

Creating a Culture of Active Discipleship



BELLARMINE CHAPEL

August 29, 2020

WHAT is Active Discipleship?



An intentional way of living
as a disciple of Christ
practicing an integration
of Contemplation (Prayer) & Action (Mission)



Ignatian Paradigm

The *active disciple* may use the *Ignatian paradigm* of experience-reflection-action to reaffirm a ministry one is already doing or to prayerfully discern next steps to live more deeply as a loving disciple of Christ.





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Participation

The *active disciple* looks at one's participation in the life of the parish community through the lens of *active discipleship*.

What am I already doing?

What else am I being called to do?

WHY are we launching this initiative?



- ❖ Giving a name to what we are already doing
 - Contemplation (Prayer)
 - Action (Mission)
- ❖ Parish Strategic Planning initiative
- ❖ Universal Apostolic Preferences

Universal Apostolic Preferences of the Society of Jesus 2019-2029



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1. **Showing the way to God** through the Spiritual Exercises and discernment;
2. **Walking with the poor**, the outcasts of the world, those whose dignity has been violated, in a mission of reconciliation and justice;
3. **Accompanying young people** in the creation of a hope-filled future;
4. Collaborating in the **care of our Common Home.**

WHO does this include?



You!

All children, teens and adults in our Bellarmine community.
Meeting you where you are.



Active Discipleship



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will be the guiding invitation and model for engaging in our Faith Formation and Social Mission experiences for parish members of all ages.



HOW will this work?



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Parish members will be encouraged to prayerfully identify a “next step” they could take toward more intentionally learning and experiencing prayer or mission, contemplation or action. An engaging website with a “menu” of self-guided and group-guided offerings will be available, including both in-parish and wider community opportunities.

Choose your own path to active discipleship



Contemplation (Prayer)

- ❖ Pray *The Examen* alone or group
- ❖ Pray *The Spiritual Exercises* with a group
- ❖ Join a Small Faith Community
- ❖ Participate in a parent group for forming children as active disciples
- ❖ Try out Centering Prayer group
- ❖ Explore spirituality podcasts

Action (Mission)

- ❖ Learn about Catholic Social Teaching
- ❖ Join a *JustFaith* or *JustMatters* group
- ❖ Attend an event or mobilization centered around social justice
- ❖ Volunteer/Do service
- ❖ Donate
- ❖ Vote

Individual and group paths

One's ongoing growth as an active disciple can develop individually, as a family or household, in a small group, small faith community, or the greater community.



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Ongoing invitations

The invitation to engage as an *active disciple* will be regularly extended during Sunday liturgies, through parishioner “witness and testimony,” through our parish bulletin, Social Mission Newsletter, and social media.

WHEN will we begin?



We already have!

Our parish participation in formation and mission opportunities is high.

We want to engage even more people!



Look forward to these gatherings

Once a quarter our parish will model this process by offering a day of prayer/action/reflection guided by the Ignatian paradigm for members of all ages.
Look for our first gathering this Fall!

Inspired? Motivated?



How inspired and motivated are you to enter
into this process?
What do you need to be motivated to take the
next step?

Go Forth and Set the World on Fire!

Questions?



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Please type your questions into the chat box.