

**FOR THE WEEKEND OF JANUARY 16-17, 2021**

Speak Lord, your servant is listening/Simon is named Peter

**Gospel reading**

John 1:35-42

The next day John was there again with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he said, “Behold, the Lamb of God.”

The two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus. Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?”

He said to them, “Come, and you will see.” So they went and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day. It was about four in the afternoon.

Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, was one of the two who heard John and followed Jesus. He first found his own brother Simon and told him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed).

Then he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon the son of John; you will be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter).

**Homily helper / connection to stewardship / giving / charity / almsgiving**

* Samuel hears the Lord calling him, though it takes 3 times to realize who it is.
  + “Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.”
* Jesus calls us by name and sometimes he changes our name too!
* How is Jesus calling you? What is He calling you to do?
* Are you listening...really listening?

**Intercession**

That we recognize when the Lord is calling us, when He calls us by name, may we answer His call through the upcoming Annual Diocesan Appeal, saying, “Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.”

**Copy for bulletin announcement**

Have you ever turned around to someone at home and said, “What?” Only to have them say, “I didn’t say anything.” Most of the time we just shrug that off, right? Can you imagine Samuel sleeping in his room? Three times he heard someone calling him. Finally, it dawned on him. God was calling him! AS we near the beginning of the Annual Diocesan Appeal, take some time to be still, to be quiet and listen to the Lord. Listen to what He is saying and how you will support the Annual Diocesan Appeal this year.

**Copy for pulpit announcement**

On Monday we celebrate and honor the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. I hope you will take a few minutes to learn more about what he stood for and to read or listen to his words of encouragement and hope. For example, he once said, *Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?* With our Annual Diocesan Appeal kicking off soon, I hope you and your family will prayerfully consider “what you are doing for others” and how you will support the Appeal this year.

**Social media posts/content**

Photo: Sunset photo | *“Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.”* – 1 Samual 3:10

Copy: “Are we listening to what the Lord is telling us?”