



A Haunting Question

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

“What are you looking for?” asks Jesus of the two disciples who come to see who he is and what he is about. They are Jesus’ first words in John’s Gospel, and that’s what the entire Gospel of John is about, an answer to that piercing question.

I spent the week living with that question, never really finding an answer that seemed to fit, or perhaps I got too many answers, all of them somehow falling short. Why do I spend an hour early each morning sitting in the silence? I read some Scripture, but then mostly I sit with the silence. Many are the times when my mind drifts to other times and places and daydreams. Sometimes the silence is scattered with boredom; at other times it stumbles with prayerful words; and sometimes in the silence I look for answers to the plaguing whys of life. Mostly, though, I sit in the silence. I’d like to call it prayer, but then I wonder if I’m simply floundering in wishful thinking. So I return to that haunting question—“What are you looking for?”

I think perhaps the answer is similar to what I look for when I gather with friends. Sometimes the get-together is engaging, but not always. Sometimes it is memorable, but not always. Sometimes we just hang out, and that can be enough. Ultimately relationships keep me grounded. That also is why I spend time in the silence. It’s what I’m looking for when I pray—to be in relationship with God, to be grounded lest I drift away and grow lost. ●

**[Eli] said to Samuel,
“Go to sleep, and if you are
called, reply, ‘Speak, LORD,
for your servant is listening.’”**

1 SAMUEL 3:9

Reflect

**When you pray,
what are you looking for?**





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9:45 am - 11:00 am at Cherry Church Hall
Sunday, January 14th - 5th thru 8th Grades
Sunday, January 21st - K thru 4th Grade & Confirmation Class

Daily Mass Intentions for the Week of January 15, 2024

Monday	1/15			† No Mass
Tuesday	1/16	9:00 am	STM	† Geraldine Sondgeroth
Wednesday	1/17	5:30 pm	HT	† Daisy Kopek
Thursday	1/18	9:00 am	HT	† Jack & Theresa McCallum
Friday	1/19	9:00 am	STM	† John Balma

Mass Intentions for the weekend of January 20-21, 2024

Saturday	1/20	4:00 pm	St Thomas More	† John Micheli
Sunday	1/21	8:30 am	Holy Trinity	† Michael Campbell
		10:30 am	St Patrick	† Dorothy Stouffer
		5:00 pm	St Thomas More	† For the Parishioners

HEAR YE! HEAR YE! Here Comes The Ordinary Time

Ordinary time is the longest liturgical season in the Catholic Church, encompassing either 33 or 34 weeks each year. Because other liturgical seasons begin or end with movable feasts, the length of Ordinary time can vary slightly; however, 33 weeks is the more common length. The weeks are numbered, e.g., the first Sunday of Ordinary Time, the second Sunday of Ordinary Time, and so on.

Ordinary time is technically one liturgical season, though it is divided into two periods. Prior to the Second Vatican Council, when the term "Ordinary Time" was formally established, the two time periods were merely referred to as "the Season after Epiphany" and "the Season after Pentecost."

The liturgical color of Ordinary Time is green; however, other appropriate colors are worn on particular feast days.

- i. Season after Epiphany or Ordinary Time after the Baptism of Jesus: In the modern Roman rite, Epiphany is celebrated on the first Sunday after January 1 and the Baptism of the Lord is celebrated the following Sunday. Prior to Vatican II, Epiphany was celebrated January 6, whether a Sunday or a weekday, and the Baptism was celebrated on the Octave of the Epiphany, which would be January 13. This period of Ordinary Time lasts until the day before Ash Wednesday, which is Shrove Tuesday. This portion of Ordinary Time focuses on the childhood of Jesus and then on the public ministry of Christ.
- ii. Ordinary Time after Pentecost: The second portion of Ordinary Time begins after Pentecost and is much longer than the first. This second period of Ordinary Time lasts from the day after Pentecost through the final day before Advent. This period of Ordinary Time is also focused on Christ's reign as King of kings; the Feast of Christ the King caps off the season of Ordinary Time as the final Sunday before Advent begins. *(Excerpted from myfaithwalk.org)*



WINTER WEATHER ADVISORY

As the winter weather is getting frigidly cold, combining with very unpredictable amounts of snow and ice during the foreseeable future, your personal safety is most important to the church. Hence, please be extra careful as you come to Mass or any other church-related activity. In light of all the above, there may be certain days when the weather is worse and the road conditions become hazardous, please consider to stay home and watch Mass online or TV instead.

F.Y.I.

We are still looking for a new means of social media alert. In the meantime, please use our church website or check wlpw/wzoe radio for any church-related activities cancellation. Also, please keep in mind that if Mass is cancelled due to weather then all church and non-church activities for that day are also cancelled.

LATEST OFFERING'S

JAN 7TH WEEKEND

HT – \$1,184.01

SP – \$ 812.00

STM – \$1,507.00



CONFESSIONS

CONFESSIONS WILL BE

SAT. JAN 20TH

10:30 - 11:15 AM AT

ST THOMAS MORE

IN THE HALL

Dear Padre,

If St. Matthew was an apostle, why do we have Gospels from other writers who were not apostles of Jesus? Since he knew Jesus personally, wouldn't his Gospel be the definitive one?

There are two assumptions that need to be addressed. One is that the Apostle Matthew is the same as the evangelist Matthew. The book's title, the Gospel According to Matthew, was added to the text in the second century. Whether it was written by the same Matthew or someone else, it still traces back to the experience of the apostles. The Scriptures are the inspired word of God, and Christians can rely on the truth of the Gospel message through the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

The other assumption is that one Gospel is somehow more "definitive." All four Gospels are the inspired word of God. A Gospel is not a history of the life of Christ. It is a collection of stories that each evangelist arranged in a specific way so that they would make sense to a particular audience. For the Gospel of Matthew, the audience was predominantly Jewish, but these Jewish Christians were being excluded from mainstream Judaism and perhaps were wondering among themselves if Jesus was really the Messiah for whom they had waited so long. Matthew's Gospel asserts repeatedly that Jesus is a true Israelite who fulfills Old Testament prophecies, while also reinterpreting the Law of Moses in a new direction that includes all nations. ●



PAINTING OF APOSTLE ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST BY PIETRO GALLATI / SPADA GIOVANNI

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS



May the Virgin Mary help us make of our lives a hymn of praise to God in response to his call and in the humble and joyful fulfillment of his will. But let us remember this: there was a moment in each of our lives in which God made himself present more strongly, with a call.

ANGELUS, ROME,
JANUARY 17, 2021

MONDAY

January 15

Weekday

1 Sm 15:16-23

Mk 2:18-22

TUESDAY

January 16

Weekday

1 Sm 16:1-13

Mk 2:23-28

WEDNESDAY

January 17

St. Anthony, Abbot

1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51

Mk 3:1-6

THURSDAY

January 18

Weekday

1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7

Mk 3:7-12

FRIDAY

January 19

Weekday

1 Sm 24:3-21

Mk 3:13-19

SATURDAY

January 20

Weekday

2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27

Mk 3:20-21

SUNDAY

January 21

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jon 3:1-5, 10

1 Cor 7:29-31

Mk 1:14-20

DAYbreaks Leading Catholic voices inspire the faithful with daily reflections and prayers for Advent and Lent. Including: Fr. Ron Rolheiser, Dr. Mary Katharine Deeley, Sr. Dianne Bergant, Fr. Paul Turner, and more. Available from Liguori Publications.



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