

Shannon & Cerneka Orin Johnson

Sample Parish Missions and Retreats



ROAD TRIP!

The Christian life is a journey with Christ. Like any road trip, it requires preparation, perseverance through challenges, and companions to help us along the way. Through Scripture, prayer, music, silliness, personal witness, and reflection, participants will explore how God calls us, walks with us, and sends us forth as fellow travelers on the road to holiness.

YOU AGAIN?

We all think we know where to find Jesus – but what if he keeps showing up where we least expect him? Like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, we often walk right beside Christ without recognizing him. Only later do we realize he was with us all along. The same is true in the Mass and in daily life: Jesus is present, but not always recognized. This parish mission explores how Christ reveals himself in the gathered Church, in the Word proclaimed, in the Eucharist, and in the world beyond the church doors. Through worship, community building, music, and fun, participants will be invited to notice again what we may have missed before—and to discover that the Jesus we were looking for has been walking with us the entire time.

LIVING WATERS: LET MERCY FLOW

In a time when disagreements turn toxic and the pace of life is frenetic, it can be hard to recognize what our baptismal call means to our practical, everyday lives. We Christians must take the heritage of our faith and apply that to the real-life moments when peace, reconciliation, mercy, justice and truth are needed in our everyday lives. Come experience an evening that is meditative, engaging, humorous, thought-provoking and, above all, a true encounter with God. Leave transformed and revitalized!

EXPLORING THEMES OF DIVINITY, ABANDONMENT, COVENANT, AND SUFFERING IN THE MUSIC OF LENT

This presentation would engage attendees in looking through texts of music for the Lenten season, searching for themes that could then be used at prayer, catechesis, faith-formations sessions, and the like. Some attention would be given to Lenten pieces by Shannon and Orin: "Gather at the Cross," "Fill Us, O God," "Psalm 22" and "God of the Covenants" as well as any other music appropriate for the session. Time would be spent singing and praying the music as well as diving into the texts for revelations and new insights that could be fruitful during the Church's season of repentance and growth.

over, please

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FAITH AS A JOURNEY: HELPING ONE ANOTHER ALONG "THE WAY"

We often find that the faithful lack a theological language to talk about their relationship with God or their faith journey. This presentation would help all God's people (or those who work with them) discover new and relatable ways to speak about these aspects of faith. We explore all this by using everyday street signs to speak of faith, and process a short slideshow about Jesus's own journey into the desert following his baptism. All gathered will come to know techniques to give voice to their own journey of faith, and how it relates to Christ's life on earth.

DARKNESS AND LIGHT: BREAKING OPEN HUMAN DIGNITY

Two concepts that challenge all of us as Christians are *bullying* and *dignity*. Especially in the Christian context, how are these defined? How can we, in the face of bullying, and mean and unsympathetic actions, become good stewards of Christian dignity? This session includes viewing and processing a couple viral videos of a newscaster who responds on air to an insensitive email about her weight, as well as personal stories and music of a child's struggle with cancer and his witness to dignity.

AN EVENING OF FUN AND HUMOR

Come together for a time of laughter and joy exploring different facets of our faith lives as only Shannon and Orin can. This evening will feed the souls of all in attendance. Segments could include:

- The Games of the XXIII Liturginerd Olympiad
- The parody song "Helping Verbs"
- An fake commercial, "Songs We Should Never Record"
- Other interactive songs, stories, poetry, and more!

or maybe...

SOMETHING ELSE ENTIRELY?

Does your community need to head a certain faith-filled message, or an experience of holiness not listed here already? Please drop us a line and we'd be happy to create a custom experience just for your community – of all ages – with a mix of music, storytelling, ritual and prayer.

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