

## This Week's Readings

### First Reading: 1 Samuel 3: 3-10, 19.

Samuel responds without hesitation to God's call.

### Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 6: 13-15.

Paul tells us why we respond to God with our whole self.

### Gospel: John 1: 35-42.

The first two disciples are called by Jesus, follow him and call others to him.



## Points for Reflection

Behind John's narrative of the first two disciples, who are called by Jesus, follow him and call others to him, we have a whole teaching on vocation, on the meaning and pattern of all vocations: that of the Apostle, the disciple and every Christian.

1. First of all, we notice that **vocation can be brought about by human factors**, such as blood relationship, friendship, fellowship or pursuit of a common or similar ideal.
2. Nevertheless, no matter what human factors may intervene, **our Christian call really comes from God through Jesus Christ**. The authority by which Jesus changes the name of Simon, the look that he turns upon Peter, and above all Jesus' attitude to the two disciples: all indicate that, rooted though it be in human circumstances, vocation always depends on God's initiative. If we are disciples of Jesus Christ, that is only by the free initiative and grace of God. We should never stop thanking him for that.
3. Jesus' words to the two disciples: *"Come and see!"* point to another feature of Christian vocation, namely: that **every Christian call is an invitation to start a life of communion with Jesus Christ**: a life of total commitment to and partnership with him. Jesus keeps saying to us every day: *"Come and see!"* "Come and live with me. Come, and one day you will see the fullness of life to which I am leading you, gradually, day by day. As long as you keep believing that I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, and you join me on my way of love of God and of brotherly love, you will find the fullness of life you are looking for. And you will share your joyful experience with your brothers and sisters.
4. Yes, because another essential feature of every Christian vocation is **the spreading of the Good News of Jesus Christ to those who do not know him yet**. Andrew immediately became a missionary to his brother Simon: *"We have found the Messiah!"* All those who are

deeply and sincerely convinced by faith and experience that in Jesus they have found the answer to their quest for truth and life, become missionaries to their brothers and sisters. If we find it difficult and embarrassing to share our Christian experience with others, it is because our faith still lacks conviction, it has not yet become a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, a life of communion: of total commitment to and partnership with him. And, as a consequence, it has not yet deeply affected our lives. But if we really follow Jesus Christ with faith and love, we will never stop telling everyone, by our words and by our lives: *"We have found the Messiah!"*

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<b>Phone:</b> Office hours: 27922967 (with answering machine) After office hours: 27920181 Fax: 27922967	<b>Eucharistic Celebrations:</b> Sundays: 9.00 am (English) 7.45 am (Chinese) 10.30 am (Chinese)
<b>Parish Priest:</b> Fr Carlo Tei <a href="mailto:carlotei@gmail.com">carlotei@gmail.com</a>  Fr Sergio Ticozzi, Sr Mary Leung (helping on Sundays)	Anticipated Sunday Masses Saturdays: 6.00 pm (English) 7.30 pm (Chinese) Public holidays: 8.00 am (Chinese) Weekdays: 7.00 am (Chinese)
<b>Secretary:</b> Miss Tse Choi Ping <b>Office hours:</b> Mon-Fridays: 9.00am – 1.00pm; 2.00pm – 5.30pm Sundays: 8.45am – 12 noon	<b>Confessions:</b> Sundays before Mass and during the 7.45 am Mass Weekdays on call
<b>Parish Council Chairlady:</b> Miss Candy Chan Tel: 23265322	<b>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:</b> Thursdays: 2.30 pm 1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month: 8.00 pm

## Announcements

On **Sunday 25 January** at **8.00 pm** there shall be a **Thanksgiving Mass** to mark the Chinese New Year's Eve, and on **Monday 26 January** at **9.00 am** there shall be a **Mass** to mark the Chinese New Year's Day. Both Masses will be in Chinese.

## Kids' Corner

John was standing with two of his disciples,  
and as he watched Jesus walk by,  
he exclaimed,  
"Look, here is the Lamb of God!"  
The two disciples heard him say this,  
and they followed Jesus.  
When Jesus turned and saw them following,  
he said to them,  
"What are you looking for?"  
They said to him,  
"Rabbi, where are you staying?"  
He said to them,  
"Come and see."

