for Israel** (Exodus is over – encounter alien gods)

People tell great stories of their gods.

At Shechem – Joshua’s call to renew ancestral faith

“Choose this day who you will serve” – **it’s up to them**

- Joshua lets it be their choice FREE WILL **COMMITMENT**
- V1-2, 15-17 → v3-14 Joshua recalls God’s help from Abraham
- They not only agree – but give their reasons

Second Reading: We hear “wives be submissive”

(submissive vs. subservient) (That’s another homily)

Not the point

Paul is calling Ephesians to commitment, to consecration.

Just as Christ is dedicated to the Church

And the Church is dedicated to Christ

So too the husband and wife

IT IS THAT SIGNIFICANT

Paul is saying “Re-consecrate yourselves to one another
just like the Church is consecrated to Christ” **think of it!**

Gospel: Jesus says, “I am the living bread from heaven, whoever eats this
bread will live forever”
- and the disciples can’t take it – “many left and returned to their
former ways and no longer accompanied him.”

Jesus turns to the 12 –

Note: Joshua “Choose this day who you will serve”

Jesus “Will you go away also” - **it’s the same question.**

Both were confronting a crisis of faith

Both required Renewal & Commitment

Peter: TO WHOM SHALL WE GO

You have the words of eternal life.

Peter’s loyalty was based on a personal relationship
with Jesus.