

St Vincent's Parish, Ashfield



A parish under the pastoral care of The Congregation of the Mission known as Vincentian priests and brothers.

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Parish Office Hours: 9am to 3pm Monday to Friday

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

14 January 2018

First Reading 1 Sm 3:3-10.19

Speak, O Lord, your servant is listening.

Samuel was lying in the sanctuary of the Lord where the ark of God was, when the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' He answered, 'Here I am'. Then he ran to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli said, 'I did not call. Go back and lie down.' So he went and lay down. Once again the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' He replied, 'I did not call you, my son; go back and lie down.' Samuel had as yet no knowledge of the Lord and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. Once again the Lord called, the third time. He got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli then understood that it was the Lord who was calling the boy, and he said to Samuel, 'Go and lie down, and if someone calls say, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

The Lord then came and stood by, calling as he had done before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel answered, 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.'

Samuel grew up and the Lord was with him and let no word of his fall to the ground.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 39:2. 4. 7-10. R. v. 8.9

(R.) Here am I, Lord;

I come to do your will.

1. I waited, I waited for the Lord.
and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry.
He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God. (R.)
2. You do not ask for sacrifice and
offerings,
but an open ear.
You do not ask for holocaust and
victim.
Instead, here am I. (R.)
3. In the scroll of the book it stands
written
that I should do your will.
My God, I delight in your law
in the depth of my heart. (R.)
4. Your justice I have proclaimed
in the great assembly.
My lips I have not sealed;
you know it, O Lord. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Cor 6:13-15. 17-20

Your bodies are members of the body of Christ.

The body is not meant for fornication; it is for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. God, who raised the Lord from the dead, will by his power raise us up too.

You know, surely, that your bodies are members making up the body of Christ; anyone who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him.

Keep away from fornication. All the other sins are committed outside the body; but to fornicate is to sin against your own body. Your body, you know, is the temple of the Holy Spirit, which is in you since you have received him from God. You are not your own property; you have been bought and paid for. That is why you should use your body for the glory of God.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 1:41. 17

Alleluia, alleluia!

We have found the Messiah:

Jesus Christ, who brings us truth and grace.

Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 1:35-42

They saw where Jesus lived and they stayed with him.

As John stood with two of his disciples, Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him and said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God.' Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, 'What do you want?' They answered, 'Rabbi,' - which means Teacher - 'where do you live?' 'Come and see' he replied; so they went and saw where he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that day. It was about the tenth hour.

One of these two who became followers of Jesus after hearing what John had said was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. Early next morning, Andrew met his brother and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' - which means the Christ - and he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked hard at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John; you are to be called Cephas' - meaning Rock.



Reflection by Greg Sunter

Jesus' invitation to 'Come and See' is a powerful image in this week's gospel. It is not a simple reply to the question of where Jesus is living; in some ways it is a summary of his whole ministry - come and see what I am on about and become part of it. It is typical of the invitational nature of Jesus' ministry. Throughout the gospels, Jesus offers and invites, he does not force his ministry onto anyone. When he invites us to 'Come and See' it is an invitation to 'give it a go'; take a chance; let go of what we know.

To 'Come and See' is exactly what Jesus invited the apostles to do. In this week's reading, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, takes up the invitation and becomes a follower of Jesus. He is so impressed with what he sees in Jesus that he finds his brother and tells him that they've found the Messiah and that Simon should come and join them. Jesus immediately gives Simon a new nickname: the Rock (Peter). There are many instances throughout the Bible of people taking or being given new names. Abram became Abraham; Jacob became Israel; Saul became Paul. This change of name is used as a sign that they have encountered God in a special way and have taken on a new life - a new commitment to God. In this instance, Simon is becoming a disciple of Jesus, a trusted and influential one at that.

Unlike the call of Samuel in today's first reading, in which the call to discipleship is heard as a booming voice, Andrew and Simon experience the call through personal encounter with Jesus. A booming voice from the sky might be helpful, but for most of us the call comes in much more subtle ways through our prayer and reflection on interaction with others.

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Over this holiday break our bulletins are promoting who we are! This week we have continued the extensive list of the groups that are within this Parish. YOU are most welcome to become involved.

Liturgy Committee and Church Decorators

For the various liturgical seasons we have a group of parishioners who meet to reflect on how through various liturgical action, music and decoration we can contemplate and add vibrancy to our worship. Contact Michael: 0422009048

Pastoral Care

The pastoral care team provides a wide range of care and support within the Parish community. New members are always appreciated.

The Hospitality Group provides hospitality, support and service for parish celebrations. Contact Jane 0413977748

The Grief Support Group offers assistance and empathy to those suffering bereavement.

The Visitation Group offers the opportunity for people to visit the sick, elderly and house bound members of the community. Contact Marguerite 97982501

Parish Pastoral Council

The Parish Pastoral Council meets monthly. The Pastoral Council seeks to enrich the quality of parish life by having a diverse membership. Our current chairperson is Francine Van Der Meer. Further info Contact Father 97982501

People of a Certain Age Group

This is a social group that randomly meets for chat, theatre groups, book discussions and so on. Contact: Marguerite 97982501

Readers

Readers receive training and strive to deepen their understanding of the scriptures, so that as they read they are truly proclaiming God's word within the community. Readers are rostered (according to their availability) for each Vigil, Sunday and weekday mass. Contact Mary 97977026

Special Ministers of the Eucharist

Special Ministers are appointed after a training course and are rostered (according to their availability) to distribute communion at the Saturday Vigil, Sunday Masses and weekday Masses. In addition some ministers take communion to residents in aged care facilities, and the house bound. Contact: Father 97982501

St Vincent de Paul Society

The society works to help the needy with assistance and support and by visits to the lonely and poor of any age group. This care is offered regardless of race, colour or creed. The members pray together and strive to deepen their love of Christ who calls them to serve the poor. Contact Stephen 0423027657

Typists and Office Volunteers

These people provide assistance with data entry and office duties on a casual basis as the need arises. Contact Carmen 979882501

Wardens

The Wardens are responsible for taking up the collections at each of the weekend Masses. Contact: Michael 0422009048

Welcomers

Welcomers meet and greet parishioners and visitors as they arrive for weekend masses. Welcoming is the visible sign that Jesus is the head of our community and invites parishioners to share his life.

Contact: Marguerite 97982501

Youth Ministries

These include Children's Liturgy at the 10am Mass, where a parallel liturgy of the Word is read and broken open for Children .

Youth Club from Yr 5 that meets every 2nd Friday evening from 6.30 to 8.30 in the hall with various themes
Young Adults #Let's Talk that meets after 6pm Mass each month. Contact: Jessica 0435003350