

## Diocese of Rockville Centre New Evangelization

*"... the Church needs genuine witnesses for the new evangelization: men and women whose lives have been transformed by meeting with Jesus, men and women who are capable of communicating this experience to others. The Church needs saints. All are called to holiness, and holy people alone can renew humanity."*

*Pope John Paul II  
August 2004*

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Theme: Life

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### **ENCOUNTER:** With The Lord Jesus

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat (or drink), or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds in the sky; they do not sow or reap, they gather nothing into barns, yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are not you more important than they? Can any of you by worrying add a single moment to your life-span?"

*Matthew 6: 25-27*

#### **For your reflection:**

- I. With these words, Jesus probably helped His hearers not only encounter Him but themselves as well. How do these words of Jesus do this for you today?
- II. What do these words of Jesus bring to your understanding of life's meaning?
- III. How do these words of Jesus help you to encounter His divinity?

### **CONVERSION:** To The Way Of The Lord

yet I live, no longer I, but Christ lives in me; insofar as I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God who has loved me and given himself up for me.

*Galatians 2: 20*

#### **For your reflection:**

- I. The goal of conversion is life—a new life! How does Paul say he himself was able to come to this life? Are you on this same path of being converted?
- II. Paul does not describe the form of this new life by saying "what" is different but rather, that the "who" of his life is different. He says "Christ...lives in me" How do these words help us understand what conversion is all about?
- III. Paul gives us a "before and after" scenario in terms of his conversion. What differences do you see in your life as you deepen your conversion to the ways of the Lord?

### **EUCHARIST:** "I Am Not Worthy To Receive You"

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst.

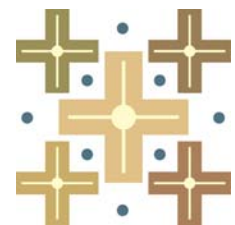
*John 6: 35*

#### **For your reflection:**

- I. Jesus' words are sure and to the point. There is no room for confusion or doubt. Through your own experience of life and faith, what do these words of Jesus mean to you?
- II. Jesus' words imply a desire on our behalf. Is this type of desire present in your life?
- III. Jesus claims that He is the One who satisfies and satiates all our needs. Do we receive Him in Holy communion with this conviction and faith?



**"I am the bread of life"**



## HOLINESS: "So Be Perfect As Your Heavenly Father Is Perfect"

Yes, and I ask you also, my true yoke-mate, to help them, for they have struggled at my side in promoting the gospel, along with Clement and my other co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice!

*Philippians 4: 3-4*

### For your reflection:

- I. "Working for the Gospel and rejoicing": Paul points to these as marks of holiness ("the book of life"). How are these marks present in your life?
- II. Do you know people who fit into this category as Paul describes it? What do their lives teach you?
- III. How may you promote this holiness of "working for the Gospel" and "rejoicing in the Lord" in your family life?

## MISSION: "You Are Witnesses Of These Things"

What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we looked upon and touched with our hands concerns the Word of life-- for the life was made visible; we have seen it and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was made visible to us-- what we have seen and heard we proclaim now to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; for our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.

*1John 1: 1-3*

### For your reflection:

- I. With John's words in mind, we remember that our mission is in promoting a Person not a philosophy. How do you communicate the life of Jesus through your life?
- II. John describes himself and his mission as a witness to what he has seen and touched. In what ways in your life have you seen and touched the life of Jesus?
- III. The mission of proclaiming the word of life leads to the formation of community, with God and with others. Do the communities you belong to draw their life from the life of Jesus?



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