SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



JANUARY 17, 2021

Reading I: I Samuel 3: 3b-10, 19

The passage is a story of Samuel's call to be a prophet. His words would be so protected by Yahweh that they would always be effective.

Reading II: I Corinthians 6: 13c-15a, 17-20

If our bodies are to be raised after death, God must attach significance to our actions done in and through the body. Our bodies are also temples of the Holy Spirit.

The Gospel: John 1: 35-42

Andrew brings his brother Simon to Jesus, who gives the man a new name of "Rock," or "Peter." Andrew confers on Jesus the honorific title of "rabbi."



5 p.m.: Rose & Mariano Cannone, Norma Halahan, Chris Pierce and Edward Perretta

10 a.m.: Charles Saleski, Carolyn Bender, Emma Levine and Richard O'Neill, Jr.

LAST WEEK'S MASS ATTENDANCE

5 p.m. Saturday, January 9: **46** 10 a.m. Sunday, January 10: **44** in the church; **9** in the hall



DRAWN TO JESUS

Magnetism. On one level, it's that physical phenomenon in which a bar of iron or steel can attract other iron – from a coin to a car and everything in between. It's the "glue" that holds family photographic memories on the refrigerator door.

On another level, the word refers to those features that make a person attractive. In Jesus' case, we have not only attraction, but the fact that He is human and divine. The Gospels give us glimpses of both: Jesus at one time raises a dead man to life and at another, He is caught napping in the stern of St. Peter's boat.

In today's Gospel passage, John, our author, gives us all the subjects and verbs of the incident, but none of the adjectives or adverbs. We hear that the Baptist's words describing Jesus sent two former disciples after the Lord. They experienced, in turn, His magnetism. But how did their faces look? And how did Jesus' own face look? Or with what tone of voice did Jesus have when He asked them "What are you looking for?" John doesn't say.



I surmise a smile and a welcoming arm gesture when Jesus invited them to come and see where He was

staying. However, John steps out of character to note the time of day when this happened - maybe because it marked the hour of the first calling.

We find out that one of the men was Andrew. He introduces his brother Simon. Simon gets a new name, along with a new calling. The magnetic attraction of Jesus usually involves a change in the other's life.

Today we have an opportunity to reflect on our own calling. While each of us is unique, we also have a common call as Catholic Christians to "introduce" others, so to speak, to Jesus. Sadly, the "nones" – people with no connection to any religion – outnumber those with a religious affiliation in this country. I believe we have a call to introduce them to Jesus. And we can do that more by our actions than by words.

A story is told of a Mississippi riverboat captain who, as his ship passed another vessel, grabbed a passenger and said, "Look over there on the other boat, Look at its captain." The bewildered man asked, "Why? What makes him so special?"

The captain told him the story of how he had collided one night with another boat and in the process, he was thrown overboard. The captain of the other vessel saw his desperate plight and maneuvered close enough that he was able to dive into the water and save his life. After telling the story, the captain then turned to the bystander and said, "Ever since that day, I want to point out my rescuer to others."

Likewise, as a people who have been magnetically attracted by Jesus, and been saved, secured and loved by Him, we should want to point out to others the God-Man who has rescued us.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. HOLIDAY

EVERYBODY can be great. Because ANYBODY can SERVE. You,only need a HEART full of Agrace. SOUL generated by LOVE.

Remember: Celebrate: Act: A DAY ON – NOT A DAY OFF

The Martin Luther King Jr. holiday on January 18 is the 26th anniversary of the day of service that celebrates the civil rights leader's life and legacy. Observed each year on the third Monday in January as "a day on, not a day off," MLK Day is the only federal holiday designated as a national day of service to encourage all Americans to volunteer to improve their communities. **The church office will be closed.**



MASSES NOW ON YOUR DEVICES

Given the success of the live-streaming of the Christmas Masses, which had hundreds of viewers, Fr. Sean and the Parish Council have decided that the the10 a.m. Mass every Sunday will be live-streamed into the safety of your home via the following link, which can be copied into your brower:

https://www.twitch.tv/10915spmb

Additionally, we've begun to stream the 5 p.m. Saturday Mass as well. **However, we still need to train a few more volunteers.** The more people to rotate into a schedule, the easier it will be to ensure its continuation without over-burdening one or two people.

The streaming setup is simple and does not requiure more than a few minutes of training – and no professional background is necessary!

Interested? Let Deb in the office know at 361-3107.



AT THE SHRINE

The following special events are planned at the Church at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Masks are required and space is limited so please call Carol Bezak, Shrine director, at 343-1879 for more information/reservations.

- Carmelite Wednesdays at 10 a.m.:
 - January 20 "Carmelite Rule for Everyday Life" with Fr. Francis Amodio.
 - February 17 "In the Desert with Mary" with Fr. Paul Denault.
- "Understanding the Mass," a series that runs for four consecutive Tuesday evenings with Fr. James Sidoti. It begins at 7 p.m. on January 19 and runs through February 9.



YOUTH MINISTRY UPDATE

The Youth Ministry welcomed the New Year with a rousing game of Virtual Charades. The 14 young participants – including two newcomers – had a blast mimicking a bird, fish, dog and Statue of Liberty, as well as acting out activities such as making a pizza, playing chess, filming a movie and shoveling snow.

Scripture sharing followed. Among the choices: Luke 8:50 - But Jesus on hearing this answered

him, "Do not fear; only believe, and she shall be well." **Proverbs 11:24** - One man gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want.

Hebrews 4:16 - Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

John 15:5 - I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in me, and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

Ephesians 1:4 - Even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

