

2ND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

The Lamb of God (John 1:29-34)

In praying with this passage, I was surprised to find that what spoke to me most was not John's description of Jesus as the Lamb of God who had come to take on to himself the sins of the world.

What spoke to me most was John's description of his own mission. John said, "... It was to reveal him (Jesus) to Israel that I came baptising with water" (John 1:31). John understood that his mission, his vocation in other words, was to reveal Christ to the world. He understood that this was how his own life would reach its fulfilment.

What was true for John then, is true for every baptised person today. As Christians each one of us is called to reveal Christ to the world. Each one of us is called to put our gifts and our talents at the Lord's disposal in order to serve him and make him known.

So, how are we to do this?

First and foremost, we do this by honouring the promises that were made for us at our baptism. Second, we reveal Christ to the world by conforming our lives to his.

Pope Francis has taught that, "Being Christian is not just obeying orders but means being in Christ, thinking like him, acting like him, loving like him; it means letting him take possession of our life and change it, transform it and free it from the darkness of evil and sin." (Papal Audience, April 10, 2013).

The question we must pose ourselves today is this ... Are we becoming more like Christ or are we simply treading water? Are we settling for doing what we like to do, what we are comfortable with, or are we pushing out into the margins of our society? Pushing out into the places where the poor, the homeless, and all of those who are marginalised live. It was for them that Jesus came, and it is to these that we must go.

Rev. Kevin Webb

In the words of St. John Henry Newman,

God has created me to do Him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have my mission. I may never know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next. I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons. He has not created me for naught.

Speaking of Jesus, John the Baptist proclaimed, “He must increase, but I must decrease.” (John 3:30). We must ask ourselves therefore... Is Christ growing within me, or am I hiding his light under a bushel? (Matt 5:15).