

**Vocation Bulletin Blurbs**  
**January & February, 2011**

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

The prophet Samuel was having difficulty hearing the voice of God calling him, and required the aid of another person to determine that the Lord was speaking to him. In the same way, those who are being formed for ministry or religious life need the aid of a spiritual director to discern if he or she is called to this lifestyle. If you think that God may be calling you, please contact Father O'Connor at 315-470-1468, and ask him to point you to a spiritual director.

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Apostles took a serious risk by leaving their jobs which provided for their daily sustenance. When a person is discerning ministry or religious life, it can be an anxious process that often feels like there will be no turning back. On the contrary, entering a novitiate or Seminary is part of the discernment process, which all are free to leave at any time. If you are having such doubts right now, please speak with a priest or sister, and ask him or her about his or her experience prior to entering formation, and know that you are not the only person who has gone through this.

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

What a powerful picture that is depicted in today's Gospel passage. As described in the first reading from the book of Deuteronomy, God has risen up a great prophet whom all shall adhere. When Jesus walked the earth, He proclaimed a message so great and powerful that many left their lifestyles to follow Him. Once one feels this call tugging upon his or her heart, it is very hard to resist. If you think that God is calling you, please contact Father O'Connor at 315-470-1468.

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Let us go to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come." In this statement, Jesus sums up His mission, to preach the good news of the kingdom of God. This message is so great, that many men and women have continued this mission using their skills in varied ways. If you think you might be called to continue this mission, you may want to investigate different religious orders and learn about their particular charisms to spread the Gospel. To learn more about what is a religious order, and which ones there are, contact the Vocation Office at 315-470-1468.

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

The leper who was cleansed was so grateful that he had to tell everyone around him about Jesus. This message was so great, that Jesus could no longer openly enter inhabited places. What an awesome thing for someone to experience crowds so big, and yet, in most of our lifetimes, we have experienced one man who imitated Christ in this, and this man is Blessed Pope John Paul II, who is an example that Jesus' mission is still among us. If you have felt inspired by our late pontiff, and feel that God is calling you, please give Father O'Connor a call at 315-470-1468.

### 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

The crowds in today's Gospel were astonished by the power in Jesus' statement, that he has the authority to forgive sins. What a blessing that we have among us today priests who have been invested with this awesome ability. For anyone who has experienced the sacrament of reconciliation, they can relate what a liberating experience that brings closure to them. If you feel that God may be calling you to this sacred task, please contact the Vocation Office at 315-470-1468.