

**January 18-19, 2020**  
**Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Isaiah 49:3-6**

**Corinthians 1:1-3**

**John 1:29-34**

And thus it all AGAIN begins. Some final comments from John the Baptist and JESUS will soon fill the Gospels of 2020. Next weekend we will hear the evolving story of Jesus as he began to assemble his disciples, of note is the determination on the part of those first called by Jesus to become his disciples, Simon and Andrew, James and John. We will also start to hear precursors of Jesus' fate, as John the Baptist is arrested and soon put to death, we will be nudged to realize that Jesus himself will make the ultimate sacrifice of his life as well. These early disciples of Jesus had no clue as to the FULL picture of what they had begun participating within, no clue that they would ultimately come to accept Jesus as THE son of God, no clue that they would be called upon to sacrifice their own lives in deference to Jesus. Sometimes it is a useful mechanism of reflection for us to review the actions/choices of our own lives so as to 'up close and personal' see the actions of Jesus within our own lives. By our participation here at Mass, each of us is offering testimony that WE TOO have been invited by Jesus to attune our lives to his own. Each of us have developed our own conversation with Jesus and each of us have experienced Jesus in our own unique ways. What have been the ways in which Jesus has formed us? How has our belief in Jesus caused us to make certain choices and avoid other ones? Have there been DIRECT moments, at different times in our life, when we have FELT the presence of Jesus? There was a time when we each individually began to associate with Jesus and there have been times when we each individually have been invited to either draw CLOSER to Jesus...or made a choice to put Jesus on a shelf and bring him out only when we need him. How has that worked for you? (How is any friendship that only comes alive when the other person wants something from us?) With a FRESH NEW year unfolding around us, how would we like to develop our Jesus connections in 2020?

Thank you for choosing to associate with Santa Clara de Asis in celebrating Mass among us. This being Dr. Martin Luther King Weekend we honor the values for which he tirelessly worked and for which he ultimately gave his life. Please make sure to read my Bulletin Letter within the weekly give-away Bulletin, it starts to unfold our DEVELOPMENT story and gently challenges those who have, through the years, refrained from participating with our development plans. With our 2020 efforts to begin funding our PERMANENT CHURCH, we NEED the participation of everyone and I hope that you will each receive our material and be able to visualize yourself within our PERMANENT CHURCH...to the extent that your visualization will morph into a DEVELOPMENT PLEDGE. Enjoy the holiday weekend, be careful out on the freeways and please remember, you are loved. FKB