

JANUARY 18, 2009



## Answering the Call

### First Reading Reflection: 1 Samuel 3:3b-10

Samuel was a young boy who grew up in the Temple with his teacher, Eli. God loved Samuel very much. In this story, God calls to Samuel in his sleep. Because Samuel is not used to hearing God's voice, he runs to Eli, thinking his teacher has called him. When this happens a third time, Eli tells Samuel to answer God by saying, "Speak, for your servant is listening." For the rest of his life Samuel listened to God. He became a great prophet among his people. God speaks to us in many ways, especially in the sacraments and through God's word in the Bible. Sometimes God speaks to us in the beauty of nature. Often he speaks to us in the events of our lives. Most of all, God comes to us in the love and in the needs of other people.

### Gospel Reflection: John 1:35-42

The reading tells us about the call of the first disciples. Followers of John the Baptist responded to the gentle invitation of Jesus; they came and stayed the whole day with him. Then these disciples called their friends to join them. One of them was Simon. Jesus told him that he would be called Peter, or Cephas, a Greek word for 'rock.' One day the Church would be built on the rocklike faith of Peter.

Are we listening for God's call? He calls us each by name. How will we answer?

Gospel Reflections courtesy of Sadlier.com

### ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION

- ◆ Saturday Faith Formation meets January 24th & 31st
- ◆ Sunday Faith Formation meets January 25th & February 1st (Note: no 4:30pm Faith Formation on February 1 due to Superbowl.)
- ◆ Monday Faith Formation meets February 2nd & 23rd
- ◆ No Faith Formation on Monday January 26th due to Reconciliation service.
- ◆ Saturday, January 24, 9:00 – 11:00am First Reconciliation Rehearsal - only for those currently registered for the Sacrament of Reconciliation
- ◆ Monday, 6:30pm in the church - Children's Penance Liturgy. Reception follows in the hall to celebrate those receiving their First Reconciliation.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL FAITH FORMATION

- ◆ Sunday 5/6 meets January 25th & March 15th
  - ◆ Sunday 7/8 meets February 8th & March 5th
  - ◆ Thursday 5/6 meets January 29th & February 12th
  - ◆ Thursday 7/8 meets January 22nd & February 5th
  - ◆ Middle School Movie Night: February 13:6:00pm—8:30pm March 13:6:00pm—8:30pm
- February 2: 7:00pm**  
**Frank Runyeon presents**  
**"The Sermon on the Mount"**  
**in the Church**
- ◆ February 25th - Ash Wednesday

**ST. GREGORY THE  
GREAT CATHOLIC  
CHURCH**

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*Partnering with Parents  
in forming the  
Faith of our Children.*

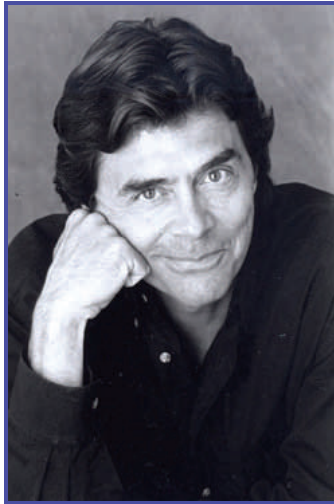
We'll soon be on  
the web!  
Watch for  
announcements!

Did you know that  
we are already  
planning

**Vacation Bible  
School 2009?**

Save the dates:

**VBS**  
August 10—14  
**Carnival**  
Saturday, Aug 15



**SGG Catechetical Ministry Presents:**

***Sermon on the Mount***

followed by

***Hollywood vs. Faith***

**An ecumenical one-man play  
as performed by TV star**

**FRANK RUNYEON**

Runyeon presents the famous Sermon in a revealing new setting as told by Matthew, to the church in Antioch, shortly after the Roman army has burned Jerusalem to the ground. As Runyeon moves around the church, retelling the Sermon, there is surprising humor and very powerful drama.

**Monday, February 2, 2009**

**7pm in the Church**

**Suggested Free Will Offering: Adults \$10 Students \$5**

**Proceeds benefiting SGG Parish Building Fund**

**WE LIFT THEM UP TO THE LORD**

For Father Nick Clavin, Deacon Ron Diem, Deacon Ferris Bell, Father Ed Gallagher and Father John Gubbins, that the Lord lift them and make their daily loads light;

For Ray Bozek, Taylor Vonderhaar, and the Devine family, that the Lord console them and give them strength through this difficult time.

For the catechists and children of Faith Formation as they start a new year, that their hearts open up to the wonder of God.

For all these intentions and those in our hearts, we pray to the Lord.

To submit a prayer intention for our Faith Formation family, please e-mail Cheryl@stgg.org