

# Another Name for Everything Podcast Group Reflection

By Josh Romo

This past Lent, I had the unique opportunity to journey with a virtual community of eleven other men and women through the first season of “Another Name for Every Thing,” a podcast from the Center for Action and Contemplation based on Fr. Richard Rohr’s recent book, “The Universal Christ.” The 15-episode season covered a wide variety of topics, but centered on the six opening themes of “The Universal Christ” shown in the picture below. These themes are gateways themselves, but my one-line summary that I was left with to ponder and celebrate over Easter was:

**“Who is Christ? And who am I (are we) because of Christ?”**

These are not only the central questions for a Church grappling with a changing world but also for the Marianist Family, who takes as its model a human woman whom Love was poured so generously into that she carried Christ, and all of us *in* Christ, into this world. These are indeed mystical questions with transformative implications. As our group met week after week, it started to really sink in how *alive* Lent became when celebrated within an intentional community and discussing what it means to live in a Christ-soaked world. I often thought of Lent as a time of preparation for a death *too tragic* to understand, but this year I left feeling like what I was really preparing for all along was a new life in Christ that is still *too good* to understand. I can’t thank the eleven others who joined me enough for their role in that – and I invite others to join next time!

1

**Christ is not Jesus’ last name.**

*Christ has existed ‘from the beginning,’ so the Christ cannot be the same as Jesus.*

4

**Original goodness.**

*The Christian story line must start with a positive and over-arching vision for humanity and for history, or it will never get beyond the primitive, exclusionary, and fear-based strategies of most early human development.*

2

**Accept being fully accepted.**

*God’s infinite love has always included all that God created from the very beginning. The connection is inherent and absolute.*

5

**Love is the meaning.**

*Love is a universal language and underlying energy that keeps showing itself despite our best efforts to resist it.*

3

**See Christ in every thing.**

*I have never been separate from God, nor can I be, except in my mind.*

6

**A sacred wholeness.**

*The full journey towards wholeness must always include the negative experiences—the cross—that we usually reject.*