

Walking with Jesus this Lenten Season 2021

Lent, like everything during this past year of COVID, is likely to be a different season from any before. As many of you may remember, we have had the tradition at Our Collaborative to challenge ourselves to walk more, be more physically active as well as pray more & serve more to be more spiritually active during the season of Lent. We have called this program the Walk to Jerusalem.

This year our goal is to “keep it simple” and encourage all to simply have the personal **goal** of increasing activity more each day (walking, exercising, MOVING, etc) and perhaps keep track/journal each day - make that extra effort for Jesus! Maybe that extra activity can be SERVICE to someone in His name. Maybe even something as simple as calling and checking in on your neighbor, bringing supplies to someone homebound or quarantined, sending a text or email or card to someone you know who is struggling with the many effects of the virus or caring for those with it. Many are suffering and need to know that someone cares- can you be that someone? Be Jesus’ hands & feet & mouthpiece. LOVE as He did with actions. Transform everything into prayer, as Matthew Kelly’s book encourages.

Maybe your goal can be an extra mile a day or 20 minutes of activity/service or 1 simple act of kindness each day? This will demonstrate to Jesus your commitment to becoming more physically & spiritually healthy, respecting His many sacrifices and all the walking /serving He did in His ministry to reach all people and enlarge the kingdom of God... And ultimately to walk to the Cross and His death & resurrection for US!

While you make that extra effort, could you reflect on His journey and PRAY more - spend 20 extra minutes a day, for example, reflecting on His journey & in conversation with Him? There will be opportunities to pray the Stations of the Cross (which we will encourage you to reflect on each week) & there are virtual rosary groups, Mass, movies/series on the Life of Christ to help you reflect on Him. This is when you truly “**WALK**” **with Jesus**. Nothing would make Jesus happier! This is how we deepen our RELATIONSHIP with Jesus- a worthy goal for Lent & the best thing to celebrate as we celebrate His resurrection on Easter Sunday!

Packets are available in the foyer of each church with all of the information and weekly reflections for the Walk. Each week in our bulletin, we will offer a suggested reading, reflection and a Station or two. Know that as you read, reflect, pray, serve, and walk, **WE ALL DO THIS TOGETHER, in HIS name**. And for a visual, we will include a photo from our Holy Land Pilgrimage 2020 – where Jesus truly walked, served, and suffered for us!

Good luck & God bless you as you make this LENTEN WALK your best ever!