



2nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B – January 14, 2018

Several years ago an old man was admitted to a hospital for treatment. After the nurse made him comfortable, she asked him the usual routine questions. She had to fill out one of those wonderful hospital forms.

One question she asked the old man was this, “What is your religious preference?” The old man looked at the nurse and said. I’m really glad you asked me. I always wanted to be a Catholic. But no one ever asked me to join their parish and I don’t like to impose myself on others. I kind of live alone.

This true story raises an embarrassing question. Why do so many of us hesitate to share our faith with other people? Why do we hesitate to invite others to join us at Mass. Consider the message in the Scripture Readings today.

The first reading (1 Samuel 3: 3B-10, 19) presents Eli sharing his faith with a young boy named Samuel. Samuel was not yet familiar with the ways of the Lord and he needed someone to show him. Is there anyone in your life who need you to show him/her our “Lord’s Way”.

The second reading (1Corinthians 6:13C-15A, 17-20) presents Saint Paul sharing his faith with the Corinthians. He reminds them that here on earth we walk by faith and not by sight - but it is faith in someone we can trust. He name is Jesus. When is the last time you talked to someone about Jesus.

The Gospel (John 1:35-42) presents Saint John sharing his faith with two men who become disciples of Jesus. And then we hear how Andrew shared his faith in Jesus with his brother Simon, who later was called Cephas - the Rock. When is the last time you spoke to someone in your family about Jesus?

That brings us back to our original question, If we really believe Jesus is the greatest treasure we can possess, why are we so reluctant to share him with others.

I’d like to share a prayer with you. It addresses the message in the scripture readings.

Lord, teach us today that here on earth
You have no hands but ours
To reach out to those who are in need.

You have no heart but ours
To embrace your poor and lonely people.

You have no voice but ours to share your message -
To tell others, why you lived and why you died.

Teach us today - that here on earth
We are your hands
We are your voice
We are your heart. AMEN

**For a few moments in silence
Reflect on how our Lord depends on you.**

Matthew 25:40