

Saint Boniface Parish

Faith Formation Handout – Sunday, February 14th

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mark 1:40-45

A leper came to Jesus and kneeling down begged him and said, "If you wish, you can make me clean." Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched him, and said to him, "I do will it. Be made clean." The leprosy left him immediately, and he was made clean. Then, warning him sternly, he dismissed him at once. He said to him, "See that you tell no one anything, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses prescribed; that will be proof for them." The man went away and began to publicize the whole matter. He spread the report abroad so that it was impossible for Jesus to enter a town openly. He remained outside in deserted places, and people kept coming to him from everywhere.

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How do I welcome today's outcasts?

First Grade

An outcast is a person that is different from everyone else and a person that doesn't hangout with others. Can you think of a person that you know that is an outcast? What can you do to help them to not be an outcast anymore? How can you show them that they are loved and a part of the community? How can you help them to be friends?

Second Grade

In today's Gospel we hear about a leper who asks Jesus to heal him. A leper was a person with a disease that meant that they could not be around other people. How do you think it would feel if you were not allowed to be around your friends and family? How do you think an outcast feels when you and other people do not say hello or include them?

Third and Fourth Grades

When was a time that you felt like an outcast, like someone who people didn't want to talk with? How did that feel? What three words would you use to describe what it is like to be an outcast? What can you do to help other people not feel like that? What can you do to help people to not be outcasts or treated badly because they are an outcast?

Fifth and Sixth Grades

How would you define an outcast? What types of people would you put in that group? Do you know any outcasts? If yes, how have you treated those people when you have encountered them? What do you think would be the right way talk with and interact with someone who you think is an outcast? How would Jesus act?

Seventh and Eighth Grades

In today's Gospel, we hear how after Jesus healed the leper, He became very popular and people went to find Him. When was a time that you helped someone? What happened after that? Would you rather have a reputation as being helpful to others or selfish and ignores others? What do you need to do to have that reputation?

High School and Adults

Time is precious, and we have so many things that we are already responsible for. It can feel like we don't have enough time to do something for others. What are the things that take up your time? What is one thing that you could take ten minutes away from to be able to give ten minutes to someone who is an outcast?

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

Who are today's outcasts? The first people we may think about are the homeless, but who else in our lives feel like an outcast? Today, pay attention to the people that you see every day, such as when you are doing your errands for the day. Which person seems to not fit in? Who is ignored by others? What can you do to welcome them?

Tuesday

We can see what people we consider outcasts by looking at who we joke about and laugh at. What type of people do you usually laugh at and think that it is okay to joke about? Today, pay attention to what you laugh at and think is funny. Whether it is a joke someone tells or something on TV, who are the people that you consider outcasts?

Wednesday

One way that we can welcome the outcasts in our lives is to talk with them. The simplest way to do this is to smile and say hello to each person that you meet throughout the day. Next, ask them an easy question, such as 'How are you?', but wait and listen to their answer. Today, make an effort to talk with the people around you who are outcasts.

Thursday

After we welcome others with our words, it is important that we also welcome them with our actions. Smiling and saying hello is an important first step, but what else can you do to show that they are welcome? Today, do something for a person who is an outcast – sit with them at lunch, buy them a gift, or offer them a ride home.

Friday

One of the biggest reasons that people don't help outcasts that they see is because we are afraid of being an outcast ourselves. Today, let go of that fear and step out to do a loving act for an outcast in your life. Don't be afraid of what people will think of you. Jesus was an outcast at times, and we are called to live like Him.

Saturday

As Catholics, the Mass is the most important thing that we do all week. It is the time when we receive Jesus who loves us unconditionally. How are we doing with loving others who are at Mass with us? Today, prepare for Mass this weekend by deciding how you will love more specifically at the church. How can you be more welcoming?



FROM THE CATECHISM...

Thus a true filial spirit toward the Church can develop among Christians. It is the normal flowering of the baptismal grace which has begotten us in the womb of the Church and made us members of the Body of Christ. In her motherly care, the Church grants us the mercy of God which prevails over all our sins and is especially at work in the sacrament of reconciliation. With a mother's foresight, she also lavishes on us day after day in her liturgy the nourishment of the Word and Eucharist of the Lord.

Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2040

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.

Genesis 9:8-15 Psalm 25:4-5,6-7,8-9 1 Peter 3:18-22 Mark 1:12-25