

January 13-14, 2018
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Samuel 3:3-19

Corinthians 6:13-20

John 1:35-42

In the blink of an eye, thirty years have come and gone and this weekend we encounter the fully-grown Jesus as he gathers his initial disciples to himself. Considering the importance of the task being entrusted to them it is remarkable that this GATHERING does not involve any resumes or interviews, no recitations of doctrine or Jewish minutia, it is all about inquisitiveness and RELATIONSHIP. Even Peter, whom we frequently cite as the 'First Pope', HEARD about Jesus through his brother Andrew and apparently was willing to be led by Andrew into Jesus' presence. As we start a NEW YEAR of ORDINARY TIME, the word RELATIONSHIP is of utmost importance...not unlike with our closest companions and familial connections...they are the people who truly KNOW us as opposed to the many people who only know ABOUT us. The invitation from God, an example of which is shared in the First Reading from Samuel, is to NOT just know about Jesus but rather to enter into a living relationship with him in which we come to KNOW each other. One can learn all the details of Catholic doctrine, memorize the Scriptures and be a scholar of every document ever issued by the Church...and NOT know Jesus...because Jesus is a WHO to be encountered, not a subject/topic to be learned. With the freshness of January still surrounding us, what is the quality of your relationship with Jesus? The tenor of your conversations? The ability to hear Jesus asking for your attention or pointing something out that is probably of importance to knowing each other better? While much can be learned of the CHURCH by reading documents and assorted books....one can only learn about JESUS by actually having conversations with him. Other people's conversations with Jesus are THEIRS...not ours. In this new year of opportunity, have you heard Jesus inviting you to talk? What's keeping you from saying yes? Is there something you are afraid to face or hear or afraid to hear yourself say? If Jesus is calling your name...it's all good...even if it may turn your life upside down.

Happy Martin Luther King holiday and thank you for sharing this weekend's Masses with our Santa Clara community. Parents of our little ones preparing for First Eucharist, please take note of the special (required) Reconciliation Retreat coming up next Saturday, January 20th from 2:30pm-5:00pm. As well, next weekend will feature presentations/interviews of families attending St. Francis School as a way of prepping our community for the BIG OPEN HOUSE on Sunday the 28th. As well...our PSA (Pastoral Services Appeal) dialogue is moving into high gear so please make sure to read this week's Bulletin Letter for more information. Enjoy your holiday and please remember, you are loved. FKB