

GOD CALLS YOU BY NAME: BECOME WHO YOU ARE! (Part 2)

Last week, at our Faith-CAFÉ, we spoke of the danger of reducing vocation to simply the question of “state of life” or “the work I do”, of giving priority to doing over being. This idea – that “what I DO with my life must follow from who I AM” – is expressed in a maxim attributed to St. Thomas Aquinas: *agere sequitur esse*, **action flows from being**. So the question remains” *Who am I? By what name does God call me?* How do I listen for the inner voice which reveals my best self, and yet is also far more than myself? In Psalm 139, we learn that even before we were formed in the womb, God has searched our heart and knows our name. There are so many voices telling us who we are, what we should be, what we should do with our lives, where we should invest ourselves. Which one will we follow?

This learning to listen and respond is a process. For most of us, it does not happen all at once, with dramatic visions and voices. God speaks through the ordinary events of my daily life: families, jobs, relationships; challenges, disappointments, successes, failures; in the books we read, the movies we watch, the websites we visit, the songs which won't leave our heads. In this regard, it is often useful to have someone – a friend or mentor, a teacher or spiritual guide – who can help us in the task of listening to and honouring that deeper self, and to translating that into a meaningful investment of our life. But ultimately, I don't just sit down and “figure it out”; I allow God, in the silence of my hearts, to reveal my name to me.

In the Gospel of John, Jesus asks two would-be disciples: “*What are you looking for?*” Their response indicates a desire not just for a teaching, but a *relationship*: “*Master, where do you live?*” So Jesus responds simply: “***Come and see.***” (John 1:38-39) They came, they saw, and they spent the day ... and the next ... and the next after that! From this time spent together, as friends getting to know one another, the foundations were laid for their life as disciples. They came to know Jesus of Nazareth not only as teacher and mentor, but as Saviour, as One who came “***that they might have life, and have it in abundance.***” (John 10:10) Out of that relationship, out of that experience of abundant life, the first disciples of Jesus joyfully embraced as their primary mission to share the Good News of the life and teaching, the Death and Resurrection of Jesus, with “all the nations.”

What about you? What is the name by which God has called you? Where do you feel God's pleasure? How have you been gifted, and how are you sharing your gift with the world? Where do your deepest desires and the needs and hungers of your world meet? Pay attention: for this is where you discover your mission in life, your personal vocation, God's name for you.

ARCHBISHOP OSCAR ROMERO FILM

To commemorate the 35th anniversary of the assassination of Archbishop Romero of El Salvador, the Faith & Justice committee invites you to view the film ROMERO. Bishop Romero was a good friend of the sisters who work with our twin parish in Zamoran. **Bishop Romero is going to be beatified this year.** Come find out how committed he was to living out the word of Christ. **The film will be presented on Thursday, March 12, starting at 7:00 p.m. in St. Monica's parish rectory basement.**

CANCELLATION OF ST. MONICA'S 2015 PARISH LENTEN MISSION

Due to health reasons, Fr. Mike Shaw is unable to preach St. Monica's 2015 Lenten Mission on Reconciliation as previously scheduled. However, you may wish to attend one of the following Lenten Retreats offered in the Diocese:

“How Can I Share My Faith with Others?”

With Michael Dopp will be offered twice; on **March 26 from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.** at the Catholic Centre, 1857 de Maisonneuve W., and on **March 27 from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m.** at St. John Brebeuf Parish, 7777 George St. in Lasalle. Please register for either session with Cynthia Paginado at cpaginado@diocesemontreal.org or 514-931-7311x 229 before March 20.

Our Lenten Journey to Easter Has Begun!

Why not plan to include the diocesan-wide Lenten Mission about *The Catholic Faith and You!* led by Bishop Thomas Dowd? It takes place **March 17, 18, 19** at Transfiguration of Our Lord Parish (11775 Filion, H4J 1T4). All evenings begin at 7 p.m. Come for one, two or, better yet, all three evenings and bring a friend. For the event poster please visit <http://www.diocesemontreal.org/en/community/activities-calendar/lenten-activities.html>. For more info: Corey Jolly 514-931-7311 ext.251 or cjolly@diocesemontreal.org

MASS INTENTIONS FOR FEB. 28 TO MARCH 8, 2015

Saturday, February 28: Our Lady's Mass

4:00 Antonio Bei By Gabriella Bei & Family
Giovanni & Donata Ricciardi By Maria Carmela Ricciardi

Sunday, March 1: Second Sunday of Lent

8:30 In Loving Memory: Nunzia Petosa, Alba & Luigi Paliotti,
Emma & Colombo Salvati
11:00 Rosolino Sparapani By Maria Sparapani
Elmer Cere By the Nolin Family

Monday, March 2: Lenten Weekday Mass

8:00 Ignazio Ciampini By Ernesta Ciampini
Cruciano Nardinocchi By his mother Edda

Tuesday, March 3: Lenten Weekday Mass

8:00 Peitro Di Meglio By the Di Meglio Family
Giovanni & Norina Onesi By the Zilli Family

Wednesday, March 4: Lenten Weekday Mass

8:00 Theresa, Julian & Kevin Rooney By Gary Rooney

Thursday, March 5: Lenten Weekday Mass

8:00 Luigi, Antonio & Sanda Onesi By Settimia Onesi

Friday, March 6: Lenten Weekday Mass

8:00 Vincenzo, Angela, Luigi and By Alda Di Lalla
Joseph Di Lalla

Saturday, March 7: St. Perpetua and St. Felicity

4:00 Antonio & Domenica Poliziani By Sister
Amilcare & Pino Mattei By Valentina & Nicolino

Sunday, March 8: Third Sunday of Lent

8:30 Lucia & Leonardo Ciampini By the Family
Special Intention for a Parishioner By Family
11:00 In Loving Memory: Dominico Abbatiello, Joseph Onesi, Alexander &
Mason Family, Luigi & Rosa Mammone, Deceased members of the
Charles J. McDonald Family

Your Generosity...

Thank you for your on-going support of our parish...Collection for the weekend of February 21-22, 2015 totalled \$2,944.855.

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

Sowing Seeds Of Justice For Women And Girls In Nigeria

Doubly poor are those women who endure situations of exclusion, mistreatment, and violence, since they are frequently less able to defend their rights. Even so, we constantly witness among them impressive examples of daily heroism in defending and protecting their vulnerable families. – The Joy of the Gospel.

Supporting women and girls is a priority for DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE. When 276 girls were kidnapped by Boko Haram from Chibok in Nigeria, our local Nigerian partner began working for their freedom, and has managed to smuggle three girls to safety. The three girls, who were 17, 18, and 19 years old, still seemed to be under the effect of the swirl of emotions generated by the trials they experienced since their abduction. DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE program officer for Nigeria reported, "Their voices and lost eyes betrayed deep pain... glimmers of humanity shone through only when they courageously recounted the details of their escape."

SPECIAL COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND FOR MAINTENANCE

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

MOVE FORWARD!

Next Saturday night, March 7, remember to move clocks forward one hour before retiring for the night!

2015 Lenten Prayer and Reflection Booklets

The 2015 Lenten Prayer and Reflection Booklets are still available for you to purchase at the main entrance of the church. The booklets are now at the reduced price of \$1.00 each. Please put your payment in the Missalette and Newspaper Payment Box.

URGENT!

Synod on the Family

Pope Francis

invites us all

Families

Small Groups

Individuals

Parishes

Associations, etc.

to participate

in this year's

Synod on the Family.

Please read the large posters on the bulletin boards for information and pick up a copy at the back of the church on how to participate.

Deadline is

March 5 to submit your responses. Also, go to our website for the complete questionnaire.