

Saint Boniface Parish

Faith Formation Handout – Sunday, January 17th

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

John 1:35-42

John was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he said, "Behold, the Lamb of God." The two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus. Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" — which translated means Teacher —, "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come, and you will see." So they went and saw where Jesus was staying, and they stayed with him that day. It was about four in the afternoon. Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, was one of the two who heard John and followed Jesus. He first found his own brother Simon and told him, "We have found the Messiah" — which is translated Christ —. Then he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon the son of John; you will be called Cephas" — which is translated Peter.

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Why is community important in helping us to hear the Lord?

First Grade

We come to know Jesus through other people, such as our parents, other family and friends. Who are the people that you go to Mass with? What are some things that they have taught you about the Lord? How have those people helped you to learn to pray and to hear what the Lord is saying to you? How do you hear the Lord during the Mass?

Second Grade

We have many people in our lives that teach us things – our teachers, our parents, other family members, coaches, and friends. Who are five people that have taught you the most things? How much do you think you would know without them? Who has taught you about the God? How have they helped you to learn to pray and hear Him?

Third and Fourth Grades

What are some things that you know that others do not? Name at least five things. What are some things that you do not know that you can learn from others? Having a community allows us to teach and learn from others. What have others taught you about praying? How have they helped you to hear the Lord in your life?

Fifth and Sixth Grades

Your community are the people that surround you in your life. Who are the people that you see the most often? Name at least ten people. How do those people help you to hear God when you are praying and throughout your day? Do you think any of them are preventing you from hearing the Lord? Do you want others to help you to hear the Lord?

Seventh and Eighth Grades

In today's Gospel, we hear Jesus ask John what he is looking for. How would you answer Jesus if He asked you that question? What are some of the things that you want and desire? What are your goals? Goals are difficult to accomplish on our own. How can you rely on your community to help you? How can others help you to hear God speaking?

High School and Adults

In today's Gospel, we hear that after Andrew heard Jesus speaking he went and told his brother Peter (Cephas) about Him. We come to know Jesus through others. Who were the people that introduced you to Jesus and taught you about Him? Who are you helping to know Jesus and helping them to hear Him?

For this Week...

We are Catholic always and in everything we do. Throughout the week bring your faith into your school, your work, your play and your family. Here are some ideas for you.

Monday

Who are the people that make up your community? Who are you closest to, but also, who are the people that come in and out of your life each day and week? Today, make a list of the people that you come into contact with the most.

What type of community have you created for yourself? Is supportive or do you need to change it?

Tuesday

God speaks through our community. Sometimes we think that we cannot hear God's voice, because we don't hear a new voice. He speaks through the people around us, and in voices that we know. Today, pay attention to what people say to you. Look for God in the words of love, encouragement and correction.

Wednesday

In the same way that we can hear God's voice in the words of the people in our community, God also speaks through us to others. We can work to be God's voice in the world by paying attention to what we say to others. Today, watch what you say to others. Are your words helping them or bringing them down? How can your words show love?

Thursday

Communities are helpful in hearing the Lord because we are not alone and can pray for one another. Hearing God's voice can be a difficult at first. Today, no matter how easy or difficult it is for you to hear the Lord in others, focus on others and pray for them. Pray that they can be aware of the Lord dwelling in their life and hear Him speaking.

Friday

No matter how good we are at hearing the Lord, we can still make mistakes. Maybe we want to hear the Lord give us a specific answer, or maybe we are having a difficult time and having trouble hearing correctly. Having others means we have help. Today, tell someone about a question you have and ask for what they hear the Lord saying.

Saturday

In Matthew 18:20 Jesus says that "where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Jesus is telling us that if we want to encounter Him, one way we can do it is to pray with others. Today, ask someone to pray with you. Start and end with the Our Father, but each of you should take some time to pray in your own words.



FROM THE CATECHISM...

The Christian family is the first place of education in prayer. Based on the sacrament of marriage, the family is the "domestic church" where God's children learn to pray "as the Church" and to persevere in prayer. For young children in particular, daily family prayer is the first witness of the Church's living memory as awakened patiently by the Holy Spirit.

Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2685

Next Week's Readings

Here are the readings for next Sunday so that on Saturday you can read through them. If you take a few minutes to read them and prepare, you will get a lot more from Mass. They are available online at www.usccb.org.

Jonah 3:1-5,10 Psalm 25:4-5,6-7,8-9 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 Mark 1:14-20