

# Light to the World

## The Incredible Mission of the Laity

**Session 2**  
**How to Find  
Fulfillment and  
Become a Saint**

### **Lectio divina - John 4:13-14**

Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

## **Part 1: Sacrosanctum Concilium**

### **The Good News**

“For this is the will of God, your sanctification”

- 1 Thessalonians 4:3

“For the liturgy, ‘through which the work of our redemption is accomplished,’ most of all in the divine sacrifice of the Eucharist, is the outstanding means whereby the faithful may express in their lives, and manifest to others, the mystery of Christ and the real nature of the true Church.

... While the liturgy daily builds up those who are within into a holy temple of the Lord, into a dwelling place for God in the Spirit, to the mature measure of the fullness of Christ, at the same time it marvelously strengthens their power to preach Christ, and thus shows forth the Church to those who are outside as a sign lifted up among the nations under which the scattered children of God may be gathered together, until there is one sheepfold and one shepherd”

- *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, §2

### **How to Find Fulfillment and Become a Saint**

*From Lumen gentium:*

Holiness by:

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Common means of contact with God:

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**Presenter:**

**Dr. Seth Wright, Director of Missionary  
Discipleship for the Diocese of Pueblo**

## 1. FULLY CONSCIOUS AND ACTIVE PARTICIPATION

What is Liturgy? – SC, §§7-8

7. ... the liturgy is considered as an exercise of the priestly office of Jesus Christ. **In the liturgy the sanctification of the man is signified by signs perceptible to the senses, and is effected in a way which corresponds with each of these signs;** in the liturgy the whole public worship is performed by the Mystical Body of Jesus Christ, that is, by the Head and His members.

From this it follows that every liturgical celebration, because it is an action of Christ the priest and of

His Body which is the Church, is a sacred action surpassing all others; no other action of the Church can equal its efficacy by the same title and to the same degree.

8. In the earthly liturgy we take part in a **foretaste of that heavenly liturgy** which is celebrated in the holy city of Jerusalem toward which we journey as pilgrims, where Christ is sitting at the right hand of God, a minister of the holies and of the true tabernacle; we sing a hymn to the Lord's glory with all the warriors of the heavenly army; venerating the memory of the saints, we hope for some part and fellowship with them; we eagerly await the Saviour, Our Lord Jesus Christ, until He, our life, shall appear and we too will appear with Him in glory

**Fully Conscious, and Active Participation - SC, §14**

“Mother Church earnestly desires that all the faithful should be led to that **fully conscious, and active participation** in liturgical celebrations which is demanded by the very nature of the liturgy. Such participation by the Christian people as ‘a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a redeemed people’ (1 Pet. 2:9; cf. 2:4-5), is their right and duty by reason of their baptism.

**In the restoration and promotion of the sacred liturgy, this full and active participation by all the people is the aim to be considered before all else;** for it is the primary and indispensable source from which the faithful are to derive the true Christian spirit”

**Collect for 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Almighty ever-living God,  
who in the abundance of your kindness  
surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you,  
pour out your mercy upon us  
to pardon what conscience dreads  
and to give what prayer does not dare to ask.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

Amen.



# RENEWAL IN THE LITURGY

## Liturgies Reformed by Vatican II

Holy Mass	Divine Office	Order of Baptism	Order of Confirmation
Order of Penance	Order of Anointing of the Sick	Order of Matrimony	Order of Christian Initiation restored
Order of Christian Burial	Consecration of Virgins	Religious Profession	Sacramentals and Devotions

## Aspects of Liturgy Reformed by Vatican II

Formation in Liturgy for Priests and People	Rites Cleaned Up	Use of Latin and Vernacular	Use of Sacred Scripture
Homilies	Prayers of the Faithful	Communion	Concelebration
Liturgical Year	Sacred Music	Sacred Art	Sacred Furnishings

	Awareness	Renewal	Mission
<b>Example: Latin and Vernacular</b>			
<b>Example: Eucharistic Revival</b>			

## 2. UNDER DIRECTION OF THE HIERARCHY

### **Sacrosantum Concilium, §22**

1. Regulation of the sacred liturgy depends solely on the authority of the Church, that is, on the Apostolic See and, as laws may determine, on the bishop.
2. In virtue of power conceded by the law, the regulation of the liturgy within certain defined limits belongs also to various kinds of competent territorial bodies of bishops legitimately established.
3. Therefore no other person, even if he be a priest, may add, remove, or change anything in the liturgy on his own authority.

### **Why don't our liturgies look like what is described in Sacrosantum Concilium?**

1.
  - a.
  - b.
2.
  - a.
  - b.

## 3. PROPER DISPOSITION

### **Catechism of the Catholic Church, §1131**

The sacraments are efficacious signs of grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church, by which divine life is dispensed to us. the visible rites by which the sacraments are celebrated signify and make present the graces proper to each sacrament. **They bear fruit in those who receive them with the required dispositions.**

### **Sacrosantum Concilium, §11**

But in order that the liturgy may be able to produce its full effects, it is necessary that the faithful come to it with **proper dispositions, that their minds should be attuned to their voices, and that they should cooperate with divine grace lest they receive it in vain.** Pastors of souls must therefore realize that, when the liturgy is celebrated, something more is required than the mere observation of the laws governing valid and licit celebration; it is their duty also to ensure that the faithful take part fully **aware of what they are doing, actively engaged in the rite, and enriched by its effects.**

#### Discussion Questions

1. Describe the most powerful liturgy you have participated in and the effect it had on your relationship with God and others.
2. Which one of these is the most difficult for you?
  - a. To understand the words and actions of the liturgy?
  - b. To understand the heavenly realities being celebrated?
  - c. To remember to think about the heavenly realities being celebrated?
  - d. To stay focused on what is happening rather than being distracted?
  - e. To enter into liturgy as prayer – as connection with God?

## Part 2: *Dei Verbum*

### The Good News

Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect.

- Romans 12:2

“In His goodness and wisdom God chose to reveal Himself and to make known to us the hidden purpose of His will by which through Christ, the Word made flesh, man might in the Holy Spirit have access to the Father and come to share in the divine nature. Through this revelation, therefore, the invisible God out of the abundance of His love speaks to men as friends and lives among them, so that He may invite and take them into fellowship with Himself.”

- *Dei Verbum*, §2

### Divine Revelation – DV, §6

“Through divine revelation, God chose to show forth and communicate Himself.”

### Faith, Hope, Love – DV, §1

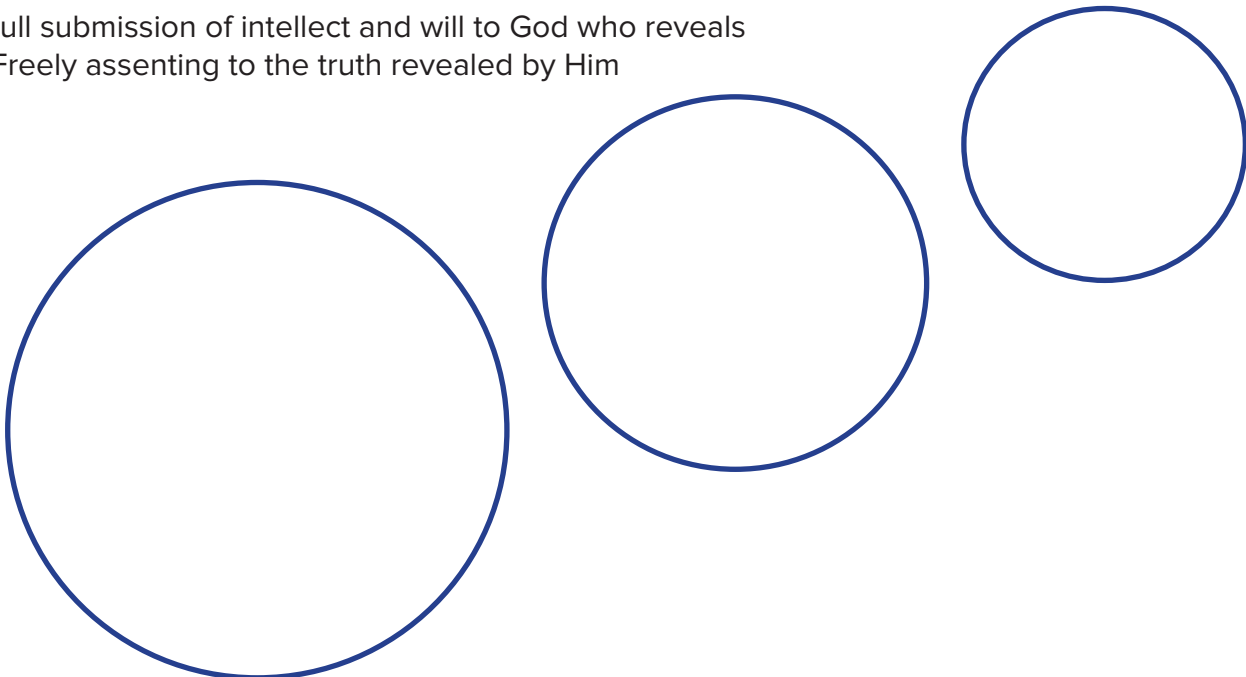
“Therefore, following in the footsteps of the Council of Trent and of the First Vatican Council, this present council wishes to set forth authentic doctrine on divine revelation and how it is handed on, so that by hearing the message of salvation the whole world may **believe**, by believing it may **hope**, and by hoping it may **love**.”

### Faith, Hope, Love – DV, §5

“‘The obedience of faith’ ‘is to be given to God who reveals, an obedience by which man commits his whole self freely to God, offering the **full submission of intellect and will to God who reveals**,’ and **freely assenting to the truth revealed by Him**. To make this act of faith, the grace of God and the interior help of the Holy Spirit must precede and assist, moving the heart and turning it to God, opening the eyes of the mind and giving ‘joy and ease to everyone in assenting to the truth and believing it.’ To bring about an ever deeper understanding of revelation the same Holy Spirit constantly brings faith to completion by His gifts.”

### Faith

1. Full submission of intellect and will to God who reveals
2. Freely assenting to the truth revealed by Him



# RENEWAL IN SACRED SCRIPTURE

## Areas of Renewal in terms of Sacred Scripture

Access	Process	Means	Who is Called?
Easy access to Scripture	Move to Deeper Understanding	Pastoral Preaching	Clergy
Suitable and Correct Translations	Study of Scripture, Church Fathers, and Liturgy	Catechesis	Catechists
As can, Translations in common with separated brethren	Nourishment of the People of God	All Christian Instruction	All Christian Faithful

## Ideas for Renewal in terms of Sacred Scripture

### Personal Renewal

- Daily Mass Readings
- Liturgy of Hours, including Office of Readings
- *Lectio Divina*
- Read Scripture daily

### Personal Renewal

- Pat Gabriel's class (if in GJ area)
- Catholic Biblical School (St. John Vianney Seminary Lay Division)
- Ascension Press studies
- *Lectio Divina* series on FORMED
- Other Bible Studies

### Discussion Questions

1. Can you tell of a time when your relationship with God was deepened through Sacred Scripture, when God spoke to you through Sacred Scripture for guidance, comfort, strength, or something else that you needed?

2. Do you read Scripture regularly? What would you need to be able to engage more effectively with God through Sacred Scripture, and how could you get that?

# Light to the World

The Incredible Mission of the Laity



**All sessions**

**9:00-11:30am**

**St. Joseph, Grand Junction  
and by Zoom**

## **Sept. 21, 2024 Session 1: The Holy Spirit has the Answer for Our Current Problems**

**Description:** This session will focus on how the Holy Spirit has been speaking to the Church for the past 100 years, preparing Her for these times and equipping Her for Her mission in the world. We will see how this message is for each of us and can lead us closer to Jesus.

**Suggested Reading:** St. Paul VI, *Paths of the Church*; Vatican II Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, *Lumen gentium*; Fr. Blake Britton, *Reclaiming Vatican II: What it (Really) Said, What it Means, and How it Calls us to Renew the Church*

## **Oct. 12, 2024 Session 2: How to Find Fulfillment and Become a Saint**

**Description:** This session will focus on how each of us personally and the Church are renewed by our contact with God in the Sacred Liturgy and in Sacred Scripture. We will examine how such renewal is called for by the Vatican II documents on the liturgy and divine revelation and will discuss how we may more profitably implement this renewal in our own lives and in our parishes.

**Suggested Reading:** Vatican II Constitution on the Liturgy, *Sacrosanctum Concilium*; Vatican II Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation, *Dei Verbum*

## **Nov. 23, 2024 Session 3: The Answer to Our Deepest Longings**

**Description:** This session will focus on Jesus as the answer to our deepest longings and the longings of the people we meet in the world. We will also look more specifically at the role of the laity in the evangelization of the world and will assess both the successes and failures in this area since the Second Vatican Council.

**Suggested Reading:** Vatican II Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World, *Gaudium et spes*; Vatican II Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity, *Apostolicam actuositatem*

## **Jan. 18, 2025 Session 4: Transform the World**

**Description:** This session will explore the call of the laity to transform the world as expressed in the life and work of St. John Paul II. We will focus mostly on his exhortation specifically on this topic but will also look at some of his other works.

**Suggested Reading:** St. John Paul II, *The Lay Members of Christ's Faithful People (Christifidelis laici)*

## **Feb. 15, 2025 Session 5: Jesus Walks with You**

**Description:** This session will look at the current situation in the Church. We will see how Pope Francis' work *The Joy of the Gospel* is in line with what the Holy Spirit has been doing and calls us to a deeper encounter with Christ that impels us into the world to bring the life-giving message of salvation and mercy to all.

**Suggested Reading:** Pope Francis, *The Joy of the Gospel (Evangelii Gaudium)*

To register for the Zoom sessions, go to: <https://www.diopueblo.org/be-equipped>