

Served By: Fr. Paul Bisson Box 776, Russell, MB R0J 1W0 Phone Office: 204-773-2924 Deacon Darin Douglas: 204-532-2157

Email: <a href="mailto:stjoewkr@gmail.com">stjoewkr@gmail.com</a>
Website: <a href="mailto:www.stjosephrussell.com">www.stjosephrussell.com</a>
Archdiocese of Winnipeg <a href="mailto:www.archwinnipeg.ca">www.archwinnipeg.ca</a>



St. Joseph The Worker Parish, Russell, MB St. Theresa's Parish Rossburn, MB

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 40): Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

# St. Joseph The Worker News:

**Please remember in your prayers** those who are sick in hospitals, care homes, or in their homes & those who care for them. If you wish to receive the Sacraments of Anointing, Confession, or Holy Communion – please call the parish office & leave a message: 204-773-2924.

<u>Praying with Pope Francis</u> January: For the gift of diversity in the Church: We pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community and to discover the richness of different traditions and rituals in the Catholic Church.

# **Mass Intentions For This Week:**

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Saturday Jan 13 7:30 p.m. Russell + Duncan Spurway Funeral Mass offering

Sunday Jan 14 9:00 a.m. Russell **Zoom on-line Mass 9:00 a.m. & YouTube after 10:15 am** 

+ John Selby req by Doug and Donalda Wishart

11:00 a.m. Rossburn Suffering Souls in Purgatory req by Rose & family

Monday Jan 15 Health of family & friends req. by Jean Goba

Tuesday Jan 16 + Frank Mangin req. by Madeline & family

Wed Jan 17 + Mangins req. by George Mangin & family

Thurs Jan 18 10:30 a.m. Rossburn Adoration

11:00 a.m. Mass Suffering Souls in Purgatory req by Rose & family

Friday Jan 19 8:30 a.m. Russell Adoration

9:00 a.m. Mass

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday Jan 20 7:30 p.m. Russell Duncan Spurway Funeral Mass offering

Sunday Jan 21 9:00 a.m. Russell **Zoom on-line Mass 9:00 a.m.** & YouTube after 10:15 am

For all parishioners by Father Paul

11:00 a.m. Rossburn Myrna Kostecki req by St Theresa's Parish

11:00 a.m. Gambler – Liturgy of the Word with Communion – Deacon Darin

We are still looking for someone who would like to shovel snow for St. Joseph's the Worker Parish. This would be to clear sidewalks throughout the winter and is a paid position. Please call the office or Gary Petz for more information. Thank you.

St. Joseph's Parish Pastoral Council will be having a meeting January 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

\*There is an old joke about a man who asked his pastor whether it was okay to smoke while he prayed. His pastor said, "Absolutely not! When you pray, you should be completely devoted to prayer!" So the man went to another priest, but he changed his question, "Would it be okay to pray while I smoke?" "Yes, of course" was the answer.

# Examen Prayer for the Year By Vinita Hampton Wright

As we transition into the new year, let's try an Examen prayer of our previous year. It's really pretty simple: the Examen helps us reflect on a past period of time—usually we reflect prayerfully over the previous day or the previous few hours. But I believe we can apply these principles to the past calendar year as well.

#### Step One: Become aware of God's presence.

One way of doing this is to ask the Holy Spirit to help you review the year with a holy perspective—with wisdom, grace, and faith. Ask for the grace to tear yourself away from your own patterns of thinking and seeing so that you can see your life more as God sees it. Of course you will see your failings—but God sees you as a beloved daughter or son who has a future and a hope. Of course you will see your accomplishments—but God sees your deeper self, the person behind all the activity, a person made in God's image.

## Step Two: Review the year with gratitude.

As you use this holy perspective to review the year, pay attention to the good gifts from the year ending. Name specifically those that come to memory now, and thank God for them.

#### **Step Three: Pay attention to your emotions.**

Think over the year again, and notice your emotional reactions. What memories speak most loudly to you? What events, conversations, relationships, or activities bring up the most emotion now, as you remember them? Ask God to help you linger with these emotions, whether they are pleasant or disturbing. Ask for help in understanding why you feel as you do. What can you learn about yourself or about your situation as you dwell in your emotional responses?

### Step Four: Choose one feature of the year and pray from it.

While you are lingering with your memories and emotions, settle on one feature. Perhaps it is a single event, or maybe it's a pattern of your own behavior that has come to mind as you reviewed the year. Whatever it is that has emerged, allow it to fuel your prayer. Don't worry about the many other aspects of the year that you could think about right now; stay with the one thing that has come to you with the most power and pray from those thoughts and emotions.

#### Step Five: Look toward the new year.

Imagine what challenges and blessings might await you in the coming year. Think of important relationships, major (and minor) decisions to be made, skills to learn, habits to build, healing to seek, good work to accomplish. Make a simple list of highlights—matters that you expect to take prominence in your life in the new year. Bring them to God now, and ask for the graces you will need.

End your prayer, thanking God for love and life and holy possibilities.

\* "What's your profession?" A stranger once asked a teacher, "What's your profession?" The teacher replied, "Christian," The stranger continued, "No, that's not what I mean. What's your job?" The teacher asserted, once again, "I'm a Christian!" Puzzled, the stranger clarified, "Perhaps I should ask, what you do for a living?" The teacher replied, "Well, I've a full-time job as a Christian. But, to support my sick husband and children, I teach in a school." — That teacher had certainly understood the meaning of discipleship summarized by today's Responsorial Psalm (40): "Here I am, Lord, I come to do Your will."

(Fr. Botelho). (https://frtonyshomilies.com/).

\*Dad's resolution: Last year when I called my parents to wish them a happy New Year, my dad answered the phone. "Well, Dad, what's your New Year's resolution?" I asked him. "To make your mother as happy as I can all year," he answered proudly. Then mom got on, and I said, "What's your resolution, Mom?" "To see that your dad keeps his New Year's resolution."

# 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.

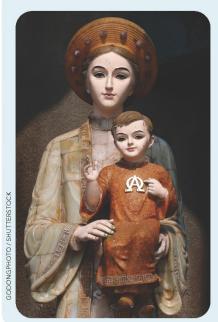
The other assumption is that one Gospel is somehow more "definitive." All four Gospels are the inspired word of God. A Gospel is not a history of the life of Christ. It is a collection of stories that each evangelist arranged in a specific way so that they would make sense to a particular audience. For 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.



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**

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.

#### **MONDAY** January 15

Weekday 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

1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7 Mk 3:7-12

# Weekday

# **FRIDAY**

January 19 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

© 2024 Liguori Publications, Liguori, MO 63057-9999. Printed in USA. Imprimatur: "In accordance with CIC 827, permission to publish was granted on April 5, 2023, by the Most Reverend Mark S. Rivituso, Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of St. Louis. Permission to publish is an indication that nothing contrary to Church teaching is contained in this work. It does not imply any endorsement of the opinions expressed in the publication; nor is any liability assumed by this permission." No part of this work may be used in any form without the prior written permission of Liguori Publications. Scripture texts in this work are taken from the New American Bible, revised edition © 2010, 1991, A Redemptorist Ministry 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. All Rights Reserved. Download our latest catalog, visit Liquori.org or call 800-325-9521



# Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)





# A Haunting Question

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

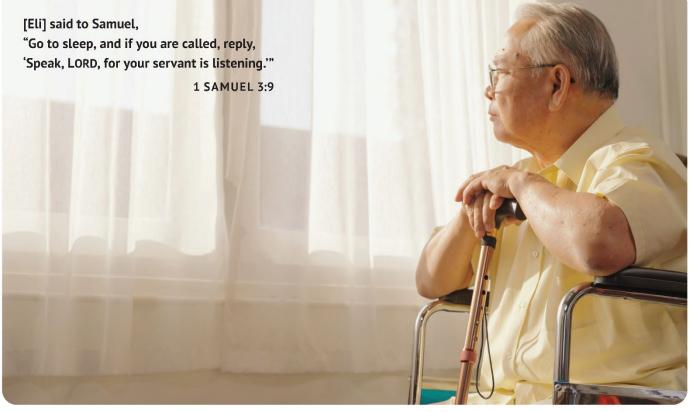
hat are you looking for?" asks Jesus of the two disciples who come to see who he is and what he is about. They are Jesus' first words in John's Gospel, and that's what the entire Gospel of John is about, an answer to that piercing question.

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. •

#### - Reflect -

When you pray, what are you looking for?



© 2024 LIGUORI PUBLICATIONS • LIGUORI, MO 63057-9999 • IMAGE: HA-NU-MAN / SHUTTERSTOCK