

Pilgrimage in Place

A Journey towards Sacred Truth

Target Group: A large cross-sectional (age, gender, single/attached), group of parish members.

Guides: Our Role:

Set the **Context**,

Smooth the **Process**,

Provide the **Questions**,

Engage **Perspectives**

- Fr. Phillip Bogacki: SJV Associate Pastor
- Sr. Melanie Paradis Wheaton Franciscan, MS Education & Professional Development Spiritual Director
- Mary Janowak SJV Director of Adult & Family Ministry, MA Pastoral Studies Spiritual Director
- Larry Ritzman: MS Leadership Studies, Adjunct Faculty Marquette University, Parishioner 23 Years

Goals

- An authentic experience of self through others
- Deeper connection with our God
- New sharpness of Truth
- Awareness of Personal Life Themes
- Application of Personal Purpose to our Future

Overview of Process: Personal Journaling, Shared Experience, This I Believe

- | <u>Personal</u> | <u>With Others</u> |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Writing• Reflection• Action | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Questions• Listening• Conversation |
- This I Believe is an intense but richly rewarding process that will be introduced in the weekly community session two and include three drafts over subsequent weeks

Timeline

- Information Session Feb 7 12:30 PM (After 11:00 AM Mass)
- Signup Deadline Feb 14
- Sessions with Others Week of Feb 23, March 2, 9, 16, 23
 - Large Group Tuesday evenings 7PM @ SJV
 - Online Option
- Full Day session April 17 9 AM to 5 PM Location TBD
- Follow-up April 27 SJV 7 PM

Topics overview: Journal prompts will be sent out daily via email

Themes include;

- Week 1 - Journey into the past,
- Week 2 - Reflections on the present day,
- Week 3 - A personal inventory,
- Week 4 - Into the future - purpose,
- Week 5 - Identifying limits and breaking through them

FAQ's

- benefits of attending sessions:
All the face to face components of communication within the context of a small group, and small groups as a component the whole community of Pilgrims"
- benefits of using website:
The website offers an alternative to participate for busy people. There is also the option of utilizing both formats as your schedule dictates
- how to get the most from your pilgrimage
Keeping an open mind
Trusting the process to get you where you need to go
Patience
- how much time will it take:
Daily – Dedicated time of reflection & journaling is suggested
Weekly sessions approximately 90 minutes
Full Day Common Experience Saturday April 17
- what age(s) are appropriate? i.e. could tweens, teens, confirmation groups as well as adults benefit? *We believe that a more diverse group only enhances the Pilgrimage experience. Due to the more intense introspection of the process, we would suggest that late high school age may be an appropriate starting point. This is an adult experience. Parents may contact Fr. Phillip with questions*
- Sources that would complement the pilgrimage (books, scripture, journaling, etc)
This I Believe (<http://thisibelieve.org/>) & World Café (<http://www.theworldcafe.com/>) are processes we will utilize. Visit the websites to preview them. Journaling will be a major component of the personal effort of this Pilgrimage & we will provide daily prompts for your reflection.
- Is the weekend at Benet Lake required?
Since the excessive cost and lengthy time commitment would prevent participation, the core team has determined that a better alternative would be a full day session at a local site (TBD). While this is not a requirement to participate, we believe it would be a valuable and culminating experience.
- What if I am traveling? *We are all busy people. Alternating between the face to face meetings and utilizing the online versions is acceptable.*
- What is the cost? *TBD We are working to make it as affordable as possible*