

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 17, 2021

1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19

Psalm 40

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

John 1: 35-42

In Stewardship

We Give Glory to God Who Gives Us Purpose.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Found His Purpose

And as a

**Good Steward of the Gifts He Was Given Served God
and Gave Up His Earthly Life.**

Saint Paul is the one who teaches us in 1 Corinthians 6 our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit. We are made for the Lord. We give glory to the Lord with our lives. All praise goes to him. We exist because of his love and we love him because we are aware of his goodness.

God directs each of us to the Good. He directs us to happiness. And happiness means obtaining our good End. There is a way that is best for us to live, a way in life. The way particular to each of us is what we call our vocation. That is, a calling.

Today's readings are all about vocation. They scream it.

Samuel repeatedly hears a voice in his dreams that calls him. As the story goes Samuel runs to his elder, Eli, thinking he is the one who is calling him. With his life's experience, Eli recognizes it is God who is calling the youth. Eli instructs Samuel to say to the voice, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening". And so Samuel does this. The Lord works his power through Samuel for his entire life. As it says, "Samuel grew up, and the Lord was with him, not permitting any word of his to be without effect."

Continuing with today's scriptures the psalmist pleads for God to give him direction. By praying Psalm 40 we do the same today. "I have waited for the Lord.... And he put a new song into my mouth, a hymn to our God." We ask for direction from the Lord and he gives us a new direction. He gives us a new song to sing! Furthermore, the psalm says, "I announced your justice in the vast assembly; I did not restrain my lips, as you, O Lord, know."

Finally, in John's Gospel disciples of John the Baptist leave him to follow Jesus. They find a new purpose in life. Jesus redirects their lives. This redirection is noted in that Jesus renames Simon to Cephas, or Rock or Peter. This foretold the purpose the man would have in the future. He would be the man Jesus would use as the foundation of his Church and he too would die for the Gospel.

Martin Luther King, Jr., who's memorial our nation celebrates this week, found his purpose in God's direction for him. As John Lewis tells it in his book, [Across That Bridge](#), King recognized he needed to be prepared to serve the Lord well. He sought greater education than the other preachers he was aware of. He intensified his prayer life to match his studies. Martin saw the need to be well founded in order to fulfill his purpose. He was a man of reason and faith who had great talent that must be used.

Martin Luther King, Jr's purpose was to lead all people to a greater equality because all are equal in dignity. No group of people and no one person may be discriminated against. He had to do more than preach words. All people must recognize God created all people with the same dignity. Thus, no one was lower or higher than the other in value or worth. Discrimination against any one person denigrated the one who discriminated against the other. To lift oneself up at the cost of the freedom of another is a sin. But all humankind is better than that. He did not seek to reverse discrimination and make Black folks better than others.

King and all who followed his leadership trusted through faith God who created all with dignity. He said in his 1963 March on Washington speech, "Let us not seek to satisfy our thirst for freedom by drinking from the cup of bitterness and hatred. We must forever conduct our struggle on the high plane of dignity and discipline. We must not allow our creative protest to degenerate into physical violence. Again and again, we must rise to the majestic heights of meeting physical force with *soul force*."

John Lewis explains soul force is the way to counter the force of injustice. It is fearlessness. In faith one's soul is connected to the greatest force that is God. Lewis explains the force and fear aggressors use on those working for Justice are mere tools to make people doubt their capacity to overcome oppression and injustice. The Love of God not only protects the just but permits the just one to ultimately prevail. It is our human nature to defend what we accept as the Truth. It is not human nature to do evil and wrong.

One must keep good Stewardship of soul force since it is a gift of God, that is Grace. Again, Martin Luther King, Jr. says, "Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter." We must work toward the policies and acts performed in our society that bring about the Peace we always pray for. As it is said by the Church, "If you want Peace work for Justice." It is not enough to *pray* for Peace. What is due to each person because of the dignity of each person must be obtained by mutual effort by all in the community.

King used the education he achieved to develop a group of people to work for justice. First, he identified just what the elements of a just system are. Then a system to bring about the necessary elements that connote Justice was designed. Further, recruitment of workers for the cause of Justice was done. Then they were educated, trained, and formed to be nonviolent actors based on Gospel values. And finally, carefully planned protests were implemented with each protest pointing to a constructive end. All along the way the soul force was present.

The road was difficult for Dr. King and all who participated in the cause. Ultimately King gave up his earthly life. In view of that he is recognized to be among Christian Martyrs by the Roman Catholic Church. He found his purpose in the name of Jesus Christ and worked for God's Justice for all people. King knew all along he might have to give up his life and he did.

As we renew our commitment to Stewardship at Blessed Sacrament Parish there is much to reflect on. What purpose do you have in life with respect to the Lord? Do not be afraid to do God's will. Doing God's will, will bring your soul force. Your eternal life will be protected.

So, give glory to God who has given you your dignity. Serve God and his people. You will find eternal life.

| <u>Stewardship</u> | |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Attendance last week: | 214 |
| Tithes Collected: | \$6,222.00 |
| Online Giving: | \$ 365.00 |
| Total: | \$6,587.00 |
| Thank you! | |

Information for Registration for COVID-19 Vaccine From the City of Oakland Park

The Collins Community Center targets vulnerable seniors who have received an invitation to be vaccinated. These are seniors who have disabilities, vulnerabilities, or other disadvantages that preclude them from accessing the COVID-19 vaccine sites run by the Florida Department of Health. If you feel you qualify for a COVID-10 vaccine as a vulnerable senior, call the City of Oakland Park at 954-630-4335, Monday-Friday, 8am to 5pm, to schedule an appointment.

To schedule an appointment for a vaccination in Broward county, visit:
www.browardcovidvaccine.com

As vulnerable seniors are assisted and more vaccines become available, the City of Oakland Park will

continue to partner with the Florida Department of Health to provide vaccines to the general senior population. Non-vulnerable seniors will be added to a waitlist to be served as extra vaccines become available. For more information, or to get on the waitlist, please call 954-630-4335.

STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship is the care we take of the gifts we have been given. The primary gifts are those of Time, Talent and Treasure. Within these are found all the other attributes you may find in yourself.

You are gifted. You are a unique creation of God. Take care of all that you are and take care of all that is around you. Be a good steward.

Please consider your commitment to Stewardship to the parish and complete the Commitment to Stewardship form. Return it to church or the rectory office. Thank You!

LITURGY FOR JANUARY 17th, 2021 2ND WEEK ORDINARY TIME

HYMN No. 1: OPEN THE EYES OF MY HEART (Baloché)

Open the eyes of my heart Lord, open the eyes of my heart. I want to see you. I want to see you.

1. To see you high and lifted up, shining in the light of your glory. Pour out your pow'r and love as we sing "Holy, holy, holy."
2. Holy, holy, holy...holy, holy, holy...I want to see you.

HYMN NO. 2: WE ARE CALLED TO SERVE (Smith)

We are called to serve; we are called by grace to cherish Christ in ev'ry face. We are called to serve, we are called by name, and in all we are, God's love proclaim.

1. Called beyond our human understanding, called before the world came into view. Within your mother's womb, your name was known to me, for you did not choose me, no, I chose you.
2. Called to be a light amid the darkness, called to help a doubting world believe. "Empowered by my Spirit, anointed with my love, you are called to give and share what you believe."

HYMN NO. 3: HERE I AM, LORD (Schutte)

Here I am, Lord. Is it I Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

1. I the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in dark and sin My hand will save. I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Who will bear my light to them: Whom shall I send?
2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain. I have wept for love of them. They turn away. I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone. I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame. I will set a feast for them. My hand will serve. Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied. I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

HYMN NO. 4: MY HEART BELONGS TO YOU (Booth)

1. My heart, my heart belongs to you. My heart, my heart belongs to you. I could never leave you; you're all that I need. My heart belongs to you.
2. My life, my life belongs to you. My life, my life belongs to you. I could never leave you; you're all that I need. My life belongs to you.
3. My Lord and God, you've helped me to see that my life is found in your holy mystery, to live and die and rise with you, with you.
4. My soul, my soul belongs to you. My soul, my soul belongs to you. I could never leave you; you're all that I need. My soul belongs belongs to you. My heart belongs, my life belongs, my soul belongs to you.
5. My heart, my life, my soul, belongs to you!

HYMN NO. 5: OUR GOD IS HERE

1. Here in this time, here in this place, here we are standing face to face. Here in our hearts, here in our lives, our God is here.
2. Here for the broken, here for the strong, here in this temple we belong. Here in our hearts, here in in our lives, our God is here.
3. **And we cry "Holy! Holy! Holy are you!" We cry: "Holy! Holy! Holy and true!" Amen, we do believe our God is here. Our God is here.**
4. Here in the Word, God is revealed, here where the wounded can be healed. Here in our hearts, here in our lives, our God is here.
5. Here we become what we receive, here in this Eucharistic feast. We are his body, living as one; our God is here.
6. **And we cry "Holy! Holy! Holy are you!" We cry: "Holy! Holy! Holy and true!" Amen, we do believe our God is here. Our God is here.**

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Joe Alfaro, Jordan Almendral, JoAnn Anderson, Michael Beard, Karen Becker, Mary Benivegna, Kyle Brincat, Margarita Bogle, Tom Carver, Sean Chin, Robert Clark, Mary Collis, John Cooper, Logan Costante, Gregoria Daen, Sam DeMarco, Ines DeSalle, Roseanne DeSimone, Lisa DeStasio, John Dooney, Nelson Douaihi, Peggy Duff, Susan Fabbri, Lisa Findlay, Megan Forrester, Joshua Freeman, Richard Gossett, Ana Gilajota, Stephen Goch, Keri Greenan, Tyler Harrison, Cindy Hogman, Kara, Nancy Hernandez, Tiffany Kentosh, Butch Klinger, John LaNeve, Rey Lizcano, Judith Kolo, Tamika Lee, Bernie Ligget, Gail Martin, Sean Martin, Mary McKelvey, Betsy McMahan, Clare McMahan, Frank McNeil, Dan Murphy, Teresita Nazareno, Lauren Nicole, Thomas O'Brien, Barbara Perry, Della Mae Reblin, Lucy Reitano, Coleen Riley, Dee Ripple, Matilda Rivier, Charles Rousseau, Anthony Ruggiero, Theresa Schluter, Brad Schroder, Ellen Seaman, Roger Sherman, Jim Smullen, Vivian Spasiano, Rick Steffan, M. Stoufer, Richard Taylor, Antoinette Teresi, Constantino Thomas, Margarita Verano, Peggy Weiss, Ed Wisley, Nancy Zakem, Marie & Jeff, Lucas Zaky

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 16

- 4:00 p.m. † Rafick Henein by Vivian Fuentes
 † Louis & Mary Michel by Anthony & Rosemary

Sunday, January 17

- 9:00 a.m. † Danny Touhy by Joyce
 10:45 a.m. † Tina Bishara by Family
 † Jean Ingraham by Dan Murphy & Dil Hatchett

Monday, January 18

- 8:00 a.m. NO MASS/OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday, January 19

- 8:00 a.m. † Deceased of Crepage/Lalewicz Families

Wednesday, January 20

- 8:00 a.m. † Bernard & Eileen Flood by Flood Family

Thursday, January 21

- 8:00 a.m. † Sgt. Marcel J. Palau by Ed & Mary Batcho

Friday, January 22

- 8:00 a.m. † Andrew Murphy by Doris Emmett

Saturday, January 23

- 4:00 p.m. † Regina Barone by Anthony & Rosemary
 † Rafael Antonio Rivera by Jose Gonzalez & Bill Caruso

Sunday, January 24

- 9:00 a.m. Blessed Sacrament Parish
 10:45 a.m. Walter Steck by Anita
 † Candida Martin by Tina & Jimmy Jordan

