

# THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Are You Called?

Fr. Ranjan D'Sa OCD

We often hear many stories of people who are led to do something different than they usually do and we learn this totally changed their life and perspectives. We call such changes in our spiritual life a 'call' or 'vocation' (comes from the Latin verb *vocare* meaning 'to call'). In scripture, we hear many such stories of 'call', both in the Old and New Testaments. These Biblical stories of 'call' can be, for an individual or for a whole community.

In spirituality, a 'call' is mainly for conversion and for a new mission. Every conversion story is unique according to one's personality and mode of conversion. At a young age, Thomas Merton was convicted of his sins when he was on a European tour. Nabeel Qureshi found Christ in the compassionate people he wanted to convert to Islam (Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus. 2016). At the age of 31, Dr. Albert Schweitzer left his comfortable life of music and philosophy and enrolled himself in medical school, so that he might work as a physician to bring healing to the African people.

'A call' for conversion and for mission is very common even today. We may have experienced some sorts of conversion moments in our lives. Sometimes, we ignore those feelings, and other times, we fail to recognize them as 'a call'. Only when we recognize them as something coming from God, like grace, will we be able see a Divine plan for us and for our future. Every 'call' of God

affects us from now, into our future.

In the First Reading, God 'calls' Jonah for a special mission – his job is to go and warn the people of Nineveh that **if** they do not change from their sinful ways, they will be destroyed. Nineveh was the capital of Assyria, the enemy of the Jews. The Assyrians destroyed the Jews' temple and persecuted the people. The Jews were looking forward to seeing the punishment inflicted by God for their misdeeds. Instead, God 'calls' a Jewish prophet to bring the message of conversion to them. Jonah is a symbol of Jewish mentality at that time. Instead of becoming a messenger, he runs away in the opposite direction. But, God finally fulfills His work of conversion through the prophet Jonah.

When God 'calls' us for a specific mission, we are just an instrument in His hands. His 'call' entirely consumes our life. It looks like God compels us to accepts His mission, but it is our deeper self that realizes that in accepting God's mission, we truly actualize our potential.

In today's Scripture, we see Jesus 'call' simple, insignificant fishermen to become His apostles. They had no idea what their lives would become. We know now that their lives were entirely changed by that simple 'call' from the Lord. That day they left their nets, their profession, and their daily bread on the shore of the sea of Galilee and followed the Master.

Have you heard Him 'calling' you? "Today when you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts..." (Heb 3:15).

#### **PARISH LITURGIES**

## -THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME-

Tuesday, January 23 - St. Marianne Cope

8:30 am

+ Sharon McCormick

Wednesday, January 24 - St. Francis de Sales

8:30 am

+ Merck Zyla

Thursday, January 25 - The Conversion of St. Paul

8:30 am

+ Guido Bardaro

Friday, January 26 - Sts. Timothy and Titus

8:30 am

+ Wladyslow Cybulski

# -FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME-

Saturday, January 27 - St. Angela Merici

4:00 - 4:30 pm

Reconciliation

5:00 pm

For:

+ Edith Bonett, + Rita Merrick, + Stefan Stoica, + Sundeep Khosla, + Barry Baans, + Silvino Guiliono, + Kisoo Kim, + Tom Myung, + Maria Im, + Monica Byun, + Joseph Kim, + Anna Kim, Int. Helen Dennis, Int. Michele Maduri, Int. Chikaima Jessica Ezeokama

#### Sunday, January 28

9:00 am For our 11:00 am Parish

Week of prayer for Christian Unity January 18–25



#### SOCIAL COMMITTEE EVENTS

#### Fiddlestix Dinner/Dance

Our first Social Committee Club event of 2024 will be a live concert by Fiddlestix, a local community 5-piece band, on the evening of Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>. In addition to music/dancing, the price of admission includes a light dinner. There will be a cash bar available. Tickets for this event will be on sale following all Masses the weekend of January 21<sup>th</sup>. The ticket cost will be \$25/person. Tickets are limited so get yours early! Proceeds from this event will be shared with the Bronte Winter Coat Drive.

#### **Annual Pancake Supper**

Our annual pancake supper will take place on Shrove Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024. New, this year will feature a 'Topping Bar' where you can add fresh fruit and various toppings to your pancakes. Also, this year we will be featuring a Chocolate Fountain complete with the fixings for everyone to enjoy. Tickets to the Shrove Tuesday event will be on sale beginning the weekend of February 3<sup>rd</sup>. The cost is \$10/person, children 12 and under \$5.00.

If you would like to get involved in our Parish Social Club, speak to one of our volunteers who will be selling tickets in the Narthex to our upcoming events, or contact the Parish office.

"The kingdom of God has come near: repent and believe the good news!"

#### SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD — Bible Sunday

The Third Sunday of Ordinary Time (January 21, 2024) marks the celebration of Bible Sunday in the Diocese of Hamilton. At the conclusion of the Year of Mercy, Pope Francis encouraged every Christian community to choose one Sunday a year to renew its efforts to make the Sacred Scriptures better-known and widely diffused. Our celebration for Bible Sunday is a call to listen to how #TheBibleSpeaks in our hearts and within our communities of faith. The Pastoral Offices of the Diocese of Hamilton have prepared a wide variety of resources for youth and adults in celebration of Bible Sunday 2024. Visit our website: hamiltondiocese.com/thebiblespeaks



#### **SANCTUARY LAMP**

Our Sanctuary lamp will be lit this week for the Intentions of the Camacho Family



Our parish is viewing Season 2 of the hit series, *The Chosen*. The series allows us to see Christ through the eyes of those who knew him. The Chosen takes the stories of the Gospels and, at the same time, tells us a story that is in between the lines of scripture.

Participants are welcome to join us Fridays in the Parish Hall from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm for a screening of an episode, followed by group discussions and activities led by our Pastoral Minister, Michael Aguiar; materials will be provided. We will be focusing on season 2 of the series, spread throughout 8 sessions on the following dates:

January 26, 2024	February 23, 2024
February 02, 2024	March 01, 2024
February 16, 2024	March 08, 2024

To register, please contact Michael at the parish office or email: <a href="michael@saintdominic.ca">michael@saintdominic.ca</a>

#### **SANCTUARY LAMP**

Parishioners are invited to sponsor the Sanctuary Lamp that hangs above the tabernacle. The candle burns 24 hours a day, seven days a week, as a sign of honour to Our Lord. If you wish to sponsor the Sanctuary Lamp for a special intention during a specific week, please contact the parish office. The cost per donation per week is \$10.

#### **VOCATIONS MASS**

The annual Vocations Mass to pray for vocations to the Priesthood, Religious Life, and Consecrated Life will be celebrated by Bishop Douglas Crosby, O.M.I with Diocesan Vocation Director Father Mark Morley concelebrating on Tuesday, January 30 at 6:30 pm at Saint Gabriel's Parish, 2261 Parkway Drive, Burlington. Bishop Crosby will give a talk following the Mass. All are welcome! Sponsored by the Serra Club of Halton.

#### SEPARATED / DIVORCED SUPPORT GROUP WATERLOO

Life changes are never easy. After a separation or divorce, you may be feeling isolated or in need of support and healing to adjust to your new life? Come together with others to realize there is a 'second act'. Join us on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month – 7:30–8:30 pm—February 20, March 19, April 16, May 21, June 18. Feel free to come early and join our Parish in prayer at 7:00 pm Mass. We will meet in the Parish Centre (basement) at 7:30 pm. To register: Phone: 519-884-9311, or Email: parish@stmichaelw.ca

#### THE DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Are you celebrating your 25<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup> or 60+ Wedding Anniversary in the year 2024? If you are, you are cordially invited to join couples from across the Diocese of Hamilton for a Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday May 26, 2024 at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King in Hamilton at 1:30 pm. Space allows room for Anniversary couples only (those married 60 years or more may bring one guest if you require assistance). Registration is now available online at <a href="https://hamiltondiocese.com">https://hamiltondiocese.com</a>

#### YOUNG ADULTS NIGHT

Fr. Mike Morley invites all young adults (ages 20's and 30's) of our diocese to attend an evening of Adoration, fellowship and praise music in support of your vocations. The Young Adults Night includes a Holy Hour (6:30 pm—7:30 pm), social with food (7:30 pm—8:00 pm), praise night and vocations testimony (8:00 pm-9:00 pm), and Compline (9:00 pm) on Friday, February 2nd at St. Michael Catholic Church (80 University Avenue West, Waterloo, ON). Sponsored by the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Hamilton. For more information, please contact:

vocations@hamiltondiocese.com

HAMILTON DIOCESE PRAYER CALENDAR	
Monday, January 22	Rev. Fernando Ferreira Pinto, C.S.sp.
Tuesday, January 23	Rev. Malcolm Katzenberger
Wednesday, January 24	Carmelites of Mary Immaculate (C.M.I.)
Thursday, January 25	Rev. Edward Hampson
Friday, January 26	Rev. Robert Dunn
Saturday, January 27	Rev. George Stortz

#### **SMART STEPS**

Are you a parent or step-parent adjusting to blended family life? This program is designed to offer practical insights and suggestions on how to make the relationships work well for all. Sessions are held at the Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate in Guelph, 28 Norfolk Street. Time: 9:15 am — 3:30 pm. Price: \$50 per person (includes lunch). Date: Saturday, April 20, 2024. Register on line at <a href="https://hamble.com">hamiltondiocese.com</a> and look under Upcoming Events. For more information, contact the Family Ministry Office at 905-528-7988 ext. 2249.

#### **RESTART: REFRESH, RENEW, REVIVE**

Struggling after divorce or separation? Join us for learning, support and fun on a Friday evening. Held the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays of each month. These get-togethers offer continual support and insights for people as they journey through the divorce/separation process and beyond. Join in person (700 King St. W, Hamilton) or by ZOOM. Register for the sessions here:

https://sites.google.com/view/hamilton-restart/home or contact Sarah at <u>familyministry@hamiltondiocese.com</u> or 905-528-7988 ext. 2249 if you plan to attend in person or for the zoom link if join-

"I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

#### **SAINT DOMINIC PARISH**

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michael@saintdominic.ca

Deacon: Reverend Mr. Terry Murphy

Parish Accountant: Brian Thornton
Secretary: Mary Evans
Sacristan: Judi Kingry
Custodian: Peter Coffey

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday – 9:00 am to 4:00 pm (Closed from noon to 1:00 pm)

Follow us on social media!

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