

Why are parishes in our diocese asked to participate?

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Bishop Mark has invited all parishes of our diocese to come together to form a **renewed community of faith which needs to be** on fire for spreading the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ. Through Arise, the Church also hopes to welcome back those who may have distanced themselves from the Church.

Goals of the Arise Process:

- Teaching and witnessing to the Word of God through Sacred Scripture
- Developing vibrant communities of faith and service which are on fire and on-going
- Implementing a strategy for adult faith formation
- Enhancing the celebration of the Sunday Liturgy.

How do I sign up and join a group?

Each parish in the diocese will have its own plan for sign-up. Over the next few months, each parish will release details either through the parish bulletin or the parish website regarding times, days and dates for Small Faith Sharing groups. Small Faith Sharing groups will begin the week of October 7 in most parishes throughout the Diocese, however, parishes are free to start at a time determined by their Pastor and Leadership team.

Commissioning Service—Mark your calendars and plan to attend

A Commissioning Service for Diocesan Coordinators, Teams and Small Group leaders as well as any parishioner interested in participating, will be held on Sunday, September 23, at 2:00 p.m. at the Immaculate Conception Chapel at St. Francis University, Loretto, Pa.



What is Arise Together in Christ?

Personal Invitation

Arise Together in Christ is an invitation for you to encounter Christ anew through Scripture Reading, Small Faith Sharing groups and prayer. It can be an opportunity to reinvigorate your faith, courage and determination to **continue the mission of the Church** in our time.

Arise is an invitation to **come alive in Christ** to a **new sense of discipleship**. Arise is calling all God's people to recognize the empowerment of the Holy Spirit again and to come to a new realization of how the Holy Spirit can be the center of our daily living. Arise is an invitation to Catholics of today to listen with their hearts and accept the invitation to Arise together in Christ.

Arise for Parishes and for the Diocese

Arise is a three-year parish-centered experience of spiritual renewal and evangelization which will enable parishes to deepen their faith, develop a close relationship with Jesus, grow closer to the parishioners in their parishes as well as the diocesan Faith Community and creates a desire to reach out and serve others as Jesus has instructed and invited us to do.

Arise invites Catholics who have been away from the Church to return

Arise is for anyone **seeking** to deepen their relationship with Christ through faith-sharing and nurturing of Christian friendships. Wherever individuals are on their faith journey, be it away from the Church, returning after a long absence or continuing a journey of a lifetime of practice, you are Welcome! Christian were never meant to walk their lifelong journey of faith alone. Together we will hopefully be led to a lifelong transformation and experience the peace of a Faith-filled Community and Diocesan Church.

Arise Together in Christ with its five seasons will provide opportunities over the next three years to connect meaningfully with Christ and one another in the context of small faith-sharing groups which will occur for six weeks in the fall and six weeks during Lent.

Gospel themes will include the following:

Season 1—Fall of 2018/ **Encountering Christ Today**

Season 2—Lent of 2019 /**Change our Hearts**

Season 3—Fall of 2019/ **In the Footsteps of Christ**

Season 4—Lent of 2020/ **New Heart, New Spirit**

Season 5—Fall of 2020/ **We are the Good News**

Why should I sign up for *Arise Together in Christ*?

- To discover that you personally are deeply loved by God and that Jesus desires to be in an intimate relationship with you.
- To find your center in God.
- To meet the parishioners of your parish and hear their journey of faith and share yours.
- To discover your personal call to discipleship
- To grow to love your Faith which God revealed to us through Jesus and Jesus reveals to us through the Scriptures.
- To become more than a Sunday Catholic
- To put your faith into action mode.
- To be rejuvenated and alive in the Holy Spirit.
- To enlarge your image of faith sharing so that you can grow to feel comfortable and confident with speaking about your faith.
- To help you embrace the question: *'How will this encounter with Christ change my life?'*

Who and what age groups will be involved in Arise?

Arise is for Teenagers, young and mature adults and the elderly. Throughout the next two and a half years, Arise will be on College Campuses, in many of our Prisons, Personal Care homes, Catholic Grade and High Schools, Grade and High School Religious Education programs and in the process of Christian Initiation. For those who are Home Bound, our Diocesan 'Proclaim' Program will feature segments of Arise during the six weeks in the Fall as well as the six weeks of Lent.

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Bishop Mark has invited all parishes of our diocese to come together to form a **renewed community of faith who desires to be on fire for spreading the Good News of our salvation through Jesus Christ**. Through *Arise*, the Church also hopes to **welcome back** those who may have distanced themselves from the Church.

Goals of the *Arise* Process:

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