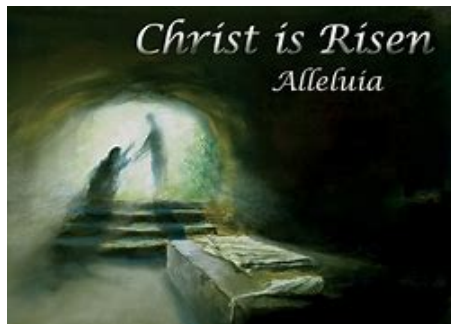




# THE **INTENTIONAL** DISCIPLE

The Evangelization Newsletter of Corpus Christi Parish

"To bring Jesus the Christ to the other in thought, word and deed" ..... APRIL 2021



## Evangelization: **Spread Easter Joy**

If you re-read the Easter passages in the Gospels through fresh eyes you find people rushing to share their joy in Jesus Christ. Quite simply, that is evangelization. Evangelization is our cup of Easter joy spilling over. Maybe we need to be reminded of how the Church began. It started with Jesus and a tiny number of believers in an obscure part of the Roman Empire. It spread by

word of mouth and the witness of loving acts of Christians. And it spread quickly, like a fire. Evangelization reminds us that now it is our turn to do the same. Think of evangelization as the restart button of Easter joy. It is an invitation to us to rediscover the rush of the first Easter. For us it can be as simple as sharing this joyous Good News in the **50 days of the liturgical season of Easter**. Pope Francis reminded us to be living witnesses of Easter joy when he raised the liturgical celebration of St. Mary Magdalene to a feast day. She is the "apostle to the apostles" and our Easter evangelization patroness. This Easter, let us share St. Mary Magdalene's words with everyone we know: *"I have seen the Lord!"* (John 20:18). \*\*\*\*\*



## **What is an Intentional Disciple?**

What is an intentional disciple? A disciple is one who listens and learns from a teacher. An intentional disciple is someone who not only listens and learns, but also chooses to follow the teacher and apply what he teaches. He or she intends to practice what is taught. The first step toward intentional discipleship is to encounter Jesus. While baptism and other

sacraments give us grace, and we encounter Jesus in the Mass, it is through a process of intentionally committing ourselves to follow him as our teacher, that faith becomes vital, dynamic, and life-giving. We must encounter Jesus and CHOOSE to follow him. Intentional disciples are family of God. We can be this family by doing what God asks us to do. Intentional disciples are Jesus' brothers and sisters and mothers. What could be better than that? \*\*\*\*\*



**"Who are You? ...** God has created me to do some definite service; he has committed some work to me which he has not committed to

another. I have my mission—I may never know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next. Somehow, I am necessary for his purposes, as necessary in my place as an archangel in his—if, indeed, I fail, God can raise another, as he could make the stones children of Abraham. Yet I have a part in this great work; I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons. He has not created me for naught. I shall do good. I shall do his work. I shall be an angel of peace, a preacher of truth in my own place—an **intentional disciple**—if I do but keep his commandments and serve him in my calling. I ask not to see. I ask not to know. I ask simply to be used. \*\*\*\*\*