



A SPECIAL INVITATION

Small Christian Communities

Jesus invites you to consider joining a **Small Christian Community** and experience what a small group can do:

Enrich your faith life | Connect you with fellow Christians
Pray and socialize together | Discuss the upcoming Sunday's Gospel.



The Journey into Christian Community Begins when People....

- ✓ **Get to know one another and make a difference for one another**
- ✓ **Share faith and help one another to connect to life and faith**
- ✓ **Pray together. Enjoy life and celebrate together - be Eucharistic**
- ✓ **Learn together how to be empowered and act with authority**
- ✓ **Work together to achieve common goals for the Mission of Christ**
- ✓ **Support, help and serve one another**

The Journey into A Small Christian Community is a Journey into Communion with God and Communion with One-another.

We are small faith-sharing groups focused on the coming Sunday's Gospel and exploring our personal faith journeys.

The purpose of Small Christian Communities is to help enrich your spiritual life, connect you with fellow Christians who you will pray and socialize with and provide support for one another.

The top reasons people give for joining SCC:

"Learn all we can about God and the need to support one another spiritually."

Four most frequent activities identified with SCC:

Prayer, Scripture, Faith Sharing, Spirituality.



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SLOW DOWN

Gathering together regularly with a few fellow parishioners in a Small Christian community offers people a chance to slow down, to be a bit more reflective about life, to sift and sort the things that count. Over time the small church community becomes a place where members ask: How might God be acting in this crazy mixed-up life I'm living?

STEP BACK

A Small Christian community is a group of 8-12 adults, who come together, usually in each others' homes, twice a month to share something of their stories with one another and to share God's story (i.e. the Sunday scriptures). Listening appreciatively to the story of another, people help each other to make connections between life and faith.

NOTICE YOUR LIFE

Small Christian Communities are not just about meeting the individual needs, they are also about building up the parish community and strengthening the life and mission of the parish. The key to building a parish that makes a difference in the world around it is to build a parish where people regularly make a difference in each other's lives and faith. Small Christian Communities make a difference in the lives of those who participate in them and in the parish that develops them.

One Church One Family

Since the time of Jesus who gathered a small band of twelve, small communities have been an important dimension of church life. Just as the early church kept the faith alive we gather to pray, share faith, support one another, continue to learn and reach out to others through **Small Christian Communities**.

At your meeting you will discuss the upcoming Sunday's Gospel, reflect on some really significant questions on that Gospel, share your thoughts, life and faith experiences, focus on what's important in your life, and create new ways to serve God's people.



Whenever two or three are gathered in my name...

Right from the beginning, the synod fathers recognized that the church as family cannot reach her full potential as church unless she is divided into communities small enough to foster close human relationships...They should moreover be communities that pray and listen to God's word, encourage the members to take on responsibility, learn to live an ecclesial life and reflect on different human problems in the light of the Gospel.

(Pope John Paul II, (Ecclesia in Africa / Papal Apostolic Exhortation / Origins, Oct 5, 1995 Para 89)



It seems entirely timely therefore to form ecclesial communities and groups of a size that allows for true human relationships...In such a human context it will be easier to hear the word of God, to reflect on the range of human problems in the light of this word, and gradually to make responsible decisions inspired by the all embracing love of Christ.

(Pope John Paul II, (Ecclesia in America / Papal Apostolic Exhortation Origins, Feb 4, 1999 Para. 41)

For Additional Information



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