

FIRST READING

1 Samuel 3:1-10, 19

The Prophetic call to Samuel

A reading from the book of the Prophet Samuel:

Now the boy Samuel ministered to the Lord before Eli. And the word of the Lord was rare in those days; there were not many visions.

One night Eli, whose eyes were becoming so weak that he could barely see, was lying down in his usual place. The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the house of the Lord where the ark of God was. Then the Lord called Samuel.

Samuel answered, "Here I am!" And he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me."

But Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down again." And he went and lay down. Again the Lord called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me."

"My son," Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down."

A third time the Lord called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me."

Then Eli realized that the Lord had calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, say, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening." So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

Now the Lord came and stood there, and called as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!"

And Samuel answered, "Speak, Lord for your servant is listening."

The Word of the Lord