

OLV Confirmation Preparation
Second Session – January 19th 2012



Welcome
Hand out name tags

Recap on First Session

- Sacraments - Baptism
- Ways to help in your faith journey
- What do Catholics believe?
- The Nicene Creed
- Ten Commandments
- Beatitudes
- Catholics and Church
- Places in the Catholic Church
- Questions?

Thoughts of attending Christmas mass.....

Do you remember the little booklet we gave you with daily reflections on Advent?

Was this helpful at all?

Were you able to better understand this Advent season, waiting for the birth of Jesus?

4 Areas of Parish Life

- **Faith Formation**
 - To share our faith with each other
- **Liturgy**
 - All that pertains to liturgical celebrations
- **Fellowship**
 - Promote activities where parishioners can meet and exchange ideas
- **Transformation**
 - Contribute to the transformation of society

At the initial meeting last November, you were handed a document which describes the 4 Areas of Parish Life.

What is transformation of society?

Jesus spent the first 30 years of his life as an “unknown” in a small country town quietly practicing his trade – a simple man living a simple life. When he began his public ministry – preaching about the kingdom of God – he was baptized by his cousin John in the Jordan River.

There, a marvellous thing happened. Jesus was “confirmed” in his mission on earth.

When the bishop seals you with the Holy Spirit, you will be confirmed with the same Spirit Luke spoke in the following Gospel reading:

Reading from Luke 4:16-21

Then Jesus went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up,
And on the Sabbath he went as usual to the synagogue.
He stood up to read the Scriptures and was handed the book of the
prophet Isaiah. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it is
written,

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has chosen me to bring good news
to the poor;

He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives;

And recovery of sight to the blind,

To set free the oppressed and announce that the time has come

When the Lord will save his people."

Jesus rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down.
All the people in the synagogue had their eyes fixed on him, as he said
to them, "This passage of scripture has come true today, as you heard
it being read."

Ask someone to do the reading while we all follow on the screen

Ellen – "When I think of transformation, I always think of Eucharist first, and its power to transform us to bring about the kingdom of God."

Ellen – reference Holy Mass (Missa) concludes with the sending forth – the Concluding Rites say "Go forth, the mass is ended", or "Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord" or "Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life"

Ellen – "We need to first come together as a community or group or whatever if we want to be able to go forward with transformation"

How do OLV and St. Malachy contribute to transformation?

- The Transformation Committee
 - Service to the community at large
 - Local food bank and soup kitchen
 - School breakfast program (cereal bars)
 - Lions Club annual telethon
 - PHSSN

Read the description of Transformation Committee on 4 pole sheet

- Bill will speak about service to the community at large
- Ask Jean to speak about the food bank
- Ask Dorothy to speak about the school breakfast program
- Diane will speak about the annual Lions Club telethon
- Linda will speak briefly about PHSSN

Development and Peace

- **Mission Statement**
- The Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace, a democratic movement for international solidarity, supports partners in the Global South in the pursuit of alternatives to unjust social, political and economic structures.
- It educates the Canadian population about the causes of impoverishment of peoples and mobilizes actions for change.
- In the struggle for human dignity, Development and Peace associates with social change groups in the North and South.
- It supports women in their search for social and economic justice.
- Development and Peace, the official development organization of the Canadian Catholic Church, is inspired by the values of the Gospel, particularly "the preferential option for the poor."

Invite Chris Santillon to speak about Development and Peace and the Lenten project ThinkFast

The Origins of D&P

- On March 26, 1967, Pope Paul VI released an encyclical entitled *Populorum Progressio*
- What is an encyclical?
- Let's look at the first section of this letter:

"The development of peoples has the Church's close attention, particularly the development of those peoples who are striving to escape from hunger, misery, endemic diseases and ignorance; of those who are looking for a wider share in the benefits of civilization and a more active improvement of their human qualities; of those who are aiming purposefully at their complete fulfillment. Following on the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council a renewed consciousness of the demands of the Gospel makes it her duty to put herself at the service of all...and to convince them that solidarity in action at this turning point in human history is a matter of urgency."

- Let's look at two key phrases:

1. *“The development of peoples has the Church's close attention”*

2. *“... a renewed consciousness of the demands of the Gospel makes it her duty to put herself at the service of all...”*


Charity, Justice and Solidarity

- A key word which Paul VI uses in his address is “solidarity.”
- What is solidarity?

The Origins of D&P

- In 1967, the Canadian Bishops along with clergy, religious and lay people established Development and Peace.
- They were inspired by Paul VI's encyclical and ensured that the foundation of this organization was charity, justice and solidarity.





How do you contribute to transformation?

At the last session, some of you talked about the Christmas food drive at school.

What other ways do you contribute to social justice?

How do you contribute to transformation?

It is the mission of the entire Church to do Jesus' work so that the kingdom of God can become a reality on earth as it is in heaven.

What does sharing in Jesus' mission mean for us today?

The gospels show us over and over that much of Jesus' mission was "service", especially to the poor and the outcasts.

How do you contribute to transformation?

- Consider a service project as part of your preparation for confirmation
- Consider service projects that you will want to continue after you have received the sacrament of confirmation
- Confirmation requires that we become more fully immersed in the life of the Church

Before going through bullets, say:

“A true servant is almost unaware of himself or herself – the needs of others become the primary focus.

As disciples of Jesus, our challenge as Christian servants is to become more aware of the needs of those around us, especially the people we encounter in everyday life.”

Show slides

Conclude with request that candidates seriously consider a service project – we will want to know more about these projects in a later session. If anyone cannot come up with a project, they can call us for help.

Next Session

- February 16th 2012
- Service in Liturgy
 - Why do we have liturgical ministry?