

**SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**January 15, 2023**

**Gospel: (John 1:29-34)**

John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Behold, the lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world. He is the one of whom I said, ‘A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.’ I did not know him, but the reason why I came baptizing with water was that he might be made known to Israel.” John testified further, saying, “I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from heaven and remain upon him. I did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, ‘On whomever you see the Spirit come down and remain, he is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.’ Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God.”

**Reflection:**

Our baptismal task is continually to deepen our own understanding of who Jesus is and to make him known. We don’t come to a one-time understanding of Christ. Our whole lives are spent beholding the Lamb of God. Like John, we go from not knowing to seeing to testifying. More than likely, we aren’t called to testify to the Son of God by going and baptizing or doing great things. We testify to Jesus’ identity by being faithful to the ordinary things in life, by doing God’s will. The revelation of Jesus’ identity—how he is made known in the world—is mediated by the way we live our lives everyday.

**Vincenian Meditation:**

The fields of battle for Frederic Ozanam were not only the arenas of the poor, but also the milieu of the young whom he served at the university. One day he heard that the public were clamoring for him at the Sorbonne, accusing him of self-indulgence and neglect of duty in being so long absent from his course, when he was paid by the State for giving it. The news stung him to the quick. “I will show them it is not true. I will do honor to my profession!” –Bl. Frederic Ozanam- (Ramson, Praying with Frederic, p. 102)

**Discussion:** *(Share your thoughts after a moment of silence)*

**In what ways have you testified to Jesus’ identity by being faithful to the ordinary things in life, like Frederic?**

**Closing Prayer:**

Jesus, in the waters of the Jordan, you were consecrated as God’s Beloved, and now we pray,

**-Spirit of God, fill us with zeal.**

You call us to be people of courage,

**-Jesus, send forth your spirit of freedom.**

You call us to consecrate ourselves to the poor,

**-Jesus, send forth your spirit of love.**

You call us to bind up the wounds of the brokenhearted,

**-Jesus, send forth your spirit of healing. Amen**

