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The scriptures this week challenge us to get out of the rut. Like Jesus calling the disciples or God recruiting the unwilling Jonah, sometimes a situation chooses you. Sometimes, God comes chasing after you, demanding to be heard and offering a different path.

Overwhelming or uncomfortable experiences can create openings for God and create space for God to do something new. They wake us up and force us to see with new eyes, to wonder, “Is this *really* the path God has planned for me?” Change can dare us to try something radical- to say “Yes” to God’s outrageous scheme.

So the next time you feel like you’ve been swallowed by the whale, forced into a change, or invited to do something absurd, give yourself a moment to notice if God just might be chasing after *you*.

Rebecca Pelle
Liturgy Coordinator

Dates to Remember:

Wednesday, February 18th: Ash Wednesday, Masses at 8:30 AM and 7 PM

Sunday, March 29th: Palm Sunday

Monday, March 30th, Reconciliation Service, 7 PM

Thursday, April 2nd: Holy Thursday: Mass at 7 PM

Good Friday, April 3rd: Stations of the Cross and Seven Last Words at 12 Noon. The Liturgy of the Lord's Passion 7 PM

Saturday, April 4th: Easter Vigil at 8 PM

Sunday, April 5th: Easter Masses at 8 AM and 10:30 AM

Art and Environment Update:

Please take home poinsettias this weekend and next weekend.

The change from Ordinary Time to Lent will be Monday, February 16th, at 6 p.m.

There will be refreshments at both occasions

Saint Augustine Catholic Church

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In the time of Jesus, in order to follow a particular rabbi or teacher, the individual would seek out the teacher and ask to be his disciple. This week we hear how Jesus, never one for convention, turns this practice on its head when *he* seeks out his first disciples, inviting them to join Him in casting their nets not for fish, but people.

Can you imagine what it would take for you to drop your job, your home, even your family, to pick up and follow a stranger? Even if he *was* God? It frankly surprises me that any of them said yes!

Jonah had, I think, a more typical reaction. God asked Jonah to help him save the people of Ninevah. Jonah didn't want to. The Ninevites were guilty of violence against the weak and oppressed, and so Jonah believed they *deserved* God's wrath. He didn't want to help them escape their punishment. So he ran away from God.

God had other plans. Like a parent running after a disobedient child, God followed Jonah, holding him safe in the belly of a whale until he had time to reconsider his choices. He then used Jonah to also help the Ninevites reconsider as well.

In his bold rhetorical style, Paul similarly tells the Corinthians to reconsider their choices, encouraging them to be detached from their worldly actions and to recognize the transience of their lives, in light of Christ's imminent return.

It is our own attachment to our life's choices and familiarities that creates the illusion that we are stuck on the current path, that there is no room for change, no more space for God to work.

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Mission Statement

We are called by Christ to love Him, to follow Him and to bring Him to the world.

Kindly keep the following parishioners in your prayers as they have been placed in **Hospice care**: Hortense Atkins and Marilyn La Placa.

Please remember in your prayers those who are ill:

Mary Hazen, Harold Swamy, Loraine Moran, Patty Wiesner, Lexi Venema, Mary Flynn, Tom Hayes, Russell Wikander, Alice Atkinson, Rose Knapp, Stephanie Sauder-Andrade, Rose Domaguing, Madeleine Shannon, Matilda Maes, Mary Pavao, Claudia Johnson, Carmon Woodyard.

And those who have died:

Evelyn Vega, George Shaw, Cora Jose, Jeanne Harold Boxley, Kay Irwin, Timothy Michael Solovieff, Toby Burditt, Juanita Morris, Kristina Velarde.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, January 24th, 2015, 5:00 p.m.

Parishioners and Benefactors

Sunday, January 25th, 2015 8 a.m.

Parishioners and Benefactors

Sunday, January 25th, 2015, 10:30 a.m.

Roger Arnhart Jr. (+)

Sunday, January 25th, 2015, 6:00 p.m.

Aida Delgado Arrastia (+)

Stewardship – Weekly Offering

January 18th, 2015: \$4,282 (includes EFT)

St. Vincent de Paul Stewardship \$415.87

We will continue our Bible Study this Sunday, January 25, 2015, after the 10:30 a.m. Mass in the Rectory dining room. All are welcome. Please bring your Holy Bible, a pen and note pad.

In the Powerful Name of Jesus,

Fr. Freddie Thomas

Weekly Worship Schedule

Saturday Vigil

5:00 p.m.

Sunday Eucharist

8:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m.

Weekday Eucharist

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

8:30 a.m.

Communion Service

Wednesday 8:30 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 4 p.m.

Please come and join us every Tuesday morning at St. Augustine's, combining elements of Taizé music, contemplative prayer, and liturgy of the hours. The service will begin at 7:45 a.m. and will last approximately 25 minutes.

No prior experience or training is necessary in order to participate; all that is needed is a desire to meet with a small group to spend time in prayer. If you would like more information, please contact Susan Schaeffer at lilac52@gmail.com or [415-935-1729](tel:415-935-1729)

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

For Adults

What part of your life is Jesus calling you to change right now?

For Children

In what way do you think you can be a better follower of Jesus?

First Sunday Potluck

Join us in the rectory dining room on Sunday night, February 1st, for a potluck dinner following the 6 pm Mass to welcome new folks to the parish. Dishes can be brought to the rectory in the 15 minutes before Mass starts. Bring a friend!

ST AUGUSTINE'S PARENT FAITH SHARING GROUP

All parents are invited to attend this group which creates a space for you to pray together and talk together about parenthood and Christian life. Our next meeting is *Sunday, January 25 from 9:15-10:15 in the school cafeteria*. The topic will be Family Prayer: Ideas to Bring Prayer into Your Home. If you have questions, please contact Jenny Girard Malley at jennysacc@gmail.com

ST. THERESA 10-WEEK IGNATIAN PRAYER ADVENTURE

We invite you to come and experience a taste of the Ignatian Exercises during this 10-week retreat. This retreat, an adapted version of the 32-week retreat, provides an opportunity to deepen your spiritual life, learn new prayer methods and share the graces of the retreat in a small group setting. If you are interested in learning more or participating, please contact Laura Bennett, lwbennett7@msn.com (510) 652-1835

Please join members of the Prayer Tree to pray "**Rosary for Peace**" on the 1st Sundays of the month.

Rosary for Peace begins at 9:15 a.m. on following days in 2015: February 1st, March 1st, April 12th, May 3rd, June 7th, July 5th, August 2nd, September 6th, October 4th, November 1st, and December 6th.