

LIVING FAITH

15th
Sunday
Ordinary
Time



ROMAN CATHOLIC
ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. JOHN'S

July 15, 2018

THE GOSPEL FOR
TODAY Mark 6:7-13

He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, 'Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.' So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

TAKING THE GOSPEL HOME

In today's Gospel, Jesus sends his disciples out on a kind of internship. They are not yet fully formed or fully trained. They still have a lot to learn. But they can still do some good work, and this internship will become part of their learning. Jesus is a very good teacher. He does this same thing with us. We may not consider ourselves fully formed or fully trained missionaries, but still He sends us out into the world to spread the Good News by our example, but the way we live our lives, by the way we treat people, and by our words. We are missionary disciples of Jesus Christ today.

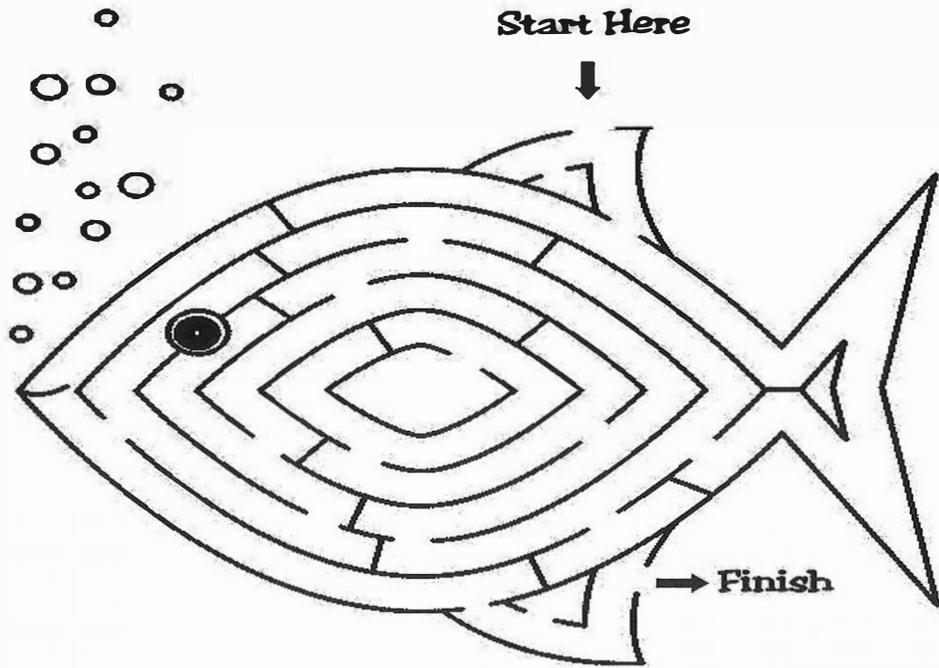
CONVERSATION STARTERS....

- How were you trained to be a missionary disciple?
- To whom are you sent?
- How do you proclaim the Good News?

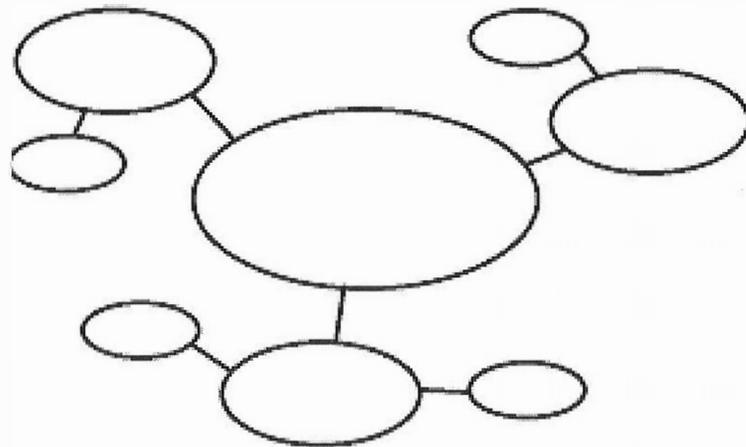
www.rcsj.org

©2018 Roman Catholic Archdiocese of St. John's. All Rights Reserved.

Jesus' Disciples were called to be Fishers of People



Name ways our family can be good disciples of Jesus this coming week.

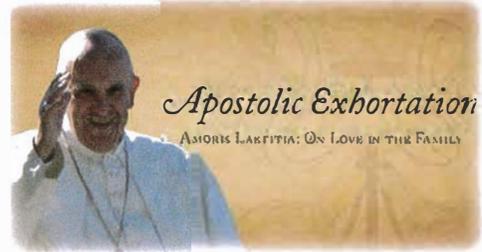


Subscribe to our weekly catechetical Resource by e-mail.

<http://www.eepurl.com/cimDOL>

THE CHURCH TEACHES

LOVE IN THE FAMILY EXPLORING POPE FRANCIS' APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION, *AMORIS*



Chapter eight: "Guiding, discerning and integrating weakness" (paragraphs 291-312) Continued from last week

The last section of Chapter 8 deals with what Pope Francis calls "pastoral mercy".

The overall sense of the chapter-- and of the spirit that Pope Francis wishes the Church to have-- is well summed up in the closing words: "I encourage the faithful who find themselves in complicated situations to speak confidently with their pastors or with other lay people whose lives are committed to the Lord. They may not always encounter in them a confirmation of their own ideas or desires, but they will surely receive some light to help them better understand their situation and discover a path to personal growth. I also encourage the Church's pastors to listen to them with sensitivity and serenity, with a sincere desire to understand their plight and their point of view, in order to help them live better lives and to recognize their proper place in the Church." (paragraph 312).

On the "logic of pastoral mercy", Pope Francis emphasizes: "At times we find it hard to make room for God's unconditional love in our pastoral activity. We put so many conditions on mercy that we empty it of its concrete meaning and real significance. That is the worst way of watering down the Gospel" (paragraph 311).

For a copy of Amoris Laetitia click here:

http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco_esortazione-ap_20160319_amoris-laetitia.html



WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES
DUBLIN, IRELAND
AUGUST 21-26, 2018 “The Gospel of the
Family: Joy for the World”

LETTER OF POPE FRANCIS

To the Venerable Brother Cardinal KEVIN FARRELL Prefect of the Dicastery for the Laity, the Family and Life

At the end of the Eighth World Meeting of Families, held in Philadelphia in September 2015, I announced that the subsequent meeting with Catholic families of the world would take place in Dublin. I now wish to initiate preparations, and am pleased to confirm that it will be held from 21 to 26 August 2018, on the theme “The Gospel of the Family: joy for the world”. Indeed, it is my wish for families to have a way of deepening their reflection and their sharing of the content of the post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation *Amoris Laetitia*. One might ask: does the Gospel continue to be a joy for the world? And also: does the family continue to be good news for today’s world?

I am sure the answer is yes! And this “yes” is firmly based on God’s plan. The love of God is His “yes” to all creation and at the heart of this latter is man. It is God’s “yes” to the union between man and woman, in openness and service to life in all its phases; it is God’s “yes” and His commitment to a humanity that is often wounded, mistreated and dominated by a lack of love. The family, therefore, is the “yes” of God as Love. Only starting from love can the family manifest, spread and regenerate God’s love in the world. Without love, we cannot live as children of God, as couples, parents and brothers.

I wish to underline how important it is for families to ask themselves often if they live based on love, for love and in love. In practice, this means giving oneself, forgiving, not losing patience, anticipating the other, respecting. How much better family life would be if every day we lived according to the words, “please”, “thank you” and “I’m sorry”. Every day we have the experience of fragility and weakness, and therefore we all, families and pastors, are in need of renewed humility that forms the desire to form ourselves, to educate and be educated, to help and be helped, to accompany, discern and integrate all men of good will. I dream of an outbound Church, not a self-referential one, a Church that does not pass by far from man’s wounds, a merciful Church that proclaims the heart of the revelation of God as Love, which is Mercy. It is this very mercy that makes us new in love; and we know how much Christian families are a place of mercy and witnesses of mercy, and even more so after the extraordinary Jubilee. The Dublin meeting will be able to offer concrete signs of this. I therefore invite all the Church to keep these indications in mind in the pastoral preparation for the next World Meeting.

You, dear Brother, along with your collaborators, have the task of translating in a special way the teaching of *Amoris Laetitia*, with which the Church wishes families always to be in step, in that inner pilgrimage that is the manifestation of authentic life. My thoughts go in a special way to the archdiocese of Dublin and to all the dear Irish nation for the generous welcome and commitment involved in hosting such an important event. May the Lord recompense you as of now, granting you abundant heavenly favours. May the Holy Family of Nazareth guide, accompany and bless your service, and all the families involved in the preparation of the great World Meeting in Dublin. Francis