

A Reflection from Fr. Joseph

When God wants us to do something, God calls us. It might happen through a thought that comes into our minds, through the circumstances in which we find ourselves, or through an act of discernment by which we are trying to decide a direction. But when God wants us to do something, God calls, “Hey Johnny, Tommy, Mike, I want you to do this”. Then it’s up to us to decide how we will respond, whether we will do what God asks or not.



In today’s Scripture readings, we are given two examples of God’s call. In the first reading, we have the call of the prophet Isaiah and in the Gospel, we have the call of Peter. These two famous Biblical characters, like most in the Bible, are called according to a set pattern. The pattern is this: God says, “Hey, I want you to do something.” The person being called says, “You’ve got to be kidding!” And then God says, “No, I’m not.” We see this pattern repeated over and over again: the call, “You’ve got to be kidding,” “No, I’m not.”

God comes before Isaiah in the first reading, “*Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God of hosts!*” Isaiah says, “*You’ve got to be kidding! I am a man of unclean lips.*” But God says to Isaiah, “*I need someone to send and I want you.*” Jesus asks Peter to lower his nets and there is a miraculous catch. Peter says, “*You’ve got to be kidding! I’m a sinful man.*” But Jesus says, “*From now on, you will be catching men.*”

This Biblical pattern is used in order to tell us what is primary and what is not. God’s call is primary. God’s call is more important than our qualifications. We are all imperfect, we all have shortcomings. Like Isaiah and Peter, we are sinful people. But if we focus on those limitations and shortcomings, we will never be able to say “**Yes.**” We can always find someone else who is more gifted or better suited. So, when the call comes to us, the Bible says it is perfectly okay for us to think these things, to tell God, “You know, I’m not the best qualified person here.” But we should also be prepared for God to say: “**I want you anyway.**”

Time and again God can call us to do what is difficult. And let’s be clear. We need to be sure that it is God calling us. At times we form thoughts or suggestions that come out of guilt or out of a warped sense of relationship. God will never be asking us to do what is impossible or to be a part of something that is abusive or hurtful to us. But God is perfectly capable of calling us to do some surprising things.

Of course, when God calls, we have every right to say, “**You know, this is not my strength. I am not the best qualified. Perhaps you should think of someone else.**” But once we have objected, we should also be prepared for God to say “**I know all of those things. I am still calling you. And I’m not kidding!**”

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

- Mon. Feb. 11th** - Genesis 1:1-19; Mark 6:53-56
- Tue. Feb. 12th** - Genesis 1:20-2:4; Mark 7:1-13
- Wed. Feb. 13th** - Genesis 2:4b-9, 15-17; Mark 7:14-23
- Thurs. Feb. 14th** - ST. CYRIL & ST. METHODIUS, memorial
Genesis 2:18-25; Mark 7:24-30
- Fri. Feb. 15th** - Genesis 3:1-8; Mark 7:31-37
- Sat. Feb. 16th** - Genesis 3:9-24; Mark 8:1-10
- Sun. Feb. 17th** - SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Jeremiah 17:5-8; 1 Cor. 15:12, 16-20; Luke 6:17, 20-26



PARISH ENVELOPES FOR 2019

Have you picked up your new set of parish envelopes for 2019 from the entrance of the church? If you have recently requested envelopes, you will find them at the entrance of the church. Anyone wishing a set, please call the parish office.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

- Sat. Feb. 9th 5 pm Mass for Andre & Dragica Car, R.I.P.
- Sun. Feb. 10th 9 am Mass for Anna Belle, R.I.P.
11 am Mass for parishioners
5 pm Mass for Daisy Chan, R.I.P.
- Mon. Feb. 11th 8 am Mass for the int. of Cecilia Pang
- Tue. Feb. 12th 8 am Mass for Abilio Campos, R.I.P.
- Wed. Feb. 13th 9 am Mass for Bruno Porro, R.I.P.
7:30 pm Novena Mass
- Thur. Feb. 14th 8:00 am Mass for the int. of Arjay Agao
- Fri. Feb. 15th 8:00 am Mass for Escolastica Aparejado, R.I.P.
- Sat. Feb. 16th 9:00 am Mass for Ida & Anna Machetti, R.I.P.

ALTAR SERVERS



- Wed. Feb. 13th - 7:30 PM** - Volunteers
- Sat. Feb. 16th - 5:00 PM** - A.Chavez, D.Giuliano, F.Hua, C & C Tsang.
- Sun. Feb. 17th - 9:00 AM** - C.Barraca, J.Casino, J & R Huang, V.Velasquez. **11:00 AM** - M.Balocan, N & N Nunez, C.Paule, S.Yip. **5:00 PM** - M. De Leon, A.Ferreira, M & M Hong, R & R Suganob, K & K Tan.

RCIA & ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Interested? Know someone who might be? Come or invite them to join our parish program. The program is suitable for all those interested in learning more about our faith and for Catholics who have not yet received the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion and for those who would like to deepen their faith, whether you were baptized or not. For more info call the parish office



SCHOOL NEWS

- School Mass: This Wednesday at 9 am. Join us!
- School Closed: There will be no school this coming Thursday, Feb. 14th and Friday, Feb. 15th due to the Annual Catholic Educator's Conference.

- Open House February 13 @ 1:00 pm

St. Jude School is hosting it's annual Open House starting at 1:00 pm Wednesday, Feb. 13, 2019. We encourage all of you to promote this Open House to all potential new families.

- New Family Application Forms

If you know of a family that is considering St. Jude School as a place for their child's education, please share the application form with them or direct them to the school website or office. Click [here](#) to see the application form.

- Kindergarten Sibling Registration:

St. Jude School is starting to field registration questions from interested new families. In order for us to know how many spots we have available, we need to hear from our existing families that have children who will be entering kindergarten. So, if you have a child who will be entering Kindergarten this September 2019, we ask that you please email Ms. Goh at the school - office@stjude.ca. Please also include the child's name and date of birth in the email.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

Up-Coming Events

Stewardship Reflection

“Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, ‘Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?’ ‘Here I am,’ I said, ‘send me!’”

(Isaiah 6:8) Every day, in little ways and in big ways, God asks, “Whom shall I send?” Whether it is someone to take on a new ministry, to give a friendly smile to a stranger or say a word of encouragement to a friend, God constantly provides opportunities to help someone in need. The next time you hear God calling, have the courage to walk through the door and say “Here I am, Lord.”

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World day of the sick

Archbishop Miller will be celebrating a Mass of anointing in honour of World Day of the Sick 2019 at Our Lady of Sorrows Church, Van. this Monday, Feb. 11, at 11 a.m. The sacrament of anointing of the sick will be administered after the homily. All the sick and their caregivers are invited to attend. Following Mass, simple refreshments will be offered in the school gym. Plenty of parking is available.

CATHOLIC WEDDING FOR CIVILLY MARRIED COUPLES

If you are civilly married and would now like to have your marriage recognized by the Church, there will be a great opportunity to do so again this year on September 21, 2019 at a Mass Wedding to be officiated by Archbishop J. Michael Miller, CSB. An Information and Processing session is scheduled for Feb. 12th at 6:00 pm, at Our Lady of Good Counsel, Surrey school auditorium. Come, register and start the documentation of your case. For more information, contact OLGC parish office 604 581 4141 or Deacon Greg Barcelon at 604 771 2975 or email filipinoministry@rcav.org.

Taize Prayer Service

Come and experience a quiet meditative Taize Prayer service with candlelight, music, prayers, Scripture and silence. It is on the 2nd Wednesday evening of each month. All are welcome. Wednesday, Feb. 13, at 7:45 p.m. at St. Augustine's Church, Vancouver.

<https://rcav.org/event/taize-prayer-service-4>

Come Away With me – Women's Retreat

You are warmly invited to Come Away for a while for an opportunity to deepen your prayer life and discern where God is leading you. Are you seeking for a way to experience God's love and compassion? Come and discover how your relationship with God can be deepened by learning how to trust in God's word through prayer, discernment, music, and friendship. Speaker: Anne Wicks – Spiritual Companion, Retreat Facilitator and Celebrant: Fr. Joseph Hieu Nguyen. Join us on Friday, Feb. 15, 7 pm to Sunday, Feb. 17, 4 pm at Westminster Abbey, Mission. To register or for more information call Joanne McGowan at 604-946-2932 or email: mcgowanj@dccnet.com or Linda Dixon at 604-946-7268 gldsd@eastlink.ca <https://rcav.org/event/come-away-with-me-womens-retreat>

How to Survive in Marriage while Raising Children

This session will discuss some of the challenges parents have in keeping their marriages strong and healthy. Practical suggestions will be given to help parents improve their connection with each other in the midst of the turmoil of every day life. The importance of conversation and collaborative decision-making will be discussed along with creative ways to keep a marriage great! Presented by Denis Boyd, M.A., Registered Psychologist. Wednesday, Feb. 20 at 7 p.m. at St. Anthony of Padua Church Hall, Vancouver.

<https://rcav.org/event/how-to-survive-in-marriage>

Wanted: Used Car for Redemptoris Mater

The Archdiocesan Missionary Seminary Redemptoris Mater is in need of a used car. If you know of someone who would be willing to donate a used car, please have them contact Fr. Gilbert Nunez at gnunez@rcav.org or call the seminary at 604-709-8509