



17 JANUARY 2021

**SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
&
VOCATION SUNDAY**

INTRODUCTION:

God, our loving Father invites each one of us, in a variety of ways, to be a part of His great plan; He calls us to be “bearers of a promise”, to put our trust in Him and to follow his path. Pope Francis encourages each of us, especially the young, to take heed to God’s call and encounter Him in order to find fulfilment in our lives. As we focus on God’s call this Vocation Sunday, let our response to Him be “here I am Lord.”

INTRODUCTION TO THE READINGS:

Many times in our life, we experience something like the first reading; a call, but who is calling is not clear. At other times in our life, the call and who is calling are very clear as depicted in the Gospel. In the Gospel of John, the disciples responded immediately, but Samuel was called four times. We undergo a change in our life only when we respond totally to that call. In the Psalm, we express our willingness to do God’s will at all times in our lives. We must be prepared to use the body He has given us, in His service and for His glory.

READINGS:

First Reading: 1 Sam 3:3b-10,19

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 40:2&4ab,7-8a,8b-9,10

Second Reading: 1 Cor 6:13c-15a,17-20

Gospel: Jn 1:35-42

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Celebrant: God has chosen us to be a part of His great plan. Let us turn to Him with confidence and bring our prayers before Him.

Our response is: God our Father, hear our prayer.

For our Pope Francis, the bishops, the clergy, the religious and all the members of the Church that they may continue to be faithful stewards, strengthened by Your Body and Blood and nourished by Your Word to serve You in holiness and dedication for the glory of Your kingdom; **pause**; let us pray to the Lord...

For all the people in the world, especially those who are confused or lost, that they may be given the grace to discern the call of God and respond favourably to it; **pause**; let us pray to the Lord...

For those contemplating a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life, that they may be guided and strengthened by the Holy Spirit to accept Your invitation to be faithful witnesses; **pause**; let us pray to the Lord...

For all of us gathered here and those hearing online Eucharist, that we may be faithful to our vocation and encourage others, especially our children and young people to “listen” to Your voice, surrender themselves to you and actively follow Your call; **pause**; let us pray to the Lord...

Celebrant: Almighty and eternal God, in Your unfailing love, You call us to serve in Your vineyard. Hear our prayers and strengthen us in holiness to be ever faithful in lifelong service to You. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYER FOR RELIEF FROM THE CORONA VIRUS

Almighty and merciful God, who show Your love to all creation everywhere, hear graciously the prayers we make for all those affected by the Coronavirus in various parts of the world.

We come before You asking for a quick control of the outbreak, for a healing of those affected, for the victims and their families.

We pray for the doctors doing research that an effective vaccine to combat the sickness is speedily found.

We pray for the Government and health authorities that they take appropriate steps for the good of the people. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Commission For Liturgy
Archdiocese of Bombay*