



# Second Sunday Of The Year

## Encountering The Lord

### Introduction

"Speak, Lord, your servant is listening". We will hear these words in the first reading this morning. They remind us that we are here to listen to God. In the Gospel, we will hear Jesus say to his first two disciples: "Come and see". They accepted his invitation and had a wonderful encounter with him after which their lives were never the same again. Here we too can encounter Christ, our Saviour. Let us reflect on this for a moment.

### First Reading (1 Samuel 3:3-10, 19)

This reading gives the story of the call of the boy Samuel to be a prophet. We see the persistence of that call and Samuel's ready response to it.

### Second Reading (1 Cor 6:13-15, 17-20)

Paul tells us that our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, and we must use them, not for sin, but for the glory of God.

### Gospel (John 1:35-42)

This gives John's account of the call of Andrew and his brother, Peter, and of their first encounter with Jesus.

### Prayer Of The Faithful

Let us pray to Christ our Brother who joins us on the road of life at this time, in this place, and on this day.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.

For the Church: that it may help people to encounter Christ as the one who will answer all their longings. Lord, hear us.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.



## Liturgy Cycle B

For our civil leaders: that they may experience the presence of Christ with them in the midst of all their worldly concerns. Lord, hear us.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.

For those to whom Christ is only a name: that they may get to know and encounter him in us his followers. Lord, hear us.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.

That we may deepen our own relationship with Christ through daily prayer and the living out of his commandment of love. Lord, hear us.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.

### Communion Reflection

There is a world of difference between a meeting and an encounter.

People can live in the same house,  
sit at the same kitchen table,  
kneel in the same church pew,  
they can exchange many words,  
they may even give each other signs of love,  
and apparent tenderness,  
and yet they may never meet in the real sense,  
they may never really encounter one another.

An encounter is a strange and wonderful thing.  
In an encounter people open their hearts to one another.  
They become fully present to one another.  
As a result life flows from one to the other  
and people are transformed.

When you have once seen the glow of happiness  
on the face of a loved one.  
you know that a person can have no higher vocation  
than to awaken that light on the faces surrounding him.

May we never allow Christ to pass us by.  
May we not confine him to the margins of our lives.  
May we rather invite him into our lives.  
May he become our Friend,  
Our Brother, and our Companion  
on the road to the Father's Kingdom.