



Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Sunnybank

Calamvale, Kuraby, Macgregor, Parkinson, Robertson, Runcorn, Stretton, Sunnybank, Sunnybank Hills

† Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 121 Mains Road, Sunnybank

Parish Office (adjacent to Church, Sunnybank)

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Priests: *Fr Enoch Iheme* (Parish Priest)

Fr Francisco Evangelista (Associate Pastor)

Monday 15th January

8.15am Morning Prayer
8.30am **Mass**

Tuesday 16th January

8.15am Morning Prayer
8.30am **Mass**
7.00pm Adoration

Wednesday 17th January

St Anthony

8.15am Morning Prayer
8.30am **Mass**
9.00am Rosary

Thursday 18th January

8.45am Morning Prayer
9.00am **Mass**

Friday 19th January

8:15am Morning Prayer
8.30am **Mass**
9.00am Adoration
10.00am Legion of Mary

Saturday 20th January

11.00am Reconciliation
5.00pm Reconciliation
6.00pm **Mass**

Sunday 21st January

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

6.30am **Mass**
8.00am **Mass**
9.15am **Mass**
10.30am **Mass**
6.00pm **Mass (Youth)**



Eli and Samuel by John Singleton Copley, c. 1780. Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - Sunday 14th January 2024

Dear Parishioners,

I would like to talk about **vocation**, as it occupies a central place in this Sunday's liturgy.



A vocation is a call to follow; a call to remain with Jesus Christ. It is a call to which a generous response must be given, as Samuel said in the First Reading: **“Speak, Lord, your servant is listening!”** It is a calling not to belong to oneself but to God and his Spirit.

At the origin of life is the reality of a calling. **It is God who calls us to existence, to faith, to lay life, to consecrated or priestly life, to a happy encounter with Him in eternity.** This call already implies the awareness that we are not absolutely autonomous. **We depend on God who calls us, as God calls Samuel by his name: “Samuel, Samuel!”.** At the origin of existence is the call of God, and the development of life itself will be none other than the development of the divine calls in each situation or moment.

In fidelity to the vocation to which they were called by God, human beings find their happiness and personal fulfilment. If the call comes from God, consequently it is not us who determine the circumstances but God himself who calls. **Many times God calls us to a circumstance we never imagined.**

The place and time is God who determines or chooses: it can be during rest, like Samuel; it may be during some activity, like the first disciples of Jesus in the Gospel of John; it could be during a spiritual meeting or retreat; inside the church or outside it, and so on.

The first step of the call is the search that God himself sows in each person's heart. The search is the consequence of the restlessness that arises spontaneously in man as a prior step to the vocation. **Thus, God's call appears, to human eyes, as a culmination of their restlessness and their search.**

To the two disciples of John the Baptist who go after Jesus Christ, he asks them: “What are you looking for?” **They would not seek if God did not put in them the desire to seek. But the search itself is personal; is already a first answer.** Generally, **God does not call directly but through human mediation:** Eli, in the First Reading, was the mediator between God and Samuel; Jesus was between God and the first disciples. For the Christian, the Church is also the place of “mediation”. It is in her and through her that God continues to call us.

The itinerary of calling always culminates in Christ. Once found, it will be necessary to lead everyone to Him. This is what Andrew does with his brother Peter. **And this encounter transforms people,** not only the religious experience, but also because the Lord himself takes the initiative to confer a new personality on the disciples.

Let us continue to pray for vocations, especially priestly and religious vocations. As good disciples, let us make our families a storehouse of true vocations.

God Bless,

Fr Francisco Evangelista

Next Sunday: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Mark 1:14-20



**PARISH STAFF
& CONTACTS**

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Your Prayers Are Asked For:

recently deceased: **Kerry Manings, Patricia Beck, Salvacion Escador, Hugyik Laszlo, Ester Martinez, Marcella Wockner, Patrick Scriha, Enid Ellis, Ugochukwu Osuagwu, Monica Wong**

those with anniversaries & others who have died: **Ana Klaser, Bosko Malinovic, Eliseo F. Primacio, Benito & Rosario Alarcon, Ricardo Salonga, Jessica Smith, Michael Ogle**

those who are unwell: **Santa Escosura, Carla Taraborreli, Michael Jung, Mario Minero, Joshua Hyland, Kate Rodriguez, Christopher Riley, Barbara O'Neill, Michael Jung, Jefferson Botero**



Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

First Reading: 1 Samuel 3:3-10, 19 Our first reading this Sunday tells the famous story of the call of Samuel. Following the advice of his mentor Eli, Samuel responds immediately and whole-heartedly when the Lord calls.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20 This reading, from the teaching section of this Letter to the Corinthians, reminds the Christian community of Corinth that their life in Christ changes even their very bodies. Their bodies belong to the Body of Christ and are meant for the glory of God.

Gospel: John 1:35-42 In our Gospel Reading this Sunday, John the Baptist points Jesus out to two of his own disciples. In response to their seemingly innocent question, 'Where do you live?', Jesus invites them to 'Come and see.' It is more than just a question about real estate – it is an invitation to come to know Jesus, to abide in him.

Doran, Anthony. "Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - 14 January 2024." Pastoral Liturgy 54, no. 1 (2023): 1-6.

**A VOCATION VIEW:
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

A good Vocation prayer to say every day, from when we are ten years old till we are ninety years old, is found in today's first Scripture Reading:

*'Speak, Lord,
for your servant is listening.'*

Just try it with sincerity starting today.

Is God calling you to vocation? To find out more call 1300 133 544 or go to www.vocationbrisbane.com



CHRISTIAN MEDITATION RESUMES

The essence of meditation is taking the attention off ourselves for a moment, and simply being in the presence of God, who is Love.

Christian Meditation group meets at 7:50am Thursday mornings in the Media Room for about three quarters of an hour.

**Meetings resume
Thursday 18 January**

**ADORATION OF THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT...**

...is held on Tuesday evenings at 7pm in the church. Everyone is welcome to spend a few minutes or the whole Holy Hour in the presence of the Lord.



LEGION OF MARY



You are invited to join the Legion of Mary on Fridays at 10am in the Media Room.

Let's serve God through Mary!

If you would like to start receiving the parish newsletter via email, please contact the parish office at sec.sunnybank@bne.catholic.net.au

Archdiocese of Brisbane Safeguarding Commitment

The Archdiocese has **zero tolerance** for all forms of abuse and is committed to safeguarding everyone involved in its activities, ministries and services.

The safety and wellbeing of children and adults-at-risk is paramount.

