



January 14, 2024  
20 + C + M + B + 24

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

# Building Faith@HOME

[1st Reading: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19](#)  
[Responsorial Psalm: Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10](#)  
[Second Reading: 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20](#)  
[Gospel: Jn 1:35-42](#)

January Devotion: Holy Name of Jesus

This week we enter Ordinary Time. The readings ask us to listen for God's call, which may come to us in different ways. It is our response to abide in that calling that changes our lives. We first hear from the book of Samuel, in which Samuel is called by God several times, but does not recognize God's calling until Eli helps him and guides him to respond. Once Samuel places his trust and love in God, Samuel grows up and lives his whole life with his ears attuned to God: "Samuel grew up and the Lord was with him, not permitting any word of his to be without effect."

The Gospel reading provides us with another story of discipleship. Unlike the other three Gospels, John does not depict Jesus calling the first disciples while walking on the shore of the Sea of Galilee. Instead, it is John the Baptist who points two of the disciples toward Jesus, "Behold, the Lamb of God." As with the other Gospels, the disciples follow him. Jesus has not called the disciples, but rather asks them "What are you looking for?" and then invites them to an encounter with him. Throughout John's Gospel the call to discipleship comes through the witness of others. John the Baptist brings Andrew and another to Jesus. Andrew brings his brother, Simon Peter, to Jesus. Later, Philip brings Nathanael to Jesus. And further into the Gospel of John, the Samaritan woman brings her townspeople to Jesus.

**Missionary Discipleship:** Reflecting on our own experience, it is good to consider the person or persons who have been most instrumental in bringing us to Jesus. Now it is time to consider our own role that Jesus call us to in the Great Commissioning - to bring others to Jesus. Who have we brought or are bringing to Jesus. Have you invited others to "come and see" who Jesus is?

## Family Table Talk

**Children:** What can you do this week to show that you are a follower of Jesus?

**Youth:** Andrew seemed to know immediately that he should follow Jesus. Do you have that same sense of confidence in your faith in Jesus? What helps? What makes it hard?

**Adults:** What are some of the times you've heard God's call in your life? Where have you struggled to hear God's voice?



Have you ever noticed this monogram in your parish? IHS is more appropriately called a "Christogram," and is an ancient way of writing the word "Jesus Christ." using the Greek alphabet, and later in Latin. In ancient times, names were abbreviated with the first two or three letters.

Look for the Christogram in these possible places: Crucifix, stained glass windows, tabernacle, altar, etc.

**More ways for Family Table Talk....**

How can we pray for you today?

What was something beautiful you saw outside today?

What made you smile today?

This week's Virtue **listening**

## A New Year to Practice Virtues and Habits!

The Catechism defines virtue as "a habitual and firm disposition to do the good." [2]. This section reminds us all to tend to the habits that lead to the virtuous life to which we are called. The whole family can move through this **new year** to strengthen habits and virtues! Take time to practice the virtue of listening!

## Links for More Ideas, Activities & Resources FYI

[Youtube.com](#): *God Speaks- Are you ready to Listen*, by Bishop Barron (Adult Faith Builder)

[Catholicmom.com](#) - *Teaching virtues? Where do we start?*

[Catholicculture.org](#) - *Liturgical Year: Activities: Forming Good Habits* (Family Faith Builder)

[Archbalt.org](#) - *Seven habits of a highly effective Catholic family* (Family Faith Builder)

[youtube.com](#) - *7 ways to Hear God's voice* (Teens & Adult Faith Builder)



This resource is meant to be used in a digital format with hyperlinks,

Digital Format can found at:

[syracusediocese.org/partnering-with-families](https://syracusediocese.org/partnering-with-families)





January 14, 2024

Prayer Time This Week!

# Prayer@HOME

Cut & Pray!

Make your own PRAY ROCK and use this poem to keep with your prayer rock near your bedside.

## Prayer Rocks!

I am a special PRAYER ROCK.

This is what I do.

You put me on your pillow,  
Until the day is through.

Turn back the covers.

Climb into the bed. WHOMP!

Your special Prayer Rock  
Will bump your head!

Then you will remember,  
Get and say your prayers.  
Just drop me on the floor,  
Till morning I'll be there.

You'll get up the next morning.  
CLUNK! I'll bump your toe.  
So you will recall, my friend,  
Your morning prayers, you know.

Back upon your pillow I go,  
When your bed is made,  
Your clever little Prayer Rock  
Will continue as your aid.

If we forget our prayers,  
Our days are not the same.  
We need our Heavenly Father's help  
To reach our highest aim.



## Scripture Verse of the Week From Sunday's Mass January 14, 2024



"Speak Lord, your servant is listening."

1 Samuel 3:10

### Try this!

Prayer is not always about talking to God, but also to listen to God. This week, during your prayer time, spend a few moments in silence. Use Samuel's words to begin your silent prayer time. For beginners, start with one minute and gradually go longer. Use or set a timer!



## Building Prayer Time @ Home

This will be a series of family activities to try as your families start or strengthen prayer time.

## Pope Francis asks that 2024 be a Year of Prayer!

*Prayer is a spiritual discipline that gets easier the more we do it. Teaching your children while they are young to pray at all times (1 Thessalonians 5:17, Ephesians 6:18) is a step toward ensuring they'll continue the practice throughout their life. Whether our prayers consist of praise, petition, admission or intercession, the quality time we spend with God helps us understand Him more and allows Him to work in our lives — and in the lives of others — with love.*



## Prayer Rocks!

Have family members paint a rocks that will remind them to pray. Be as creative as you want on the rock. All you need is a rock, somewhat smooth, and markers or paint. After the rocks are dry, use the prayer card above to cut out and place with your rock. Keep the prayer rock at the bedside. Encourage children to pray giving thanks, ask for forgiveness, intentions for others, praise God. And don't forget to **listen** as well in prayer time, taking a few moments of silence to hear God in your heart.