

Saint Boniface Parish

Faith Formation Handout – Sunday, November 22nd

Christ the King Sunday

Matthew 25:31-46

Jesus said to his disciples: "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit upon his glorious throne, and all the nations will be assembled before him. And he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?' And the king will say to them in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me.' Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you accursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, a stranger and you gave me no welcome, naked and you gave me no clothing, ill and in prison, and you did not care for me.' Then they will answer and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison, and not minister to your needs?' He will answer them, 'Amen, I say to you, what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me.' And these will go off to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

Who are the lost sheep in my life and how can I bring them back to the Church?

First Grade

A shepherd is a person that watches over the sheep and protects them. Who are the people that watch over you and help to protect you? How do they love and care for you? You also have people in your family and friends that you protect and guide. Who are the people that you help and love every day? What can you do this week to help those people?

Second Grade

We often refer to Jesus as the Good Shepherd, because He protects us and cares for us. That means that we are the sheep. Who are the sheep (people) that you know that need help and protection? How can you pray for Jesus to help them? What can you do to help and protect those people? What can you do this week to remind them that they are loved by God?

Third and Fourth Grades

When we say 'the lost sheep', we are referring to the people who continue to make bad decisions and not work to be the person that God created them to be. Think about the people in your life, who would you say are three people like that? In what ways do you think that you could help them? How could having a relationship with Jesus help them?

Fifth and Sixth Grades

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us that the unrighteous are those that ignored people when they needed help. When was a time that you knew you should have helped someone, but didn't? How would you do it differently if you had the chance to do it again? We don't want to be like the unrighteous and ignore people. Who is someone that you can help this week?

Seventh and Eighth Grades

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us that the righteous are those that helped the least of the people around them. Would you say that you usually help the people in need around you? Why would you say that? Do you think other people would agree? Why or why not? Who is the person in your life right now that you think needs the most help? How can you help them this week?

High School and Adults

It is often the people that are closest to us that are the lost sheep that we are called to help, but those can also be the toughest people to talk with. Who are the people that are close to you that have left the church and need Jesus? Have you tried to talk with them about the Church before? How did it go? In what way could you talk with them this week about the Church?

For this Week...

We are Catholic always and in everything we do. Throughout the week bring your faith into your school, your work, your play and your family. Here are some ideas for you.

Monday

The first step in bringing the lost sheep back to the Church is to know who they are. Who are the people in your life that are Baptized but either never came to Church or have stopped coming for some reason?

Today, think through all of the people in your life – family, friends, coworkers, your friend's family – who are the people in your life that you can reach out to?

Tuesday

Next, we are called to pray for them. Before we take any action in inviting them back to Mass or talking with them about God, we should first pray for them and pray to ask God for His help in inviting them back.

Today, write down the names of five people that you want to invite back to the Church. Then, pray for each one, asking God how you should invite them back.

Wednesday

Once you have completed the first step of prayer, it then takes action to invite some back into the Church.

Your action should be bold. People don't usually respond to timid, weak actions, so act confidently in Christ. Today, boldly invite each of the five people that you prayed for to join you at Mass, in your small group, or to one of the other Advent events, like the concert.

Thursday

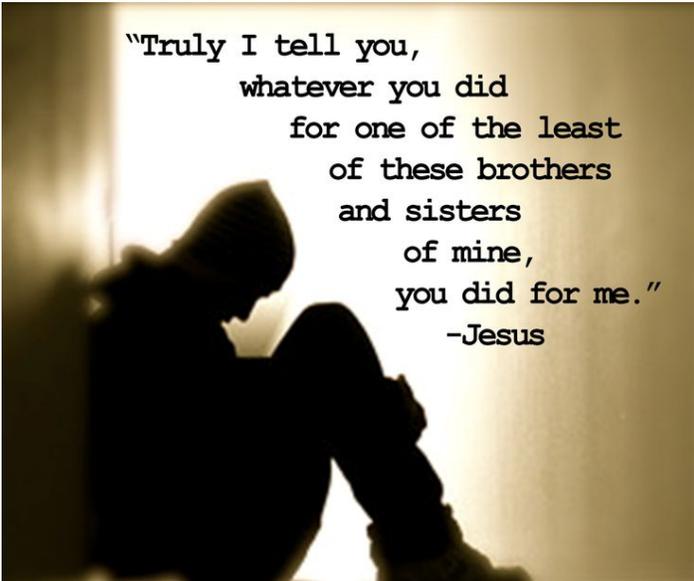
As we pray for invite the lost sheep back to the Church, we need to remember that we were and are lost at times. This means that we always need to accept people's help, invitation and encouragement. We should never think of ourselves as 'all set'! Today, ask God to help you take the next step in deepening and growing in your discipleship.

Friday

Very rarely will the first invitation work. People will often say no, and you will need to invite them over and over again. Don't worry! Be patient, and God will continue to work in their lives. Today, re-invite the same people to either the same thing or to something new. If they already said yes, confirm with them so that they know that you still want them there with you.

Saturday

Along with invitations, praying for the lost sheep never ends. As you continue to invite your friends and family to each of the many events we have in the Collaborative, to your small group, and to Mass, remember to stop and pray each time before you do. Today, ask God to continue to bless you with the fortitude/strength that you need to persistently love!



"Truly I tell you,
whatever you did
for one of the least
of these brothers
and sisters
of mine,
you did for me."
-Jesus

FROM THE CATECHISM...

It is from God's love for all men that the Church in every age receives both the obligation and the vigor of Her missionary dynamism, 'for the love of Christ urges us on.' Indeed, God 'desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth'; that is, God wills the salvation of everyone through the knowledge of truth. Salvation is found in the truth. Those who obey the prompting of the Spirit of truth are already on the way of salvation. But the Church, to whom this truth has been entrusted, must go out to meet their desire, so as to bring them the truth. Because She believes in God's universal plan of salvation, the Church must be missionary.

Catechism of the Catholic Church, 851

Next Week's Readings

Here are the readings for next Sunday so that on Saturday you can read through them. If you take a few minutes to read them and prepare, you will get a lot more from Mass. They are available online at www.usccb.org. Use the calendar on the right.

Isaiah 63:16b-17,19b,64:2-7 Psalm 80:2-3,15-16,18-19 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Mark 13:33-37

This handout was created by the Lynn Catholic Collaborative. For more info on how to use at your parish please email admin@lynnatholic.org