

## Reflection for Thursday of 3<sup>rd</sup> week of Advent Br Adams

God raised up prophets in ancient Israel for the same reasons He raises up prophets today. They are to teach the people the laws of God and how to live them, call the people to repentance when necessary, and bear witness of Jesus Christ. The work of all true prophets of all ages is to act as God's messenger and make known God's will.

By virtue of baptism, every Christian is anointed to serve as priest, prophet, and king within their individual communities. But what exactly does this mean? what being a prophet means through Baptism.

God gave Adam the task of naming the animals: a very important privilege! Typically, only the creator of something is the one with the right to name his or her creation. Though God is the Creator, He gives this right to Adam. As this first man goes about completing this task, he is speaking on behalf of God. In all Abrahamic faiths, a person who speaks on behalf of God is referred to as a prophet. Whether male or female, as descendants of Adam (who again is one-flesh with Eve), this role extends to us!

Practically Speaking, not every baptized Christian is called to a professional life of preaching and prophesying. That is not (necessarily) what God is calling us to through this role. Within Scripture, a prophet's first job was to share God's word and explain to the people what God wanted them to do. We fulfil this prophetic calling every time we share some of God's Truth with another person. This could take many forms:

When God brings someone into your day and makes it clear they are struggling with something, go out of your way to assist them, even if it is in a small way. Sometimes the only Truth a person needs to be preached of; is the basis of the Gospel: that they are loved and valuable. You can speak God's Truth by the actions you show them.

Spend intentional time with God in prayer every day. This does not need to be long and drawn out. However, it is impossible to be a prophet and share God's Word with others if we fail to know God's Word ourselves!

For parents raising children, it means making the time to instruct children in the Faith; something God has already equipped you to do! Read Scripture and other virtuous stories with them, explain feast days, live liturgically, etc.

Instruct the young in Goodness, Truth, and Beauty and be intentional about it. If one is not a parent, assist the parents you know with this task. Perhaps you have godchildren, nieces and nephews, or neighbours from Church.

The laity act prophetically when they speak the truth, and live the Gospel by example before their families, neighbours, and co-workers. Their mission is "accomplished in the ordinary circumstances of the world" (CCC, 905).

The call to love is the root of all Scripture. It is the ultimate purpose for which we were made. This is considering we were made in the image and likeness of Love Himself. Thus, if we ever find ourselves confused about what is the most loving thing to do in a tricky situation, remembering our roles as priest, prophet, and king could be helpful in finding an answer.

Perhaps all we need to do is evaluate how we could better sacrifice, share, or serve the world around us.