



## NEXT WEEK AT MASS

### -Meet Your Neighbors at Mass-

For week two of the Love Where You Live series, we are encouraging people to seek a new perspective and sit somewhere different. We invite you to make the first move and meet your neighbor - or meet in the middle!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Our Bishop John Noonan, in remarking on the 50 years of our Diocese, says this: “The Church was built on the love of Christ . . . and has grown and multiplied in great numbers simply because people continue to reply ‘Yes!’ to Jesus’ question, ‘Do you love me?’”

With that in mind, we are calling our message series over the next three weeks, “Love . . . Where You Live”, unpacking what it means to bring the love of Jesus to the people around us, person by person, family by family, neighborhood by neighborhood.

There was a time in this country, particularly in large cities, when people completely identified with their neighborhood environment. It was an extension of the family, with everyone knowing each other and each other’s needs, with a willingness to enter into those needs. With the dawn of social media, and in a state as transitory as Florida, those days have long passed. Statistics show more than 50% of people say they don’t know the names of anyone in their neighborhood. Twenty-five percent say they don’t have anyone to talk to in their neighborhood. That means there are some pretty lonely people in our neighborhoods. Maybe you are one of them!

Our intention over these next three weeks is to consider this modern phenomenon, and offer some simple, practical ways to counter this isolation, taking steps to be the neighbor God intended us to be.

In this Sunday’s readings St. James teaches; “Faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead.” And Jesus, in Mark’s Gospel proclaims; “Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.” I don’t think being ‘neighbor’ to one another is necessarily a cross to bear, but to “follow” Jesus into those lonely places where we live is an act of faith and love.

You will be hearing frequently this year the mandate to “Seek, Accompany and Serve”. This mini-message series is a perfect entry into this calling.

In Christ,  
Fr. Charlie



All who have joined our parish community within the past year are invited to our

## **New Parishioner Potluck Feast Celebration**

for an informative and enjoyable evening of food, fun & fellowship!

Many of our Priests, Staff, and Ministry Leaders will be there and look forward to sharing this time with you!

- **Date/Time/Location!** Friday, September 14 at 7pm in the School Cafeteria.
- **Directions to the School Cafeteria:** Look for the blue & yellow awning on campus. The school cafeteria is under the awning, to the left.
- **Bring your favorite delicacy for us all to enjoy as a parish family!** Unable to bring a dish? No worries, we have you covered.

**THIS IS NOW YOUR PARISH COMMUNITY AND WE WANT YOU TO FEEL  
CONNECTED TO YOUR NEW FAITH FAMILY!**

### **NEW PARISHIONER POTLUCK RESERVATION**

Send an e-mail to Melissa Findley at [MelissaF@StMaryMagdalen.org](mailto:MelissaF@StMaryMagdalen.org) or drop this form off at the Concierge, parish office, collection basket or in the pre-paid envelope.

**Name of Family Members Attending:**

**Phone/E-Mail:**

**Type of Dish:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Unable to bring a dish**

**Not sure, but will bring something**

  
**GOD BLESS**