



HERE I AM LORD

THE 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JANUARY 16/17, 2021

'You called me.'
(1 Samuel 3:5)

When it comes to sound, we're almost trained to have selective hearing. Think about it: our phones, the TV, radio, our computers and tablets, music, real news, fake news, gossip, the dog barking, traffic, alarms, the weather, etc...

The world just never seems to be quiet! If we didn't tune at least some of it out, we'd probably go crazy. However, through all of the noise, do we ever stop to hear God? And more importantly, do we *listen*?

In our first reading, we witness the Lord calling out to Samuel in the middle of the night. And as much as most of us would be terrified if

someone was calling out our name in the middle of the night, we can't help but be a little jealous. When it comes to communication with God, Samuel had it pretty easy with a full-blown back-and-forth conversation.

So, how do we hear the Lord speaking to us? Is it the little voice in our head? Is it God speaking to us through someone else? Is it a feeling or instinct? Is it an answer to a prayer?

As we begin Ordinary Time, let's make more of an effort to hear God speaking to us. Sure, the Lord might not be leaving us a voicemail on our smart phones, but at the end of the day, God speaks to our hearts. Let's not tune out the message that matters most.

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FROM FATHER MOCK

The final document from the Second Vatican Council is called "The Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World (The Latin title of the document is *Gaudium et Spes* which literally translates Joy and Hope). The Pastoral Constitution affirms that "... the Church has always had the duty of scrutinizing the signs of the times and of interpreting them in the light of the Gospel."

As I reflect on the signs of the times in which we find ourselves, I find three challenging signs, each with a sign of hope that I pray will eventually lead to joy.

As we welcome Bishop Michael Fisher as our new Bishop, we certainly see the challenges he will face with a bankruptcy brought about by a horrific mishandling of some priests of abusing our young people. In our nation we face so much dissention and discord, it is quite easy to see the challenges any new leader will face. In our world we continue to face the reality of a seemingly out-of-control pandemic for which we have a vaccine, but appear unable to administer it with the promised speed.

The hope for the first is knowing that the Church as faced many difficulties over the last two thousand years, but has always survived and often come out stronger. This gives me hope. Our national has faced many trials ranging from depressions to a civil war and two world wars, but we have always survived and often come out stronger. This gives me hope. Our world has faced other pandemics, some lasting longer and no hope for a cure, but it has always survived, and often come out stronger. This gives me hope,

One of the sources I find for hope is found in prayer – most especially the prayers we have for the Masses at which I always feel privileged to preside. When the revised Roman Missal was promulgated in Advent 2011, I was surprised to find twelve Eucharist Prayers. Some of them pray for something very specific. The one that I have to come to appreciate the most is the Second Eucharistic Prayer for Reconciliation – along with the Preface – the prayer that comes before the Holy, Holy, Holy. Here are just a few beautiful lines from this prayer.....

For though the human race is divided by dissention and discord, we know that by testing us you change our hearts to prepare them for reconciliation.

Even more, by your Spirit you move human hearts that enemies may speak to each other again, adversaries join hands, and peoples seek to meet together.

By the working of your power it comes about O Lord, that hatred is overcome by love, revenge gives way to forgiveness, and discord is changed to mutual respect.

I have found that this prayer leads me to realize that our whole world is in desperate need of reconciliation. We as individuals and as a Church need to pray for reconciliation for our world.

In looking at the sign of our times, I pray, and hope, that one day we will indeed be filled with joy. It is probably not an accident that the final document of the Second Vatican Council is dated December 7, 1965 – the twenty-fourth anniversary of Pearl Harbor. Please, join me in praying that we will at long last achieve its bright shining promise: *Gaudium et Spes* – Joy and Hope!

-Fr. Mock

THE 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading

1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19

Samuel was sleeping in the temple of the LORD where the ark of God was. The LORD called to Samuel, who answered, "Here I am." Samuel ran to Eli and said, "Here I am. You called me." "I did not call you," Eli said. "Go back to sleep." So he went back to sleep. Again the LORD called Samuel, who rose and went to Eli. "Here I am," he said. "You called me." But Eli answered, "I did not call you, my son. Go back to sleep." At that time Samuel was not familiar with the LORD, because the LORD had not revealed anything to him as yet. The LORD called Samuel again, for the third time.

Getting up and going to Eli, he said, "Here I am. You called me." Then Eli understood that the LORD was calling the youth. So he said to Samuel, "Go to sleep, and if you are called, reply, Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening." When Samuel went to sleep in his place, the LORD came and revealed his presence, calling out as before, "Samuel, Samuel!" Samuel answered, "Speak, for your servant is listening." Samuel grew up, and the LORD was with him, not permitting any word of his to be without effect.

The word of the Lord.

R/. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10

R/. Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

I have waited, waited for the LORD, and he stooped toward me and heard my cry.

And he put a new song into my mouth, a hymn to our God. **R/.**

Sacrifice or offering you wished not, but ears open to obedience you gave me.

Holocausts or sin-offerings you sought not; then said I, "Behold I come." **R/.**

"In the written scroll it is prescribed for me, to do your will, O my God, is my delight, and your law is within my heart!" **R/.**

Second Reading

1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20

Brothers and sisters: The body is not for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord is for the body; God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? But whoever is joined to the Lord becomes one Spirit with him. Avoid immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the immoral person sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been purchased at a price. Therefore glorify God in your body.

The word of the Lord.

R/. Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Jn 1:35-42

John was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he said, "Behold, the Lamb of God." The two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus. Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" — which translated means Teacher —, "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come, and you will see."

So they went and saw where Jesus was staying, and they stayed with him that day. It was about four in the afternoon. Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, was one of the two who heard John and followed Jesus. He first found his own brother Simon and told him, "We have found the Messiah" — which is translated Christ —. Then he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon the son of John; you will be called Cephas" — which is translated Peter.

The Gospel of the Lord.

R/. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

DISCIPLES STAY IN THE KNOW

EVENING OF PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY

Monday, January 18th, 6:00pm - 8:00pm

St. Ambrose Site

Let's be honest: Our country has seen better days. We invite you to gather together to pray, reflect, and heal. Our church will be open for 2 hours this Monday for private prayer. The rosary will also be said at 7:00pm with special prayers for our country.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

First Friday of every month.

Immediately following the 8:00am Daily Mass till 9:30am.

Come spend some time with the Lord as he is exposed on the altar. Various devotions will be offered, with Benediction to follow.

DRIVE-BY FISH FRY

It's "o-fish-al"! We're offering a drive-by fish fry!

WHAT: DRIVE-THRU BWs BBQ Fish Fry DINNER (PRE-SALE ONLY). Includes: Beer battered haddock, potato salad and coleslaw, lemon wedge, rye bread & butter, tartar sauce.

WHEN: Friday, February 26, 2021

TIME: 4:00pm - 6:00pm

WHERE: St. Ambrose Site (Okell St. side)

COST: \$15

Mail a check into the parish office, stop by during business hours, or order right online.

PARISH TRANSITION PRAYER

God, giver of every good gift, look graciously on Our Lady of Charity parish and guide us during our time of transition. We pray we will be saying "Welcome" to a new Pastor soon and ask that you bless our parish with a Priest whose presence will be a grace both for him and for us. We are filled with faith, energized by the power of your love and united in the mission entrusted to us. We need your grace to be receptive to this change and view it as an invitation to conversion and growth. We pray this in the name of your Son and Our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

GOD BLESS AMERICA

Lyrics By: Irving Berlin

*God bless America, land that I love
Stand beside her and guide her
Through the night with the light from above
From the mountains to the prairies
To the oceans white with foam
God bless America, my home sweet home.*

ASH WEDNESDAY

Wednesday, February 17th, 2021

Lent will be here before we know it! Our Ash Wednesday Mass schedule is as follows:

8:00am - St. Ambrose Site

Noon - Holy Family Site

5:30pm - Holy Family Site

7:00pm - St. Ambrose Site

Temporary Administrator

Fr. Robert Mock

Parochial Vicar

Fr. Martin Gallagher
Fr.Gallagher@olcp.org

Deacons

Deacon Tim Maloney
Deacon Steve Schumer

Business Manager

Elaine Williams
E.Williams@olcp.org

Director of Music & Worship

Brian Meyer
music@olcp.org

Administrative Assistant

Diana Deck
d.deck@olcp.org

SBCS at NDA Principal

Tristan D'Angelo
824-0726

Sacramental Preparation

Maureen Brown
Kathleen Mulqueen

Weekend/Weekday Help

Fr. Richard (Duke) Zajac
Fr. Robert (Bob) Hora

Prayer Link

768-4022

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday

4:00pm (St. Ambrose Site)

Sunday

8:30am (Holy Family Site)

10:00am (St. Ambrose Site)

11:30am (Holy Family Site)

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday, 8:30am - 4:30pm

Currently by appointment only.

(Office will be closed 12:00pm - 12:30pm for lunch)

Friday, closed

(716) 822-5962

Please consider remembering our parish community in your will.

DISCIPLES STAY ACTIVE

COMMUNITY DINNERS

If you are interested or would like some more information please contact the parish office at 822-5962 or Mary Anne at 822-1837. Thank you!

Sponsors for the coming weeks include:

January 22: Ellen Zimmerman

January 29: Liturgy Committee

February 5: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

February 12: St. Vincent de Paul

WEATHER UPDATE

Please note: If Buffalo Public Schools are closed due to hazardous winter weather, there will be NO Daily Mass that day. Please stay safe.

PLEASE NOTE

The Parish Office will be **CLOSED** on Mon., Jan. 18th in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

20 FOR 20 UPDATE

As of December 31st of 2020, our 20 for 20 campaign brought in **\$63,488.26!**

Thank you, thank you, thank you! Because of your generosity, we were able to pay off past debt and assessments while keeping our parish vibrant during the pandemic. We couldn't do it without you! Please look for information on memorializing donors in the coming weeks. If you'd still like to donate to the campaign, it will be greatly accepted!

NEW PARISH ENVELOPES

Our new church envelopes have arrived! Just like last year, they will not be mailed to your homes any longer. They are available to pick up at the Parish Office (260 Okell St.) during business hours. If you are unable to pick them up during this time, simply call the office and we will leave them in the unlocked vestibule for you to pick up at your convenience. Thank you for your understanding.

TAX STATEMENTS

Any parishioner who would like a statement of your donations for 2020 should submit your request in writing. Please include your name, address, and envelope number. All requests should be in the parish office by January 31, 2021. You may put your request in the collection basket. Thank you very much for those who include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

BRING BACK YOUR OLD PALMS!

We invite you to bring your old, dried palms from Palm Sunday last year back to church. These palms will be burned to make the ashes for Ash Wednesday on February 17th. Bins and boxes will be available at all entrances of each worship site. Please remember that these palms are blessed items, and can therefore never be thrown in the garbage. Thank you!

WELCOME!

MOST REV. MICHAEL WILLIAM FISHER
15TH BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF BUFFALO

May God grant us open hearts and open minds as we begin this period of transition with a new shepherd.



SAVE THE DATES



• Evening of Prayer for our Country •

Monday, January 18th, 6:00pm - 8:00pm - St. Ambrose Site

Our church will be open for two hours for private prayer. The rosary will be led at 7:00pm.

• Healing Mass in Honor of St. Agatha •

Friday, February 5th, 5:30pm - St. Ambrose Site

All are invited for a special anointing in honor of St. Agatha, patroness of breast cancer.

FUN FACT:

It's the year of St. Joseph, foster father of Jesus. Let's lift up a special prayer to him as he is not only the patron of our Diocese, but also the patron saint of workers, families, and even death. St. Joseph, pray for us!

DISCIPLES PRAY TOGETHER

PRE-BAPTISM SESSION

Before your child's Baptism, parents must virtually attend a Pre-Baptismal instruction class. The next session will be on **Tuesday, February 2nd at 6:30pm** via Zoom. Please call the office (822-5962) to register. **Parents, remember you must have letters of recommendation from the godparents before the Baptism date can be set.**

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT NDA

Did you know that once your child is registered at Notre Dame Academy you are automatically a member of the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)? We have been meeting via Zoom this year. Watch the Notre Dame Academy Facebook page for the link.

Christmas break for NDA is over and school is back in session. Wishing all students a great return. Be safe!

Do you know anyone looking for a great Catholic School? Please tell them about Notre Dame Academy. Please call 716-824-0726 today. For more information on South Buffalo Catholic School Notre Dame Academy please follow them on Facebook or visit: www.notredamebuffalo.org

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

Let us remember all those who have gone before us. May they rest in peace.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK

"MASTER, THE ONE YOU LOVE IS ILL." (JOHN 11:1-2)

Irene Andrzejewski, Irene Barrett, Louise Beamish, Teresa Beamish, Ann Alvira-Buchnowski, Patricia Cajak, Maureen Canney, Cheryl Clontz, Patricia Colern, Caroline Dominesey, Dottie Eberle, Brigid Evans, Vara Jones, Linda Kurcz, Janet Murray, Karen O'Neill, Maryann Rigby, Sandy Riley, Jane Rozek, Mary Sands, June Stebbins, Ruth White

Daniel Barry, Michael Beyers, Leon Bolick, Owen Chase, Eric Crawford, Vincent Crawford, Frank Czapezyk, Francis Davis, Larry Deskiewicz, Richard Dinnocenzo, Paul Fitzpatrick, Jason Florea, John Godwin, Eric G., Trooper Joseph Gallagher, Emmett Jakubowski, Rob Karr, Pat Kuhn, Robert Maggio, George Rodriguez, The family of Coach Frank Rossi, Jeremiah Smith, Jim Sweeney

If you have anyone you would like added to the sick list, please contact the Parish Office.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat. / Sun., Jan. 16/17 - 2nd Sun. in Ord. Time

SA • 4:00pm

Joe Szewczyk (Birth. Rem., req. by Barbara & family)

HF • 8:30am

Joe O'Connor (req. by his family)

SA • 10:00am

Samuel Violanti (req. by his family)

HF • 11:30am

Anne McNaughton (Birth. Rem., req. by June & Dennis)

Mon., Jan. 18 - Weekday in Ordinary Time

SA • 8:00am - **Stanley Mann** (req. by his family)

Tues., Jan. 19 - Weekday in Ordinary Time

SA • 8:00am - **People of the Parish** (req. by Fr. Mock)

Wed., Jan. 20 - Weekday in Ordinary Time

SA • 8:00am - **Bruce Sage** (Birth. Rem., req. by MaryAnn Sage & family)

Thurs., Jan. 21 - St. Agnes, Virgin & Martyr

SA • 8:00am - **Kathy Waterhouse** (req. by Cathy Geary)

Fri., Jan. 22 - Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

SA • 8:00am - **Frank & Betty Cwick** (req. by their son, Frank Cwick)

Sat. / Sun., Jan. 23/24 - 2nd Sun. in Ord. Time

SA • 4:00pm

Madisyn Ledder (Healing Prayers, req. by Great Aunt Eileen)

HF • 8:30am

M. Elizabeth Reidy (req. by her family)

SA • 10:00am

Bruce Sage (req. by Ron & Dolores DuBois)

HF • 11:30am

Carmela Schumacher (req. by her children)

SANCTUARY LAMPS

Holy Family Site (January 17 - January 23)

John F. Evans (req. by MaryLee & children)

HEALING MASS

We could all use some healing! Join us for a very special Healing Mass in honor of St. Agatha, patron saint of breast cancer, on Friday, Feb. 5th, at 5:30pm at the St. Ambrose site. All are welcome!



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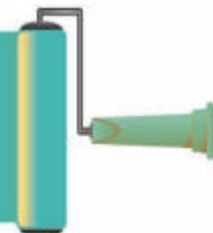
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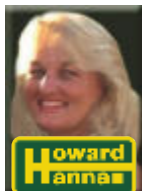


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