

RADICAL HOSPITALITY

Luke 19:1-10

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short, he could not see over the crowd. So, he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way. When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." So, he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner."

But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now, I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."

- *How did Jesus practice radical hospitality?*
- *How did Zacchaeus' practice radical hospitality?*

On Sunday mornings which word would you use?

Do you: hear Mass, go to Mass, attend Mass, celebrate Mass?

There is no better evangelization method than to have a lively parish where all the ministers ("pew" Catholics as well) are conscious of their evangelizing potential.

(Lay Ministry, Lay Disciples, pg. 2)

One vision, one purpose, one mission.

Liturgy is the **work of the people**.

- Conscious – in mind, heart
- Engaging – work at being ONE. Recognizing strangers, assisting new people, creating community, strengthening the baptized.
- Active – deliberate decision to be "touched" and to create space for others. Singing, listening (wait with anticipation), absorb words.
- Fruitful – the rest of the week

Confiteor: "I confess to you my brothers and sisters for what I have done and what I have failed to do... and I ask you, my brothers and sisters to pray to the Lord for me."

Sign of Peace: a visible expression of the Church's unity and a call to reconciliation before approaching the altar to receive the Eucharist. Not rushed, genuine.

RADICAL HOSPITALITY BEFORE YOU ENTER THE NAVE OF THE CHURCH

Entrance onto Property

Parking lot well lit? Grounds well kept? Flowers? Banners? Buildings well marked?

Gathering Space

Inviting: Well lit; comfortable temperature; organized; plants; places to sit down; guest book. Greeters with name tags.

Informative: Information table; bulletin Boards with parish events; suggestion box. (avoid too many papers).

Spiritual: Prayer request book; pamphlet/CD/book rack.

Bathrooms clearly marked and clean.

Ministry of Hospitality (Ushers)

- hold the Church doors open
- shake hands
- If raining, meet people at their cars with an umbrella
- Have people direct traffic in parking lot
- Assist people with disabilities
- Introduce guests to some parishioners
- Offer a gift to newcomers
- Greet at the walkways of the Church
- Have reserved parking spaces for “first time” guests



HELP PEOPLE BE MISSIONARY DISCIPLES

- Pray the pews
- Name tag Sunday
- Keep the Faith alive in the summertime – bulletins from vacation areas
- Wailing wall
- Grandparent’s day: display names that grandparents are called, bring pictures of grandchildren, lift up pictures on iPhone, special blessing
- Prayer for people moving away from the parish
- From the pulpit, recognizing new people in Church
- In the pew: introduce yourself to those you don’t know and then introduce them to others
- Periodically change pews to meet others



SPECIAL PREPARATION

- Thanksgiving – November 26
- Advent – November 29
- Ash Wednesday – February 10
- Easter – March 28
- Pentecost – May 16

Special Events:

- Baptisms: have oldest and youngest person in the Church trace the cross on the newly baptized.
- Anointing of the Sick: due at least twice a year at Church (outside of Mass)
- Funerals
 - Tape the homily and eulogy and give to the family
 - Play background music as people gather for the funeral
 - Place a picture of the deceased on the parish bulletin board with name and date of death
 - Have a “resurrection choir”. This choir would sing only at funerals
 - Have an honor guard to greet the coffin. (If deceased belonged to an organization, have those members be the honor guard.)
 - Create a booklet so people can follow Funeral Liturgy. In it, explain some of the rituals and symbols, e.g. incense, Paschal Candle, white pall.
- Be sensitive to people with disabilities:
 - large-print worship aids
 - assisted listening devices
 - signing at Mass and meetings
 - wheelchair access, ramp
 - Braille song sheets
 - working and balanced sound system
 - use access symbols when advertising
 - events offer transportation
 - access symbols are clearly visible



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What are some concrete things I will do:
