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20 Sunday

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

Isaiah 49:3, 5-6  
Psalm 39: 2,4,7-10  
1Cor1:1-3  
John 1:29-34

Like the prophet Isaiah before him, John the Baptist knew his mission was to prepare the way for the Messiah. And when Jesus came to the Jordan river, John then recognised Him and publicly proclaimed that this man was the 'Chosen One of God'. Pointing Him out, John said: "Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world". Those words prompted some of John's disciples to go and follow Jesus: those very same words are still said to us each time we take part in the eucharistic liturgy. They are words that invite a reaction, a response. What is our response? The words we say in answer, "Lord, I am not worthy.....", are an act of faith and a plea for healing. But what about our actions, the way we live? In what ways do we respond like John's disciples did, in going out to follow Jesus, to see where He was living, to spend time with Him? Jesus Himself said that those who believe in Him are greater even than John the Baptist. So we might ask ourselves in what ways do we, in our lives and words and actions, proclaim that Jesus really is the "Chosen One of God", the Messiah-saviour, and point Him out to other people as the Lamb of God and taker away of sin.

Lord Jesus, make us your heralds and messengers not only in the words we say about you, but in the ways we recognise You and point You out to others

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Text word-count: 260