**January- Session 5, ACTS 2:42 Eucharistic Revival Small Group- Transformation/Divinization**

Two-hour Session, 7-9 p.m., adjust to your meeting time as needed. You will need a Bible tonight read after Bishop Medley’s video. See below at 8:20

7:00 Welcome/Gathering Time

* There is extra time this session to catch up on the Christmas season and visit.

7:20 Opening Prayer

* The opening prayer can be found on page 40 in the participant book.

7:25 God Sightings- Invite the group to share some of ways they have found God in their daily lives over the past month. Any new breakthroughs, beginnings or struggles in your life where you see God at work, or where you really need/hope to?

7:45 Invite members to volunteer to read pages 41-42.

7:50 Discuss the three questions on page 42-43.

 I recently was having a conversation with Fr. Carl McCarthy and I’m sure he would not mind me sharing this. I was telling him that I was excited for Session Five in the Acts Small Groups, because transformation and divinization are so important in our Christian lives. We are meant to be changed throughout our lives and grow more and more to be like Christ. He mentioned that he has not heard the word “Divinization.” This word has been around in the Eastern Catholic Church for almost a millennia, but in the West it is gaining attention. The idea is that our living relationship with God is meant to change us. We are meant to be transformed by receiving Jesus and this technical word is divinized. So do not be alarmed that you have not heard this word. Many priests are unfamiliar with it. But our Bishops are beginning to use it and it represents a significant opportunity for catechesis and growth for adult Catholics. Hope this explanation helps a bit.

8:10 Play Bishop Medley’s Video- Session 5

8:20 Discussion Questions:

 Read 1 Corinthians 11:17-22 together and then discuss these questions:

1. Bishop Medley talked about the scripture we just read. In light of this reading, “What are some attributes that make for a welcoming and engaging liturgy for all?”
2. Can we think of any ways to care for our members that rarely or never attend Mass?
3. What kind of sacrifice is Bishop Medley talking about?

8:35 Closing Song /Prayer-

This song is called Remembrance by Hillsong. May we strive to remember how much the Lord has done for us each time we receive the Eucharist.

https://youtu.be/U9kbdFCSrFU?si=QpXRv8r4Se0WQBOq

The closing prayer can be spontaneous or done by reading the prayer on page 44.

8:40 Announcements:

1. Our next meeting is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Would someone like to bring a dessert?
2. Any parish announcements or events coming up this month?
3. Bishop Medley has announced that he will do videos for a second year for our Acts 2:42 Small Groups. We hope many groups will continue to meet for a second year and if you have less than 12 people, that you will invite new people to join. Also, we will be looking for additional Host Team Leaders to begin new groups. If you feel called to this ministry, and are willing to leave your current group, please let your Parish Small Group Coordinator know.
4. Please turn to page 77 and let people know there will be a Men’s Cursillo weekend on Feb. 29-March 3 and a Women’s weekend from March 7-10 at Gasper River. Consider gathering a group of three to four Women or Men from your parish and attending together. Or if you are feeling called to go on retreat, come alone and meet others from around the diocese. Has anyone here tonight been on a Cursillo weekend? Would you recommend it to others?

8:40 Social time

Plan to have a dessert to share with the group and encourage people to stick around and enjoy one another’s company.

9:00 End

Happy New Year 2024! Thank you for your partnership in our Acts 2:42 Small Groups. May God bless you abundantly!