

# Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Discerning God's Call

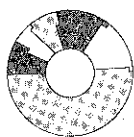
**Focus:** To become one with the Lord who calls.

### Catechist's Context

The Apostles were seeking, and Jesus' invitation to "Come and see!" changed their lives forever. Explain to the children that they can start to listen in their hearts for God's call, to hear what he wants them to do with their lives.

### Focus on Church Teaching

All people are called into relationship with God (CCC, 1). Jesus invites each person to follow him (CCC, 1694) and to hand on the Gospel (CCC, 542-43). Each one of us is called to holiness. We receive this call at our Baptism (CCC, 825). Through Baptism, we are also called into unity with one another (CCC, 836). The evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity, and obedience guide each baptized person in their response to God (CCC, 914-16).



### Liturgical Calendar Connection

Help the children find today's date on the liturgical calendar. We are now in the season of Ordinary Time. Ordinary Time is the longest season of the liturgical year, but it is divided into two parts. Show children the other part on the liturgical calendar. Discuss the purpose of Ordinary Time with them and ask them how we can relate the season of Ordinary Time to our daily lives as followers of Christ. Use the

"Introduction to Ordinary Time" on page 121 to lead the discussion about this season.

### Sign of the Cross

All stand and make the Sign of the Cross.

**In the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.**

### Gospel Acclamation

John 1:41, 17b

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

We have found the Messiah:

Jesus Christ, who brings us truth and grace.

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

### Gospel

John 1:35-42

Refer to page xi for citations to the standard Lectionary.

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.**

On one occasion John was with two of his followers. When he saw Jesus walking by, he said, "Here is the Lamb of God!" John's two followers heard him, and they went with Jesus.

When Jesus turned and saw them, he asked, "What do you want?"

They answered, "Rabbi, where do you live?" The Hebrew word "Rabbi" means "Teacher."

Jesus replied, "Come and see!"

It was already about four o'clock in the afternoon when they went with him and saw where he lived. So they stayed on for the rest of the day.

One of the two men who had heard John and had gone with Jesus was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother and tell him, "We have found the Messiah!" The Hebrew word "Messiah" means the same as the Greek word "Christ." Andrew brought his brother to Jesus. And when Jesus saw him, he said, "Simon son of John, you will be called Cephas." This name can be translated as "Peter."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## Gospel Reflection

### Will You Follow Jesus?

☉ Did you ever have something happen that was so great you couldn't wait to share it with your friends or family?

☉ Did you meet someone you really liked and wanted everyone to know he or she was your friend?

That's what happened in the Gospel today. The people have been thinking that John the Baptist was the one they were waiting for: the Messiah. One day, when John was talking with two of his followers he saw Jesus and he told his friends that *Jesus* was the one they were waiting for. Immediately they started to follow Jesus. They asked questions that you might ask about a new friend: What is your name? Where do you live? Jesus answered them and said, "Come and see." And they did. They followed Jesus from that time on. Andrew wanted to share this event with

his brother, Simon. He exclaimed, "We've found the Messiah!" Imagine the excitement in Andrew's voice when he told Peter. They finally found the person who would change things. He started by changing Simon's name to Peter. Sometimes, when people change their names it is because they are starting a whole new part of their life.

☉ What new life do you think Andrew and Peter were beginning? [They were beginning a life of following Jesus, learning from him, and inviting other people to follow him.]

What happened to John and Andrew and Peter happens to us too. Your parents are excited about being friends of Jesus and they want you to follow him too. They brought you to the church to be baptized. At your Baptism (also called a christening), you received your Christian names, like Simon received a new name. The priest asked your parents and godparents if they were willing to help you become good followers of Jesus. Being a Christian, a follower of Jesus Christ, is sometimes hard. As new followers, you need good people to help and guide you until you can do it on your own. Now you are meeting new people who help you become better followers of Jesus.

☉ Who are they? [teachers, catechists, friends at church, etc.]

These first followers of Jesus wanted to tell everyone about him and for everyone to meet him. But most important, they wanted them to follow Jesus. We should feel the same.

## Followers of Jesus Are All Connected

You will need a large, colorful ball of yarn to lead this activity.

Followers of Jesus have a lot in common. They may live in many different places and do different things, but they all love Jesus and try to live as he taught us.

Have the children sit in a circle on the floor. As you hold the ball of yarn, say what makes you a follower of Jesus (for example, "I follow Jesus when I share with someone"). Hold one end of the yarn and roll the ball to another person across the circle. That person holds the ball and says what makes him or her a follower of Jesus. Then, the child holds the yarn (not letting it go) and rolls the ball to a new person. Continue until everyone has had a chance to tell how they follow Jesus. At the end of the game all children should be holding on to a piece of yarn and a web will have formed in the center of the circle. Explain that everyone who loves Jesus and follows him is connected. It is why we are all one Christian family, brothers and sisters in Christ.

## Invite a Guest

This week, invite a priest, deacon, sister, or brother to visit your group and talk about his or her calling and how he or she heard and answered God's call to service. Ask your visitor to mention some of the people who helped him or her to know Jesus, and invite them to talk about some of the things he or she does for God.

## Called by Name

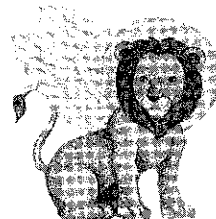
You will need index cards or slips of paper, a pen, a small box or small basket, and a musical recording to lead this activity.

Explain that we learn a lot about our calling from God by listening to one another. When someone tells us that we've done something well, it helps us know our talents and gifts. Talents are given to us by God to use for the good of us all. By lovingly giving each other this information, we help each other figure out how to serve God best.

On index cards or slips of paper, print each child's name. Put them all in a box or basket. Have all the children sit in a circle on the floor. Play the music softly and pass the container as long as it's playing. When the music stops, whoever is holding the container will choose a name from the container and pass it to you to read aloud (or they may read it aloud if they can). (If the child chooses his or her name, they should choose another.) When a name is chosen, invite the children to talk about what that person is good at or does well. Keep the feedback positive. Continue until everyone has been affirmed by the group. Then end the activity by praying together that God will help each of you to serve him with your gifts.

# Living the Liturgy at Home

## Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



### Scripture Readings

1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19

Psalms 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10  
(8a, 9a)

1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a,  
17-20

John 1:35-42

### Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you said to the Apostles,  
"Come, follow me."  
You say the same words to us,  
today and every day.  
Help us to follow you faithfully:  
to walk in the way  
of your commandments,  
to help those who are struggling,  
and to love all people  
as you love them.  
May we rejoice in your presence  
with us  
as we work to build up  
the Kingdom of God,  
where you live and reign  
with the Father  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

### ?? Did You Know?

... that a simple fisherman named Simon went on to become Peter, one of the Apostles of Jesus Christ? Peter set down his fishing nets and became "the rock" on whom Jesus built his Church. Peter led the Christian community after Jesus' Ascension into heaven, making him the first pope of the Church.

### Conversation Questions

- ☉ When Andrew and John met Jesus, they immediately wanted to follow him. Do we open our ears to hear, to listen deeply so we can give a positive response to God?
- ☉ Are our hearts and eyes wide open to recognize the presence of the Lord and hear him tell us, "Come and see"?

### Faith in Action

This week, discuss the strengths and gifts you've seen in your family. Look for the big and small ways to use these talents to give glory to God. Discern together what God might be calling each of you, including your child, to do to serve others.