



SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

SUNDAY 17 JANUARY

REFLECTION By Sr Veronica Lawson rsm

A personal call to a particular way of life is not always easy to explain, even to oneself. At my religious profession, I chose the challenging motto "To give without counting the cost". I have taken that motto seriously, even if I have been tempted to change it to something more manageable. Today's liturgy calls me back to what that commitment entails: I have come to realise that, in a very real sense,

it encapsulates the gospel call to all the baptised.

The first reading describes a prophetic call, the "call" of the young Samuel who is to become a prophet of great stature within Israel. The story insists that it is God who takes the initiative while Samuel hears God's call. Initially Samuel hears the word of God, but needs an interpreter in order to understand the import of God's word to him. Eli acts as interpreter and guide, so that Samuel can respond with confidence and faith and grow up to speak God's word to the people.

The gospel focuses on the "call" to discipleship, a call that addresses to every baptised Christian. The opening scene depicts John the Baptist with two of his disciples. John actually points the two disciples away from himself and towards Jesus whom he identifies as "the lamb of God". What does it mean to call Jesus "God's lamb"? Does the expression refer to the Passover lamb whose blood signifies deliverance? Is it a reference to the Suffering Servant of Isaiah 53 who takes on the sins of the many? Is it an image of the lamb that God provides for Abraham's sacrifice (Genesis 22)? Is it the apocalyptic lamb of Jewish literature of the time, the powerful conquering lamb that destroys evil in the world? Is it intended to suggest vulnerability as in the prophecy of Jeremiah 11:19 ("I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter").

There is never a simple explanation for the symbolism in John's gospel. There can be many levels of meaning at the one time. The symbol of strength in vulnerability certainly has potential for understanding who Jesus is in this gospel. John 1:29 tells us that the Lamb of God "takes away" the sinful condition of the world. Twenty-one centuries down the track there is still violence and hunger and exploitation of planetary resources on a massive scale. The work of the one strong enough to risk vulnerability so that others may have life, the work of God's Lamb, is also the work of disciples. It is the way of those who hear God's call and choose to walk the way of Jesus of Nazareth, in openness and love for God's people. The call to discipleship is a call to pour out one's lifeblood for the sake of the gospel, "to give without counting the cost".

Maybe I should not be too ready to relinquish my motto!

St Patrick's Cathedral Concert

THOMAS HEYWOOD, organ

Friday 5 February 2021 6pm - 7pm

Works by

Bach, Elgar, Verdi, Grieg, Tchaikovsky, Guilmant, Cocker & Mulet



Tickets \$25.00

Bookings: www.trybooking.com/BNSIT

Tickets available at the door

Children under 15 free



St Patrick's Cathedral

1 Cathedral Place, East Melbourne

Corner of Cathedral Place and Gisborne St

Enquiries: music@cam.org.au

THE CATHEDRAL SHOP IS NOW OPEN

The Cathedral Shop is now **OPEN** after the Christmas break. We remain focused on your health and wellbeing and taking extra precautions to ensure your shopping experience is both safe and easy.

Please wear a mask when entering the shop.

Hand sanitisers are available and there are clear signage's to remind customers to stay a safe distance in store.

Trading Hours:

Tuesdays to Fridays : 9:30 am to 4:00 pm

Sundays : 8:30 am to 12:30pm

Mondays and Saturdays : CLOSED

Phone: (03) 9665 2256

Email: cathedralshop@cam.org.au

Website: www.stpatrickscathedralshop.com

MASS TIMES

Monday - Friday 1 pm Mass .

Saturday - 8.00am and 6pm Vigil Mass

Sunday - 8am, 9.30am, 11am and 6.30pm.

Please note that for all Masses you will no longer have to book through Trybooking or by ringing the office. Instead, we ask you to arrive early and use the QR code system provided at the entrance to the Cathedral.

Those without QR code capabilities can give their first name and contact number at the door. Thank you.

TAP AND GO TECHNOLOGY COMES TO THE CATHEDRAL

With assistance with the Catholic Development Fund (CDF)

We have installed Tap and Go terminals in the Cathedral for contactless donations. The terminals are set up with two sets at the back of the Cathedral and another two sets at the side doors of the transept.

There will be 4 terminals at each point with pre-set payment options of, \$5, \$10, \$20 and \$50. Each terminal will have clearly marked what domination it is processing.

Cash donations are still most welcome and can be deposited in the baskets or boxes co-located with the terminals.

Christmas offering envelopes are also available.

Many thanks for your generous support of the Cathedral and its clergy.

Saturday 16 January, 6.00pm Vigil

Sunday 17 January, 9.30am, 11.00am, 6.30pm

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Entrance Hymn: I, the Lord of sea and sky CWBII 518

Mass Setting: Mass of St Francis (Paul Taylor) CWBII 22a, b, c, d, g, h

Psalm 39 Response: Here am I; I come to do your will CWB 352

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!

We have found the Messiah:

Jesus Christ, who brings us truth and grace.

Alleluia!

(Gregory Murray) CWBII 52

Memorial Acclamation: We proclaim your death, O Lord.

Great Amen: Mass of St Francis CWBII 22d, 22g

Communion Hymn: Blessed Jesus, at your word CWBII 457

Recessional Hymn: Jesus calls us here to meet him CWBII 524

Cantors: Judith Dodsworth (Saturday 6.00pm),

James Emerson (Sunday 9.30am, 11.00am, 6.30pm)

Organists: Jerome Walles (Saturday 6.00pm),

Thomas Grubb (Sunday 9.30am, 11.00am, 6.30pm)

Wedding Congratulations

Jarmila Slovik and Marlon Grande

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Thursday 21 January - St Agnes

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

We pray for the sick and for all who have asked for our prayers.

We pray for all who have died recently, especially Neil Mancita and those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

May the God of Mercy fulfil the promise of their baptism by welcoming them into eternal life.

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

Entrance Antiphon:	All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!
First Reading:	Speak, O Lord, your servant is listening. Samuel 3:3-10.19
Responsorial Psalm:	Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will. Ps 39:2.4.7-10
Second Reading:	Your bodies are members of the body of Christ. 1 Corinthians 6:13-15.17-20
Gospel:	They saw where Jesus lived and they stayed with him. John 1:35-42

Are you able to help with Volunteering for Sunday Masses here at the Cathedral?

We are seeking help with anyone who can assist with Ushering our parishioners for seating in the Cathedral on Sunday Masses, 8am, 9.30am, 11.00am and 6.30pm.

We are very lucky to already have a group of volunteers for the Saturday night 6pm Mass.

As you all will be aware the social distancing from DHHS has restricted us in where people can and can't sit.

If you are able to assist, please contact the Office during office hours Monday to Friday 9am till 5pm, 9662 2233.

Email: cathedral@cam.org.au

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

For the month of January, the sacrament of reconciliation will be offered on Wednesdays *after* the 1pm Mass and Saturdays *after* the 8am Mass.

Adhering to COVID safety regulations, this will take place outdoors, socially distanced and face-to-face, near the statue of Archbishop Mannix to the right of the Cathedral's main entrance.