

SECOND COLLECTION

The Second Collection today will be for Bishop Cornelius Sim for his 7th Episcopal Anniversary on Saturday, January 21st. Please remember to say a special prayer for him and to wish him on that day.

Community Bible Writing Project

Our aim is to complete copying by hand the Old Testament by December 1st 2012. All you have to do is to collect the Bible folder that is being handed over during the Sunday Announcement and continue copying/writing (from any Bible) from where the last person stopped. You write as much as you can during the week and return the folder the following Sunday to be handed over to the next person.

SUNDAY SCHOOL and COM classes

Registration for the Sunday School and COM classes will continue today, from 10:30 - 11:30 am in the parish hall. Classes will commence on 29th January. The orientation for parents will be on 29th January from 10:30am - 11:00 noon. Please take note that the Catechetical Ministry is also in need of more catechists. If you are interested, please leave your name and contact details with the parish office staff.

Formation Workshop for Catechist

There will be formation workshop for all Sunday School Catechists today 1:00 to 3:00 pm. Your attendance is highly appreciated.

Adult Faith Formation

We have just started the CATHOLICISM Adult Faith Formation program. It's the story of the whole world. It's your story. See it. Own it. Share it. The next session will on Thursday, 19th January at 7:30 PM in Fr. McClorey's room.

Vicariate Anniversary

We will be celebrating the 7th Anniversary of the Vicariate next Sunday, 22nd January. Please proceed immediately after the 8:00 AM Mass to the Parish Hall for the celebration with the Bishop. We will also be having a group photo with the bishop in the Parish Hall. We hope all of you will be there!

Chinese New Year Mass

The Chinese New Year Mass will be on Monday, 23rd January at 8:00 AM. There will be blessing and giving away of Oranges on that day.



12 Days 10 Nights Pilgrimage to Italy and Lourdes

Fr. Robert is organizing a 12-days pilgrimage together with Five Stars Tours of Singapore to Italy and Lourdes departing from Singapore on 27th August 2012. Details of the pilgrimage is posted in the Notice Board at the entrance of the church. To help us to know the number of people who are interested to go on this pilgrimage, please give your details to Fr. Robert. The cost of the trip is not available yet. We hope that many of you will be able to go so that it will be a good starting point to the Year of Faith.

Pope Benedict XVI has declared a "Year of Faith" which will begin in October 2012, the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council. "It will be a moment of grace and commitment to a more complete conversion to God, to strengthen our faith in Him and proclaim Him with joy to the people of our time," said the Pope, making his announcement during Sunday Mass at St. Peter's Basilica. The Year of Faith will run from October 11, 2012, until November 24, 2013, which is the Solemnity of Christ the King.

God that he is willing to listen, then the real connection between God and Samuel begins.

The connection that starts with that willingness of Samuel's grows into a friendship that is rightly described this way: the Lord was with Samuel. At that point, no one at all could miss the fact that it was God who had called Samuel.

And so here is one moral of the story. The voice of God can be anywhere, in any guise. It isn't thunder and lightning or extraordinary psychic happenings that connect a person to God. Rather, it is the willingness to listen, to trust and obey, that makes the Lord known. †

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE (MPC) for 2012

12th & 19th February ♦ 13th & 20th May
5th & 12th August ♦ 18th & 25th November

Couples wishing to get married are kindly reminded to prepare themselves at least six months prior to their wedding and to follow the Marriage Preparation Course schedule. Last minute weddings are very much discouraged as this would make it difficult for the coordinators of the MPC to conduct the course. This is a 2 full day course. Please take note that another requirement for a Catholic marriage is that the Catholic party must already received his/her Confirmation.



Our Lady of Immaculate Conception

NEWSLETTER

Website: www.clicseria.com

Issue 2012/3

For Private Circulation Only

15th January, 2012

DAY	FEAST	READINGS	TIME
Mon 16	2ND WEEK, ORDINARY TIME (PSALTER WK II)	1 Sam 15, 16-23; Mk2, 18-22.	6:15 AM
Tue 17	2ND WEEK, ORDINARY TIME (PSALTER WK II) ST. ANTHONY	1 Sam 16, 1013; Mk 2, 23-28.	6:15 AM
Wed 18	2ND WEEK, ORDINARY TIME (PSALTER WK II)	1 Sam 17, 32-33, 37. 40-51; Mk 3, 1-6.	5:30 PM
Thu 19	2ND WEEK, ORDINARY TIME (PSALTER WK II)	1 Sam 18, 6-9; 19, 1-7; Mk 3, 7-12.	5:30 PM
Fri 20	2ND WEEK, ORDINARY TIME (PSALTER WK II) ST FABIAN, ST SEBASTIAN.	1 Sam 24, 3-21; Mk 3, 13-19.	6:15 AM
Sat 21	2ND WEEK, ORDINARY TIME (PSALTER WK II) ST AGNES.	2 Sam 1, 1-4, 11-12. 19. 23-27; Mk 3, 20-21.	6:15 AM
Sun 22	THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (PSALTER WK III)	Jona 3, 1-5. 10; Ps 24, 4bc-5ab. 6-7bc. 8-9. 1 Cor 7, 29-31. Mk 1, 14-20.	8:00 AM 5:30 PM

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, January 15

1 Sm 3:3-10, 19; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10; 1 Cor 6:13-15, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42

God speaks in the sacred spaces where we worship, and God speaks in the sacred temple within ourselves. We must listen carefully to discern the divine voice among the many profane ones demanding to be heard. But it is not enough to listen; we must act on what we have heard. God wants ears open to obedience. Then we can say: "Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will."

John the Baptist heard God speak, and it sent him to do wonderful things. John not only listened; he watched. He wanted others to see what he saw: "Look! There is the Lamb of God!" "What are you looking for?" Jesus asks each of us. Although we may be afraid of what we might find, Jesus invites us to "come and see." We won't discover what we seek all at once. It takes a lifetime of listening, seeing, and following the one who calls.

For Reflection: Take time to listen to God's voice. What is God telling me now? How will I respond?

Reading I: 1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19
Responsorial Psalm: 40:2,4,7-8, 8-9, 10
Reading II: 1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20
Gospel: John 1:35-42

Who's Calling

In the first reading, Samuel, who was still young, was waked up by hearing his name called in the night. He thought that the person calling him was Eli, the old priest whom Samuel served. But Samuel was wrong in thinking this. It was the Lord calling.



It took three times of God calling before the experienced old priest Eli tumbled to the fact that it was God who was calling Samuel. It took four times of God calling before Samuel finally answered by saying, "..."

Who would believe this story? Wouldn't you suppose that if God called you, you would know something very special had happened? Who would speak, Lord, your servant is listening! I believe that God could call you and you wouldn't recognize that you were having a wild, spooky, religious experience? Who would believe that you could get the voice of God confused with the voice of the old guy in the neighboring room?

The answer is 'Eli'. That is, in the story, it is the wise old priest who believes these things. It is Eli who understands that you can be in direct contact with God and still not know that it is God who is talking to you.

But if God's voice can be confused with some ordinary voice, how does Eli know, how does Samuel know, how does anyone know that it is God calling?

The answer is that you can't know until you are willing to listen. God doesn't force monologues on the unwilling. He invites to conversation. When Samuel is ready to tell

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