



# A Haunting Question

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**“W**hat 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?**



**St. Mary's & St. John's  
Brush CO & Stoneham CO**

**Pastor:** Rev. Marek Ciesla, S. Chr.  
**Parochial Vicar:** Rev. Maurice Okeke

**Masses:**

Brush: Sat. - 5:00 PM, Sun. - 10:00 AM  
Thurs. - 5:30 PM, Fri. - 8:00 AM  
Stoneham: Sun. - 12:00 PM

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

Brush: Sat. - 3:00 PM  
1/2 hr. before weekday Masses  
or by appointment  
Stoneham: Sun. - 1:00 PM

**Adoration & Benediction:** 1st Friday of the  
month immediately after Mass (till 9:00 a.m.)

**Anointing of the Sick:** - call the Office

**Office:** Thursday & Friday  
Leave a message **970-842-2216**

**Website:** [www.stmarybrush.org](http://www.stmarybrush.org)

**Sign up for Flocknote**

[www.flocknote.com/stmarybrush](http://www.flocknote.com/stmarybrush)

or text **Brush** to **84576**

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/STMBrush](http://www.facebook.com/STMBrush)

**Donate Online:** Visit [www.stmarybrush.org](http://www.stmarybrush.org)  
Click "Donate" and select your church.

**Thank you for your ongoing support!**

**Visit [Formed.org](http://Formed.org) & watch for free!**

Sign Up & Select "I belong to a Parish"

Enter 80723 / select St. Mary's

Enter your e-mail - and you are in!

**Mass Intentions**

**Sat. Jan. 13 Vigil**

5:00 p.m. †Robert Guzman Sr.

**Sun Jan. 14 Mass/2nd Sunday Ord. Time**

10:00 a.m. †Sandra Garcia Madigan

12:00 p.m. Graces for Jenny Spiker

**Thurs Jan 18 Mass**

5:30 p.m. Graces for Teodosia Perez

**Fri. Jan. 19 Mass**

8:00 a.m. †Maria Perez

**Sat. Jan. 20 Vigil**

5:00 p.m. †Pete Bellender Sr. - EJr

**Sun Jan. 21 Mass/Word of God Sunday**

10:00 a.m. †Mary Ellen Uhrig - GS

12:00 p.m. Health for Tom Koch

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

**Our Sick:** Joseph Wilson, Tom Flores, Rosa Maria Santos, Gia Marquez, Jan Yokum, Kane Schrock, Deja Adam, Bernice Padilla, Rosemary Garcia, Sean Gleason, Marj Blatt, Ben Mettlen, Arabella Macias, Brianna Hill, Gina Mortenson, Margaret Mann, Paula Meier, Sheryl Garvik, Izaac Morales, Kayla Albrant, Stan Prather, Christy Chapman, Ron Uhrig, Anthony Steven Villarreal, Shelby Daughenbaugh, Caiden Lee, Frank Laso, Fritz & Irene Ramirez, Rodney Hergenreter, Stella, Amanda Weisensee, Norma Wolfe, Daniel Hoffman, Alvin Vigil, Jessica Penner, Eloy Padilla, Nadine Odell, Jennifer Romero, Pennie Haller, Armando Saucedo, Jeffery Pieper, Carmona Family, Delbert Meier, Leo Millburg, Haisley Blackwelder

**For the Soul:** Crisanta Gonzalez





NATIONAL  
**Eucharistic  
Revival**

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**  
Exposition / Adoration / Benediction

**St. Mary's: January 13th/14th**

Second Sunday of the month  
Immediately after Mass, includes the Holy  
Face Chaplet and procession by Celebrant.

**St. John's: January 14th**

Second Sunday of the month  
**11:30 a.m. - 11:57 a.m.**

**Adult Study in the Church**  
**Tuesday, Jan. 16th / 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**  
Fr. John Riccardo's **The Rescue Project**

**REQUEST FOR MASS INTENTIONS**

There is no charge for Mass; however,  
a customary offering of \$10 is appreciated.

**Intention Name:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Living \_\_\_\_\_ Deceased

Requested by:

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Date wanted: \_\_\_\_\_

Which church? \_\_\_\_\_ St. Mary \_\_\_\_\_ St. John

**"9 Days for Life"**

Unites Hundreds of Thousands in Prayer for  
the Protection of Life

Catholics nationwide are invited to pray  
"9 Days for Life," an annual Respect Life  
novena starting Tuesday, January 16.

This particular novena is an opportunity  
for prayer and reparation in observance  
of the annual Day of Prayer for the  
Legal Protection of Unborn Children on  
January 22.

Participants may access the novena and also  
subscribe to receive the daily prayers by  
email or text message in English at  
**9daysforlife.com** or in Spanish at  
**respectlife.org/9-dias-por-la-vida**.

This is the twelfth year the novena is taking  
place. Since the novena began, it has reached  
hundreds of thousands of people in over one  
hundred countries spanning six continents.



**January 21st**  
**Enjoy coffee & donut Sunday!**

In the Parish Hall after Mass.



**Anointing of the Sick**  
**January 27th/28th**  
after each Mass



**Food Drive - Help feed families**  
Consider canned goods & items for  
the Brush Food pantry.  
Monetary donations welcomed.

*Drop off at St. Mary's*  
**Thank you for your support!**

# 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.

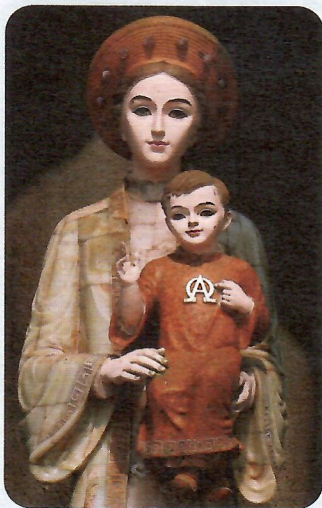
The other assumption is that one Gospel is somehow more "definitive." All four Gospels are the inspired word of God. A Gospel is not a history of the life of Christ. It is a collection of stories that each evangelist arranged in a specific way so that they would make sense to a particular audience. For 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. ●



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

*The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org*

## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS



***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.



© 2024 Liguori Publications, Liguori, MO 63057-9999. Printed in USA. *Imprimatur*: "In accordance with CIC 827, permission to publish was granted on April 5, 2023, by the Most Reverend Mark S. Rivtuso, Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of St. Louis. Permission to publish is an indication that nothing contrary to Church teaching is contained in this work. It does not imply any endorsement of the opinions expressed in the publication; nor is any liability assumed by this permission." No part of this work may be used in any form without the prior written permission of Liguori Publications. Scripture texts in this work are taken from the *New American Bible*, revised edition © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. All Rights Reserved. Download our latest catalog, visit [Liguori.org](http://Liguori.org) or call 800-325-9521.

### MONDAY

**January 15**

*Weekday*

1 Sm 15:16-23

Mk 2:18-22

### TUESDAY

**January 16**

*Weekday*

1 Sm 16:1-13

Mk 2:23-28

### WEDNESDAY

**January 17**

*St. Anthony, Abbot*

1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51

Mk 3:1-6

### THURSDAY

**January 18**

*Weekday*

1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7

Mk 3:7-12

### FRIDAY

**January 19**

*Weekday*

1 Sm 24:3-21

Mk 3:13-19

### SATURDAY

**January 20**

*Weekday*

2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27

Mk 3:20-21

### SUNDAY

**January 21**

*Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Jon 3:1-5, 10

1 Cor 7:29-31

Mk 1:14-20