



# EUCHALETTE

14 January 2018

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year B

## *Called to Share in Christ's Life and Mission*

Jesus said to the two disciples of John the Baptist, "Come and see." To be a disciple of the Lord Jesus is not just a matter of learning from him wonderful things about God and His plans for mankind, witnessing spectacular miracles at close range, and traveling with Jesus the dusty roads of Palestine. More than anything else, it entails entering into a personal, intimate relationship with him. Such relationship gives meaning and direction to a person's life, makes him/her share in Christ's eagerness to proclaim the Gospel to all, and to make the Kingdom of God strike roots in the hearts of people.

This personal relationship brings out the best in the disciples, and produces in them an ever-greater "intimacy" with Jesus, in such a way that they can say with St. Paul, "I live, no longer I, but Christ lives in me. Insofar as I now live in the flesh, I live in the faith in the Son of God, who has loved me and has given himself up for me" (Gal 2:20). Let this be our prayer intention in this Eucharist.



### INTRODUCTORY RITES



#### Entrance Antiphon

*(To be recited only when no Entrance Hymn is sung.)*

**All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!**

#### Greeting

*P* – Grace and peace from God our Father, the Lord Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit be with you all.

*All* – **And with your spirit!**

#### Penitential Act

*P* – As we gather together as God's family to celebrate the Eucharist and reflect on the mystery of God's call, let us pause for a while and reflect on how we have responded to His invitation. *(Pause)*

*P* – Lord Jesus, you call us ev-

ery day to serve you in our neighbour, but we often ignore your call. Lord, have mercy!

*All* – **Lord, have mercy!**

*P* – Lord Jesus, you call some special people to the service of leadership in our communities, but we often fail to honor and support them. Christ, have mercy!

*All* – **Christ, have mercy!**

*P* – Lord Jesus, you expect all of us to inspire our neighbour through our good example, but we sometimes scandalize them through our un-Christian behavior. Lord, have mercy!

*All* – **Lord, have mercy!**

*P* – May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

*All* – **Amen!**

#### Gloria

*All* – Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people

of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen!

#### Collect (Opening Prayer)

*P* – Almighty ever-living God, who govern all things, both in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the pleading of your people and bestow your peace on our times.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All – Amen!



**1st Reading** 1 Sm 3:3-10.19

*When Samuel was about twelve, he heard the Lord call him. His answer expresses his willingness to listen and obey the Lord.*

**R** – A proclamation from the First Book of Samuel

Samuel was sleeping in the temple of the Lord where the ark of God was. The Lord called to Samuel, who answered, “Here I am.” Samuel ran to Eli and said, “Here I am. You called me.” “I did not call you,” Eli said. “Go back to sleep.” So he went back to sleep. Again the Lord called Samuel, who rose and went to Eli. “Here I am,” he said. “You called me.” But Eli answered, “I did not call you, my son. Go back to sleep.”

At that time Samuel was not familiar with the Lord, because the Lord had not revealed anything to him as yet. The Lord called Samuel again, for the third time. Getting up and going to Eli, he said, “Here I am. You called me.” Then Eli understood that the Lord was calling the youth. So he said to Samuel, “Go to sleep, and if you are called, reply, ‘Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.’” When Samuel went to sleep in his place, the Lord came and revealed his presence, calling out as before, “Samuel, Samuel!” Samuel answered, “Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.”

Samuel grew up, and the Lord was with him, not permitting any word of his to be without effect.

The Word of the Lord!  
All – Thanks be to God!

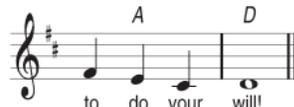
**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 40

**R** – Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will!

R. M. Velez



Here am I, Lord; I come



to do your will!

\* I have waited, waited for the Lord, and he stooped toward me and heard my cry. And he put a new song into my mouth, a hymn to our God. **R.**

\* Sacrifice or offering you wished not, but ears open to obedience you gave me. Holocausts or sin-offerings you sought not; then said I, “Behold I come.” **R.**

\* “In the written scroll it is prescribed for me, to do your will, O my God, is my delight, and your law is within my heart!” **R.**

\* I announced your justice in the vast assembly; I did not restrain my lips, as you, O Lord, know. **R.**

**2nd Reading** 1 Cor 6:13-15. 17-20

*During Paul’s absence, a number of converts in Corinth reverted to their old ways of practising sexual immorality. Paul reminds the Corinthians – and us – that any act of sexual immorality is a desecration to the body of a baptized person.*

**R** – A proclamation from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters: The body is not for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord is for the body; God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power.

Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? But whoever is joined to the Lord becomes one Spirit with him. Avoid immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the immoral person sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of

the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been purchased at a price. Therefore glorify God in your body.

The Word of the Lord!  
All – Thanks be to God!

**Gospel Acclamation** Jn 1:41.17b

All – Alleluia! Alleluia!  
We have found the Messiah: Jesus Christ, who brings us truth and grace. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Gospel** Jn 1:35-42

*When the two disciples of John the Baptist heard that Jesus was the Messiah, they followed him and got to know him more. One of them – Andrew, even took his brother Peter to Jesus.*

**P** – The Lord be with you!

All – And with your spirit!

**P** – A proclamation from the holy Gospel according to John

All – Glory to you, O Lord!

John was standing 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 Jesus 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 Christ. 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.

The Gospel of the Lord!

All – Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

## Homily

### Profession of Faith

(Nicene Creed)

**All**—I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, (bow)\* and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. \* For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen!

### Prayer of the Faithful

**P** —Enlightened by the teaching of God's Word, and strengthened in our resolution to always please the Lord, let us address our petitions to Him and say together:

**All**—**Lord, graciously hear us!**

**C** —For the whole Church: May she always be a beacon of truth and a staunch defender of the virtue of chastity. Let us pray! **R.**

**C** —For the Holy Father and all our spiritual leaders: May they constantly enlighten us with their teaching and inspire us

with their virtuous life. Let us pray! **R.**

**C** —For those whom the Lord calls to the service of leadership in our communities: May they respond to their vocation with generous availability and by faithfully following the example of Jesus. Let us pray! **R.**

**C** —For all those who are involved in producing and disseminating pornographic material: May they realize the gravity of the moral damage they cause to so many people and desist from their criminal activity. Let us pray! **R.**

**C** —For all those who are victimized by the flood of erotic publications, shows, and movies: May they always remember that the human body is not made for immorality but to give glory to God. Let us pray **R.**

**C** —For the victims of human trafficking and exploitation, especially the young ones: May they always feel the protection and support of the government authorities and private institutions. Let us pray! **R.**

**C** —For all of us: May we always respond to God's call to live as devout Christians and responsible and honest citizens. Let us pray! **R.**

**C** —Let us pray in silence for our personal intentions. (Pause)

Let us pray! **R.**

**P** —Lord God, you constantly call us to be "salt of the earth" and "light of the world." Grant us the grace to be always "salt and light" through Christ Our Lord.

**All**—**Amen!**



### Preparation of the Gifts

**P** —Pray, brethren . . .

**All**—**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

### Prayer over the Offerings

**P** —Grants us, O Lord, we pray,

that we may participate worthily in these mysteries, for whenever the memorial of this sacrifice is celebrated, the work of our redemption is accomplished.

Through Christ our Lord.

**All**—**Amen!**

### Preface II

**P** —The Lord be with you!

**All**—**And with your spirit!**

**P** —Lift up your hearts!

**All**—**We lift them up to the Lord!**

**P** —Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

**All**—**It is right and just!**

**P** —It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord.

For out of compassion for the waywardness that is ours, he humbled himself and was born of the Virgin; by the passion of the Cross, he freed us from unending death, and by rising from the dead, he gave us life eternal.

And so, with Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dominions, and with all the hosts and Powers of heaven, we sing the hymn of your glory, as without end we acclaim:

**All**—**Holy, holy, holy Lord . . .**

### Memorial Acclamation

**P** —The mystery of faith!

**All**—**Save us, Savior of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.**



**All**—**Our Father . . .**

**P** —Deliver us, Lord . . .

**All**—**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever!**

### Sign of Peace

### Breaking of the Bread

**All**—**Lamb of God . . .**

### Communion

**P** —This is the Lord Jesus, the light of our life, the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the

world. Blessed are those who are called to his Supper.

**All—Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

### Communion Antiphon

*(To be recited only when no Communion Hymn is sung.)*

**You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.**

### Prayer after Communion

**P** —Pour on us, O Lord, the Spirit of your love, and in your kindness make those you have nourished by this one heavenly Bread one in mind and heart.

Through Christ our Lord.

**All— Amen!**

## CONCLUDING RITES



**P** —The Lord be with you.

**All— And with your spirit!**

**P** —Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing. *(Pause)*

May the Lord give you the generosity and strength that you need to answer his call to a committed Christian life.

**All— Amen!**

**P** —May you serve your brothers and sisters in the community, and especially the weak ones, with the dedication of the apostles.

**All— Amen!**

**P** —May you receive from the Lord the reward that He promised to all those who serve Him in their neighbor.

**All— Amen!**

**P** —May almighty God bless you: the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**All— Amen!**

**P** —Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

**All— Thanks be to God!**

## Called to Live in Intimacy with the Lord

**W**e have been created to live in intimacy with the Lord, our Creator. As human beings, we attain perfect fulfillment only if and when we reach such intimacy. This, of course, is the “achievement of a lifetime,” in what we call heaven. But already during our earthly life, we can have a foretaste of such bliss, despite the limitations, difficulties and dangers that characterize this “Valley of Tests and Tears.”

But in all cases, Holy Scripture reminds us that **the one who takes the initiative in such an all-important enterprise is not us, but the Lord God. He is the one who calls us to live in intimacy with him**, even though His call usually reaches us through human intermediaries who are **God's instruments** in bringing us the divine invitation.

Such is the message of today's First Reading and of the Gospel, as we learn about the call of young Samuel, the two disciples of John the Baptist and Peter. From these examples, it is clear that **it is through human “intermediaries” that the Lord initiates the dialogue and relationship that are meant to lead certain individuals to a progressive discovery of who Jesus really is.**

As to the result of the call, **much depends on the response given by the person who receives the message.** The dialogue can only begin when we, like Samuel, respond, “Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.” It is the readiness to listen and, even more, the eagerness to get closer to the “caller,” that enable us to respond to the invitation, “Come and see.”

**But more important than coming to know about Jesus is to KNOW JESUS — to know him personally ever more deeply and intimately.** Such “knowledge” is not the sum total of the things we have learned concerning him, but **our progressive penetration into the personality of Jesus and of our allowing him to penetrate**

**ours.** This mutual giving and receiving has its roots in God's eagerness to give Himself to us and leads to our opening ourselves to receive Him, even as we also offer ourselves to Him, in unreserved availability to do His will.

**This happens in the stillness of meditation and contemplation in which we “lose ourselves” in the loving embrace of God,** like the flowers that open themselves to the moisture of the rain and the light of the sun. Such an encounter, made of mutual receiving and offering, produces a life-giving intimacy and sense of fulfillment that are beyond description.

We do not know what the mysterious “caller” said to young Samuel after he responded, “Speak, your servant is listening,” aside from the dire predictions about the sons of Eli. We know only that, **“As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him, and made come true all that Samuel said.** So all the people of Israel, from one end of the country to the other, knew that Samuel was indeed a prophet of the Lord” (1 Sm 3:19-20).

Likewise, we don't know what John's disciples saw and heard in the house where Jesus lived. But **we do know of the great transformation that took place in one of the two — Andrew.** In fact, the following day, the first thing that he did was to look for his brother Simon, to tell him that he had found the Messiah, and right away take him to Jesus. **Andrew had become an evangelizer!**

The same happened to other people like **Saul of Tarsus, Augustine, Francis of Assisi, and innumerable others who met Jesus** in most diverse circumstances **and were totally transformed by that encounter.** Their experience can be generalized and we can conclude that **the intimacy with the Lord has a transforming effect in those who respond positively to it.** It is now our turn to do just that.



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