

A Call to Discipleship: Grateful Giving

One of the most precious gifts God offers us is the opportunity to share in the work of building a peaceful, just and loving world. Our participation in the care of the world and all that it holds requires the sharing of our resources so that the fruitfulness of good works can shape the world into the kind of place we all want to live, and bring about the kingdom God intends for all God's people. As disciples of Jesus we are much more than members of a parish. Disciples have a relationship with Jesus and it is in the community of the parish that we are nurtured and grow in faith so that we can go out into the world and share the Good News with those we meet each day.

DISCIPLES ARE PEOPLE OF FAITH

We believe that God is present in the many events of our lives—both in the joys and sufferings. In faith, we follow the example of Jesus to live as disciples, and it is in faith that we offer what we have. If there is any trouble with the artwork, been given—knowing that God provides for all our needs.

“So do not worry and say, “What are we to eat?” or “What are we to drink?” or “What are we to wear?” Your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides.” - Matthew 6:31-33

DISCIPLES ARE PEOPLE OF GRATITUDE

The faith we carry within our hearts leads us to be people who express gratitude for the many graces and blessings we have received from our loving and merciful God. The meaning of the word Eucharist, the summit of our faith is thanksgiving. In gratitude we move in the world bringing joy, peace and love as we share our gifts of treasure.

“When you give to him give freely and not with ill will; for the Lord, your God, will bless you for this in all your works and undertakings.” - Deuteronomy 15:10

DISCIPLES ARE PEOPLE OF GENEROSITY

Knowing that we are called to make a difference in the world through our love and actions, our giving becomes generous. We come to realize we are given much so that we may in turn give to others. The greatest example of this is God's act of love in giving his son Jesus who willingly died for the salvation of all people. As faithful followers then, we generously share with others, especially those in need.

“Give and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed and overflowing, will be poured into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you.” - Luke 6:38

QUESTION FOR SELF-REFLECTION:

How do you feel God is calling you to respond to the blessings He has given you? Are you a member or a disciple?

