

Daily Homily
St. Jerome Emiliani, Optional Memorial
5 Week in Ordinary Time, Monday
8 February 2021
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This is what is striking about this little scene in the Gospel today...

If Jesus were a mere celebrity, people would flock all around him to simply be close to him.
If Jesus were a mere teacher, politician, or some guru, people would come to him, sit, and listen and take in what he had to say.
If Jesus were a magician people would gather to watch his show.

They don't do that though. Jesus steps into the city of Gennesaret, people recognized him but they don't flock, they don't gather, they don't gawk. Rather they go out of themselves to find those in need, they go out to get the sick, and they bring them to Jesus.

This is what Jesus' presence – God's presence – does. Takes us out of ourselves to know the need of others. It's what we do at this Mass. We have a Mass intention, usually for someone who has died. We pray for them and for all those who miss them, mourn their loss still, and pray them into Heaven. This is why we offer General Intercessions after all this is done. God has stepped into our lives through Sacred Scripture and so we step out of ourselves and bring the needs of others to Him.

It's a striking scene today, Jesus who is God, stepping into people's lives and by His presence they step out of themselves to help the life of others. And so it should be with us today ... so that as many who come to him, can also be healed today.