

# Sunday and Feast Day Liturgical Notes for Priests and Deacons

## Suggestions for Leading Worship



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**RE:** Liturgical Suggestions for the Second Sunday of Ordinary Time, Cycle B

**Sunday or Feast Day date:** January 17-18, 2009

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Dear Fathers and Deacons,

### An Overview...

There is an extraordinary convergence of the Scriptures this weekend and the second weekend of the *Called By Name* vocations program. The Gospel text from John describes the calling of the first disciples, John the Baptist's vocation, and the affirmation of Jesus as the Messiah. Yet, while there are many rich images to explore from the Gospel, the call to discipleship is clearly linked with the Hebrew text from First Samuel. Samuel heard the word of the Lord and responded to the Lord's will for him by becoming a follower and preacher. Samuel was asked to do no extraordinary thing except to hear and preach the word of the Lord. Throughout our diocese these past two weekends, we have been attempting to identify those among us who may display similar gifts through God's calling. Samuel's words, "*Here I am, you called me...*" will hopefully be echoed in the hearts of many of our parishioners.

### Faith Sharing Questions...

1. What would be your response to this question: Do you think you have a vocation?
2. In what ways have I taken on the role of John the Baptist in pointing Christ out to others?

### **Some Other Considerations As You Prepare...**

1. The Rite of Blessing and Sprinkling with Holy Water is recommended as the issue of baptismal life is certainly a Scriptural theme. Or, if a penitential rite is chosen, these samples might be helpful: “Lord Jesus, you are the Messiah and Lord of all; Christ Jesus, you are the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world; Lord Jesus, you intercede for us at the right hand of the Father”
2. The alternative form of the Opening Prayer is the more appropriate as it picks up the image of following the Father’s call.
3. Preface of Sundays of Ordinary Time I is recommended.
4. The Solemn Blessing of Ordinary Time V is recommended.

### **Looking Ahead...**

1. Monday, January 19, is Martin Luther King Day. At this weekday’s Mass consider using the alternative Opening Prayer for the 20th Sunday of Ordinary Time.
2. Many parishes are conducting Financial Stewardship during January.
3. Catholic Schools Week will be held the week of January 26-31.

## **SAMPLE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL FOR THE 2ND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

*Priest:* To the Lord, God, we offer our prayers with confidence:

*Deacon* (or other reader if there is no deacon):

1. For the work of God's Church in the world to preach the good news and give hope to those whose lives are heavily burdened, we pray to the Lord...
2. For God's call to the vocation of priesthood, or religious life might be heard in the hearts and minds of many in our parish and diocese, we pray to the Lord...
3. For our newly elected President, Barack Obama; may he be given God's help in leading our country in service for the common good of all people, we pray to the Lord...
4. For our parish community; may we grow in holiness and generosity of service, we pray to the Lord...
5. For a greater appreciation of the "stewardship way of life" and its fruitfulness in our parish, we pray to the Lord...
6. For those who suffer diseases of the mind, body or spirit, we pray to the Lord...
7. For all who have died in the peace of Christ; and for the dead whose faith is known only to God, we pray to the Lord...
8. In peace and in silence, we offer our needs to the Father...

*[pause; the presider alone concludes]*

*Priest:* Lord of all, you are faithful.  
Listen to our prayers and grant them  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.