

# Dear Padre,

If St. Matthew was an apostle, why do we have Gospels from other writers who were not apostles of Jesus? Since he knew Jesus personally, wouldn't his Gospel be the definitive one?

There are two assumptions that need to be addressed. One is that the Apostle Matthew is the same as the evangelist Matthew. The book's title, the Gospel According to Matthew, was added to the text in the second century. Whether it was written by the same Matthew or someone else, it still traces back to the experience of the apostles. The Scriptures are the inspired word of God, and Christians can rely on the truth of the Gospel message through the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

The other assumption is that one Gospel is somehow more "definitive." All four Gospels are the inspired word of God. A Gospel is not a history of the life of Christ. It is a collection of stories that each evangelist arranged in a specific way so that they would make sense to a particular audience. For the Gospel of Matthew, the audience was predominantly Jewish, but these Jewish Christians were being excluded from mainstream Judaism and perhaps were wondering among themselves if Jesus was really the Messiah for whom they had waited so long. Matthew's Gospel asserts repeatedly that Jesus is a true Israelite who fulfills Old Testament prophecies, while also reinterpreting the Law of Moses in a new direction that includes all nations. ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org



FRESCO OF APOSTLE ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST BY PIETRO GAGLIARDI / RENATA SEDMAKOVA

## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS



GODONGPHOTO / SHUTTERSTOCK

May the Virgin Mary help us make of our lives a hymn of praise to God in response to his call and in the humble and joyful fulfillment of his will. But let us remember this: there was a moment in each of our lives in which God made himself present more strongly, with a call.

ANGELUS, ROME,  
JANUARY 17, 2021

## DAYbreaks

Leading Catholic voices inspire the faithful with daily reflections and prayers for Advent and Lent. Including: Fr. Ron Rolheiser, Dr. Mary Katharine Deeley, Sr. Dianne Bergant, Fr. Paul Turner, and more. Available from Liguori Publications.



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# Our Parish COMMUNITY

January 14, 2024

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

1 Samuel 3:3b–10, 19 / 1 Corinthians 6:13c–15a, 17–20 / John 1:35–42



## A Haunting Question

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**“What are you looking for?”** asks Jesus of the two disciples who come to see who he is and what he is about. They are Jesus' first words in John's Gospel, and that's what the entire Gospel of John is about, an answer to that piercing question.

I spent the week living with that question, never really finding an answer that seemed to fit, or perhaps I got too many answers, all of them somehow falling short. Why do I spend an hour early each morning sitting in the silence? I read some Scripture, but then mostly I sit with the silence. Many are the times when my mind drifts to other times and places and daydreams. Sometimes the silence is scattered with boredom; at other times it stumbles with prayerful words; and sometimes in the silence I look for answers to the plaguing whys of life. Mostly, though, I sit in the silence. I'd like to call it prayer, but then I wonder if I'm simply floundering in wishful thinking. So I return to that haunting question—"What are you looking for?"

I think perhaps the answer is similar to what I look for when I gather with friends. Sometimes the get-together is engaging, but not always. Sometimes it is memorable, but not always. Sometimes we just hang out, and that can be enough. Ultimately relationships keep me grounded. That also is why I spend time in the silence. It's what I'm looking for when I pray—to be in relationship with God, to be grounded lest I drift away and grow lost. ●

[Eli] said to Samuel,  
“Go to sleep, and if you are  
called, reply, ‘Speak, LORD,  
for your servant is listening.’”

1 SAMUEL 3:9

### Reflect

When you pray,  
what are you looking for?





SACRED HEART CHURCH OF MANLY, IOWA

OUR MISSION IS TO BE A EUCHARISTIC COMMUNITY THAT WILL LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD, BE FAITHFUL TO HIS TEACHINGS AND KNOWING, LOVING AND SERVING GOD.

PASTOR: Fr. Neil Manternach Phone: 641-423-5001  
ASSOCIATE PASTOR: Fr. Ben Valentine Phone 641-423-5001  
PASTORAL COORDINATOR: Mike and Wilma Romig Phone: 641-454-2559  
COORDINATOR OF RELIGIOUS ED: Kelley O’Keefe Phone: 641-425-1615  
YOUTH MINISTER: Fr. Ben Valentine Phone: 641-423-5001  
EMERGENCY PRIEST LINE: 319-775-0061  
WEEKEND MASS: Saturday – 5:30 pm  
WEEKDAY MASS: Wednesday – 8:00 am  
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: First Saturday of the Month, prior to Mass  
WWW. Sacredheartmanly.org

January 14, 2024  
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS INTENTIONS AT MANLY FOR OTHER AREA MASS TIMES  
Saturday January 13<sup>th</sup>-----Fred Faber SATURDAY 4:00 PM HOLY FAMILY  
Wednesday January 17<sup>th</sup>-----Harvey Knapp SUNDAY 7:30 & 9:00AM St. JOSEPH  
Saturday January 20<sup>th</sup>-----Tom Faber SUNDAY 10:30AM HOLY FAMILY

LECTORS LITURGICAL MINISTERS

January 13<sup>th</sup> Betty Krones (Deacon 13<sup>th</sup>)  
January 20<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> Kelley O’Keefe

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

January 13<sup>th</sup> Eli & Heather Giles (Deacon 13<sup>th</sup>)  
January 20<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> Marilyn Haugen, Mike & Wilma Romig

USHERS

January 13<sup>th</sup> Mark Halbach, Jamie Welsh Steve & Peggy Matous  
January 20<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> Dennis Johnson, David Hausman Sandy Holden, Betty Benjegerdes

FINANCIAL GIVING:

COLLECTION RECEIVED ON THE WEEKEND: January 6, 2024, Tithing \$1186.00;  
Offertory \$103.00; Renovation \$122.00 Total \$1411.00 Thank You!

There will be 8:00AM Mass Wednesday January 17, 2024  
Parish Life Will Meet Monday February 12, 2024 7:00PM (date change)

Ash Wednesday February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Middle School Lock-In February 17 & 18, 2024

Parish Finance committee will meet Wednesday February 21, 2024 6:30PM  
Pastoral Council will meet Wednesday February 21, 2024 7:15PM

FROM THE PASTOR - Fr. Neil Manternach

Flocknote coming to Sacred Heart:  
We are busy learning the benefits of using Flocknote to be a guide to improve communication at our church. When we harness the power of text messages and beautiful targeted emails, our congregation will hear the message and get more involved. We will be a confident, empowered, savvy church. In the future there will steps that need to be completed before we roll out the completed program. Stay tuned!

Budget Boxes:  
Please pick up your budget box located on the table at the East entrance to the church. We encourage use of the Budget Box as it gives the money counters an accurate accounting of your yearly tithe. If you know someone that is unable to pick up their box please take their budget box to them. Thankyou and much appreciated!

Blood Drive:  
The Northwood Lions Club and the American Red Cross are sponsoring a blood drive on Thursday January 18<sup>th</sup> between the hours of 1:00pm and 5:00pm at the Worth County Fairgrounds Community Room. You may schedule an appointment by going online to RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass or call this local number: 1-651-324-2252 ask for Bob. Thankyou

Mass Intentions  
We have many open dates for Mass Intentions. Please submit you requests with name(s) and date(s) for those you would like the mass said. We will try to schedule the requested dates as best we can. You may place your request in the weekly offertory or hand them to Mike or Wilma Romig. Thank You!

Poinsettias Available  
We have several Red Poinsettias left from Christmas. If you like one (or two) please see Wilma Romig. (warning: we will bag the plants which is needed to protect them from the COLD)

For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’