

Walking with Jesus

Making Jesus Christ Known and Loved by Me!



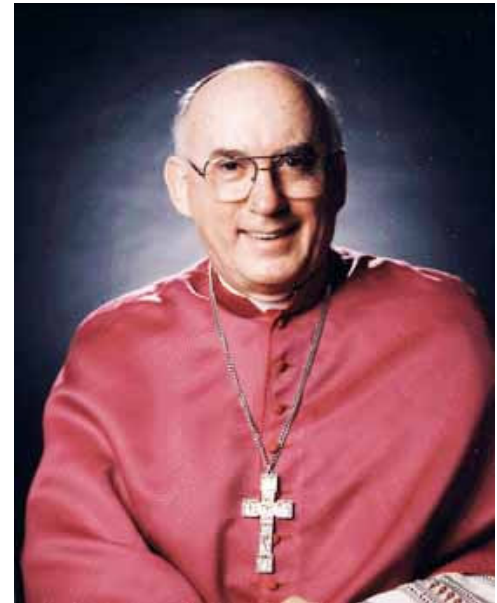
TO LIVE LIKE JESUS

Lenten Faith Journal
"Live Like Jesus"
Phase 3

Name: _____

Evangelization is:

"Making Jesus Christ known and loved in our time by choosing to live out the Gospel in every moment."



In response to Archbishop Flynn's Evangelization Initiative Saint Ambrose Parish, including the boys and girls of faith formation and the school, having been awakened and continuing to follow Jesus we are now ready to reflect on how we can *"Live Like Jesus"*. The focus of this phase is our own personal relationship of Discipleship to Jesus Christ. Our transformation and conversion will happen as we respond to His call to *"Live Like Jesus"*.

Making Jesus Christ Known and Loved by Me! PERSONAL CONVERSION

Father Henri Nouwen

Dutch priest Henri Nouwen, one of the most prolific spiritual writers of our time, died in 1996. Many have noted that the success in his writing was due to his ability to share openly the story of his own spiritual experiences including deep anguish, loneliness, longing and the gift of human friendship which he so treasured.

Father Nouwen, experienced in his own life a deep restlessness that nothing earthly could quench. It only found peace in his experience of being what he called, “beloved of God.”

He moved to L’Arche Daybreak where he lived in solidarity with the mentally handicapped. Here there was no division between workers and clients. A “mutuality of care” existed. All were nourished by each other.

Father Stanley Rother

Father Stanley Rother, a priest who gave his life to serve the Tzutuhil Indians in Guatemala was originally from Oklahoma. In 1968, Father Rother went to Santiago Atitlan, Guatemala as a missionary to a village of about 30,000 Tzutuhil Indians.

In the summer of 1980, due to political chaos, his village faced countless cases of murder, torture, and kidnapping. During this terrible time of persecution, Father Rother did all he could to comfort and protect the people in his village. Never did he abandon them for his own safety.

Father Rother wrote a letter to a young cousin of his who had just been ordained in which he said that as a priest “Service has to be our motto.” Father Stanley Rother spent the last 13 years of his life in Santiago Atitlan serving his community even in the face of personal danger.

“The community of believers was of one heart and mind.” Acts 4:32.

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Week One

In these two personal stories—What do I hear Jesus saying to me about how to live life?

What difference does knowing Jesus make in my life?



TO LIVE LIKE JESUS

One word, phrase or thought I will carry with me this week?

WEEK TWO

“Here I am Lord”

“During the time young Samuel was minister to the Lord under Eli, a revelation of the Lord was uncommon and vision infrequent. One day Eli was asleep in his usual place. His eyes had lately grown so weak that he could not see. The lamp of God was not yet extinguished, and Samuel was sleeping in the temple of the Lord where the ark of God was. The Lord called to Samuel, who answered, ‘Here I am.’ He ran to Eli and said, ‘Here I am. You called me.’ ‘I did not call you,’ Eli said. ‘Go back to sleep.’ ”

So he went back to sleep. Again the Lord called Samuel, who rose and went to Eli. ‘Here I am,’ he said. ‘You called me.’ But Eli answered, ‘I did not call you, my son. Go back to sleep.’

“...The Lord called Samuel again, for the third time. Getting up and going to Eli, he said, ‘Here I am. You called me.’ Then Eli understood that the Lord was calling the youth. So he said to Samuel, ‘Go to sleep, and if you are called, reply, ‘Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.’ When Samuel went to sleep in his place, the Lord came and revealed his presence, calling out as before, ‘Samuel, Samuel!’ Samuel answered, ‘Speak Lord, for your servant is listening.’ ” 1 Samuel 3:1-10

“Happy those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, they will be satisfied.” Matthew 5:6

Dorothy Day

Dorothy Day’s life-changing conversion was a rather unexpected one. After all, Day had been brought up in a wholly non-religious setting. In this decidedly secular setting, her social consciousness was awakened and channeled first into the Socialist movement. Day became an anarchist, joining in demonstrations and being arrested six times. Sitting in the cell gave her time to reflect on Jesus Christ. She realized how ego was central to many of her efforts, and how Jesus needed to be central to everything. After her release from prison, she began to attend Mass regularly and helped form a community (which spawned the Catholic Worker movement) that lived out the gospel’s radical message by providing food, shelter and hospitality for the poor as well as struggling for social change. Christian love was for Dorothy Day a matter of accepting the gifts that God gave her, and then sharing it with the rest of the Body of Christ.

“We cannot love God unless we love each other, and to love we must know each other. We must know him in the breaking of the bread, and we are not alone anymore. Heaven is a banquet and life is a banquet too, even with a crust, where there is companionship.” Dorothy Day

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Week Two: What is Jesus calling me to do in my life now?

Name a time that I did an action for myself or others that answered my call to *Live Like Jesus*.
How was I changed for doing good?

What keeps me from listening to Jesus in my life?



Who is someone you know personally who answers Jesus' call?

One word, phrase or thought I will carry with me this week?

WEEK THREE

Father Maximilian Kolbe

Maximilian Kolbe was born in Poland and became a Franciscan priest. He contracted tuberculosis, and though he recovered, he remained frail all his life. Before his ordination as a priest, Maximilian founded the Immaculata Movement devoted to Our Lady.

After the Nazi invasion in 1939, he was imprisoned and released. But in 1941 he was arrested again and sent to the concentration camp at Auschwitz. On July 31, 1941 Father Kolbe offered himself to die in place of a young husband and father. He was the last to die, enduring two weeks of starvation, thirst, and neglect. He was canonized by Pope John Paul II in 1981.

Saint Maximilian Kolbe spent his life working for the church, and succeeded in great things by doing so. Kolbe gave strength to others imprisoned in Auschwitz, and then eventually gave his own life to spare another. He is an example of a man devoted to God and humanity.

“Happy those who are merciful, they will be shown mercy.” Matthew 5:7

Cardinal Joseph Bernardin

Joseph Cardinal Bernadin, upon being named to lead the Archdiocese of Chicago, requested that his priests not address him as a great prelate but as “Joseph” their brother. He is noted for teaching others how to embrace death as a friend, as he did his own death due to cancer. His last years were especially focused on ministering to other cancer patients. When asked who the greatest person in the city of Chicago was, he pointed out a welfare mother with four children who persevered, living life with dignity. He strove constantly to understand the call of Holy Orders as one of service.

During his time as a bishop, Cardinal Bernadin realized that work had become more important than spending quality time with God in prayer so he recommitted himself to giving God the first hour of his day. He taught others how to surrender to God. His call to sanctify and shepherd, as priest and bishop, was grounded in his deepening relationship with God.

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Week Three: What does being a servant of Jesus really mean?

What do Cardinal Bernadine and Maximilian Kolbe teach me about loving others and being holy?

Define the word servant. What does it mean to be a servant of Jesus?

What gift or talent do I have that helps me to be a servant like Jesus?

One word, phrase or thought I will carry with me this week?



WEEK FOUR

Archbishop Harry Flynn

“Come Lord Jesus.” This simple prayer echoed over and over by Archbishop Harry Flynn of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis is the foundation for the many ways he has called the Church to play a visible and vital role in our society. Weekly his columns appear in “The Catholic Spirit” newspaper as an invitation to strengthen our relationship and discipleship with Jesus Christ. He reminds us that our spirituality is made visible through our actions and the sharing of our gifts. His involvement with issues of poverty, affordable housing, unity and peace, as well as his involvement on committees of the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops, are just a few examples of his strong commitment to the public role of the Church. Let us make this church a place of welcoming and learning, a place of encounter and dialogue among peoples of all races and cultures.

Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Blessed Teresa of Calcutta was renowned for her heroic efforts on behalf of the poor, dying and handicapped. She explained that in every person that she served, she saw herself serving Christ: “Each one of them is Jesus in disguise.” But we are not only called to reach out to the materially poor, we are called to reach out to emotionally poor. We are called to reach out to all ... to see Christ in all. As Mother Teresa said, “I want you to be concerned about your next door neighbor. Do you know your next door neighbor?”

“Happy those who mourn, they will be comforted.” Matthew 5:4

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Week Four: How does my belonging to the church change the way I see the world?
How is the Church changing the World?

As a member of this church what am I doing to change the world?

What gets in the way of my being an active member of the Church?

One word, phrase or thought I will carry with me this week?



TO LIVE LIKE JESUS

WEEK FIVE

1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 26-27

As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons, and we were all given to drink of one Spirit.

Now the body is not a single part, but many... If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it; if one part is honored, all the parts share its joy.

Now you are Christ's body, and individually parts of it.

*"You must become the *change* you wish to see in the world."*

Mahatma Gandhi

Coach John Gagliardi

Coach John Gagliardi does not wear his faith on his sleeve. He'll tell you that right up front. But talk with the man for some length of time and it soon becomes very clear that his faith is embedded in the very fabric of his life.

John, which is what he prefers to be called even by his players, began his 54th season as head coach at St. John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota in September 2006. He is known as the winningest coach in NCAA Division III football history.

Guiding his work and faith is "the Golden Rule" and gratitude. He knows he is where he is today because of a good Catholic upbringing. He acknowledges the example of his father, who daily received Eucharist and in good times or bad said, "God will provide."

He loves people, and he shows it by making sure his door is always open. His conversations often are longer than his football practices, and he lives the Benedictine value of balance – which ensures that football is only one part of his life.

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Week Five: How does the community support me on my journey with Jesus?

What does "community" mean to me?
What does it mean to Jesus?

What do I give to the community?
How does this help the Body of Christ?



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One word, phrase or thought I will carry with me this week?

Week Six
We Celebrate Holy Week.

Please join Saint Ambrose of Woodbury Parish
in celebrating and remembering
Christ's passion, death and resurrection.

Holy Thursday 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday 3:00 or 7:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday 8:00 p.m.
Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday 7:30, 9:30 and
Services 11:30 a.m.



Evangelization Prayer

Holy God,
Fill our hearts with the fire of your love.

Awaken us Holy Spirit,
to witness to the presence of Jesus in every
moment of our lives.

Renew us Lord,
so that our homes, parishes, neighborhoods,
and world are transformed
into your kingdom
on earth, where peace and justice reign.

Amen

