

Where's Your Chair?

Acts 1 12-26



Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? Who may rest upon your holy hill?
Whoever leads an uncorrupt life and does the thing that is right?
Psalm 15:1-2

Praising:

Today for Saint Matthias we praise you and rejoice, for in the place of Judas did he become your choice. Your Church from false disciples, we pray you, Lord, defend, and by your parting promise, be with us to the end.

Reading:

Acts 1:12-26
The Twelve are gathered

The grizzly reminder of what happened to Judas, and the grave consequences of his disloyalty are the backdrop for the disciples' first practical responsibility. The sacred Hebrew number twelve had guided Christ's initial selection of the disciples, and so a vacancy has arisen which must now be filled. To make it to the shortlist,

interested parties must have been part of the wider group of Jesus' followers from the beginning – Jesus' baptism. More than that however, they must also be among those who witnessed the resurrection. In other words, to be an apostle requires not only familiarity with the events and teaching of Jesus' life. It also requires definitive personal experience that Jesus did indeed come back from the dead. Only those who have had a real-life encounter with the risen Jesus will be considered for the post.

Listening:

Praying:

We pray for those God calls to be apostles

- that the reality of the living Christ would be their sole motivation and purpose
- that they would seek to make Christ present in all that they do
- that Christ would lead them to an ever fuller knowledge of his truth and his love

Father: like the first believers, may it begin for me with the Lord Jesus, alive and speaking still to everyone who will listen. Take me deeper into the fullness of his living joy. Amen

Doing:

Tuesday, 05 April 2016