

**Thoughts on the Daily Word:**

*24<sup>th</sup> Week of Year. Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September. St. Matthew Apostle. Readings: Ephesians 4:1-7,11-13; Psalm: 18; Matthew 9:9-13.*

Did Matthew have a calling to be a tax-collector? We automatically think vocation in terms of religious or spiritual identities. In a world of lay ministries perhaps tax collecting could be a ministry for today's world! Recognising the reality of God's call today means moving out of the box that we have been inhabiting for a long time. All our activities today need reappraising as a gift from the Lord for the benefit of all humanity. Even a humble refuse worker can find meaning in his task of service. We have found during the pandemic just how important so many of the most humble and everyday tasks are. We clapped our health workers, and rightly so, but maybe we need to clap the people who stock our supermarket shelves. It does mean for us Christians that every task, however humble, has a place in God's kingdom.