

**Fr. John Sassani**  
**Homily Given on October 28, 2012**  
**Thirtieth Sunday of Ordinary Time**  
**Liturgical Year B**

Apparently, depending on the state, we have six candidates for President in the upcoming elections. I've only received calls from two of the candidates – not personally from Mr. Obama or Mr. Romney – but calls from their campaign workers. This is not an uncommon phenomenon. A secretary calls for you doctor. The mother or father of your friend from school calls for a play date, the car dealership clerk calls for the mechanic when your car is repaired.

I've heard this Gospel many times, and I never noticed that something similar happens. Jesus, who sees the blind man begging and hears him call out, tells some of His followers, "Call him." So, Mark tells us, they call to him saying, "Take courage. He is calling you." The blind man gets up and runs to Jesus, with the others guiding him to Jesus.

Why the intermediaries? I have no idea, other than that this is the way it is going to be going forward. My call came from Jesus through my parents – then the sisters in school – then friends and colleagues – then you. I hope your call from Jesus has had the sound of your parents – friends – colleagues – the staff here – fellow parishioners.

Jesus works through, with, and in others to draw us to Himself – which necessarily suggests that we are to do the same for others. This is evangelization.

Evangelization scares people. They think, "I don't know enough" or "Faith is a private matter". But three-quarters of adult inquirers – and many children – find their way to Jesus Christ through others.

You may be the anonymous person who helps someone in the crowd at Mass Sunday after Sunday or who helps someone at work during the coffee break – anonymously at first, then in simple conversation. Then great insight is given to them as it was to Bartimaeus, who hears another person say, "He is calling you" – and the encounter is fostered that changes a life in unimagined ways.

Every one of us has benefitted from these kinds of people. Every one of us can be this kind of person. Christ is calling us directly to be His intermediaries to others today. As we come to the Eucharist, let us ask Jesus our Lord for the grace to hear His call and to act as His intermediary with those we meet.