

*Ash Wednesday to  
Passion/Palm Sunday*

*Reflect  
Repent  
& Renew*



Households  
of  
Faith

*Households of Faith  
A Six Week  
Starter Set  
Lent Year B*

*By this everyone will know you are my  
disciples, if you have love for one another.  
- John 13:35*



# What is a "Household of Faith"? The Process...

A "Household of Faith" is a small group of 6 to 10 people from a variety of backgrounds and life journeys who come together on a regular basis, at least once a month, in-person or online, for 60 to 90 minutes. The purpose of this time together is to get to know one another and grow in new friendships, while sharing the Holy Scriptures and some reflection using a simple process.

**§ *The facilitator of this gathering may have been determined beforehand.***

**§ *An open Bible and a lit candle will be placed on the table.***

## The process of the gathering

- 1. The handing out of the upcoming Sunday's Gospel or find it in your Bible.** (From the *Living with Christ* Mass booklet or on <https://dailygospel.org/AM/gospel>)
- 2. Opening Prayer. Example:** † "Holy Spirit, make my heart open to the word of God, make my heart open to goodness, make my heart open to the beauty of God every day." † - Pope Francis (or another prayer or song) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4pXFmZBTTEU>
- 3. Before the 1<sup>st</sup> proclamation of the Gospel:** Be attentive to a word or a phrase as the Word is being proclaimed.

**1<sup>st</sup> Proclamation of the Gospel** – The reader stands to proclaim the Word of God. To proclaim means to read with faith and conviction.

### **A period of silence**

Each one shares the word or phrase that touched them and why it moved them. We simply listen to the person who is speaking, without commenting. Then each one takes their turn sharing.

**We are not to enter a discussion of what was shared.**

4. **Before the 2<sup>nd</sup> proclamation of the Gospel:** ask this question: “What is the Good News that I discovered in this reading today and how is it reaching my own faith?”

**2<sup>nd</sup> proclamation of the Gospel** – The reader stands to proclaim the Word of God. To proclaim means to read with faith and conviction.

**A period of silence**

Each one shares the Good News that they discovered in this Gospel.

**Reminder:** In order that the sharing remains on a personal level, each person has to make an effort to express themselves using “I language”: “I ..., For me ..., I see in this text ... , I discover in this text...” it’s about personal sharing.

**We are not to enter a discussion of what was shared.**

We simply listen, and each one takes their turn in sharing.

**§ Make people feel confident that what is shared here, stays here.**

5. **Personal prayer or contemplation**

**3<sup>rd</sup> proclamation of the Gospel** - The reader stands to proclaim the Word of God. To proclaim means to read with faith and conviction.

**A period of silence**

Each person prays silently on their observations, their meditation and on what they heard from the others. Some people may choose to use, this booklet or a journal and jot down their thoughts and perhaps write a prayer. Each one chooses the form of prayer that suits them based on the Gospel: blessing, praise, thanksgiving, petition, intercession ... and they ask the Lord how they can apply the Word of God in their life today.

## 6. Sharing Prayer

Finally, each person who wishes to, shares one or two aspects of their prayer or journal. It is good to share with the group the fruits of our dialogue with the Lord. The Word of God, welcomed, shared, and prayed over can nourish the group and help to conclude in fellowship, our dialogue with the Lord.

***§ If possible, to develop leadership among the participants, have a different facilitator at each gathering and determine who will be the next one.***

***You don't need to be an expert in facilitating. Just follow the guide.***

## 7. Faith Reflections (optional)

If you have time, choose a short video, podcast or an article, and share with each other what caught your attention.

## 8. Friendship Time

If you like, enjoy some conversations, beverages, or light snacks. Keep it simple.

## My Notes

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Questions/Comments: [households@archsaintboniface.ca](mailto:households@archsaintboniface.ca)

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## Households of Faith A Six Week Starter Set for Lent Year B

### Ash Wednesday to Passion/Palm Sunday – Reflect, Repent, & Renew

#### ASH WEDNESDAY

*Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-18*

Jesus said to the disciples: “Beware of practising your piety before people in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

“So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others.

Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others.

Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

“And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting.

Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.”

Three readings or proclaiming of the Gospel with three moments:

**First, "What word/phrase caught me?** (Hear in your heart, listen well, what are you called to pay attention to, and share the word or phrase aloud.)

**Second, after listening to the next reading of the same Gospel, ask the question "What is the Good News for me in this Gospel?"** (Take a few minutes to answer the question aloud.)

**Third, have a quiet time of prayer, journaling, or meditating on "What is God speaking to me through the Gospel and our sharing? What is my response?"** (Share aloud, if agreed upon.)


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## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

*Mark 1:12-15*

After Jesus was baptized, the Spirit drove him out into the wilderness.

He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan;

and he was with the wild beasts; and the Angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee,

proclaiming the good news of God, and saying,

“The time is fulfilled,

and the kingdom of God has come near;

repent, and believe in the good news.”

Three readings or proclaiming of the Gospel with three moments:

**First, "What word/phrase caught me?"** (Hear in your heart, listen well, what are you called to pay attention to, and share the word or phrase aloud.)

**Second, after listening to the next reading of the same Gospel, ask the question "What is the Good News for me in this Gospel?"** (Take a few minutes to answer the question aloud.)

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## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

*Mark 9: 2-10*

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John,  
and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves.

And he was transfigured before them,  
and his clothes became dazzling white,  
such as no one on earth could bleach them.

And there appeared to them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

Then Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings,  
one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.”

Peter did not know what to say, for they were terrified.

Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice,

“This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!”

Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain,

he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen,

until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

So they kept the matter to themselves,

questioning what this rising from the dead could mean.

Three readings or proclaiming of the Gospel with three moments:

**First, “What word/phrase caught me?”** (Hear in your heart, listen well, what are you called to pay attention to, and share the word or phrase aloud.)

**Second, after listening to the next reading of the same Gospel, ask the question “What is the Good News for me in this Gospel?”** (Take a few minutes to answer the question aloud.)

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## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

*John 3: 13-25*

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!"

His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."

The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." They then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But Jesus was speaking of the temple of his body.

After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

When he was in Jerusalem during the Passover festival, many believed in his name because they saw the signs that he was doing. But Jesus on his part would not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people and needed no one to testify about human nature, for he himself knew what was within the human person.

Three readings or proclaiming of the Gospel with three moments:

**First, "What word/phrase caught me?"** (Hear in your heart, listen well, what are you called to pay attention to, and share the word or phrase aloud.)

**Second, after listening to the next reading of the same Gospel, ask the question "What is the Good News for me in this Gospel?"** (Take a few minutes to answer the question aloud.)

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## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

*John 3:14-21*

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

“Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness,  
so must the Son of Man be lifted up,  
that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world,  
but in order that the world might be saved through him.

The one who believes in him is not condemned;  
but the one who does not believe is condemned already,  
for not having believed in the name of the only-begotten Son of God.

“And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world,  
and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil.

For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light,  
so that their deeds may not be exposed.

But those who do what is true come to the light,  
so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

Three readings or proclaiming of the Gospel with three moments:

**First, "What word/phrase caught me?"** (Hear in your heart, listen well, what are you called to pay attention to, and share the word or phrase aloud.)

**Second, after listening to the next reading of the same Gospel, ask the question "What is the Good News for me in this Gospel?"** (Take a few minutes to answer the question aloud.)

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## FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

*John 12:20-33*

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks.

They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus.

Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. The person who loves their life loses it, and the person who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

"Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.

"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say — 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name."

Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again."

The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An Angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself."

Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

### Three readings or proclaiming of the Gospel with three moments:

**First, "What word/phrase caught me?"** (Hear in your heart, listen well, what are you called to pay attention to, and share the word or phrase aloud.)

**Second, after listening to the next reading of the same Gospel, ask the question "What is the Good News for me in this Gospel?"** (Take a few minutes to answer the question aloud.)

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## PASSION/PALM SUNDAY

*Mark 15:1-39 (shorter version, see Mark 14:1 – 15:47 for longer option)*

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?”

He answered him, “You say so.” Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again, “Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.” But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them, “Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?” For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over.

But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again, “Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?” They shouted back, “Crucify him!” Pilate asked them, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Crucify him!” So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor’s headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him, “Hail, King of the Jews!” They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his Cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the Place of a Skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

It was nine o’clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, “The King of the Jews.” And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, “Aha! You would destroy the temple and build it in three days; save yourself, and come down from the Cross!”

In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down from the Cross now, so that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "Listen, he is calling for Elijah." And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down."

Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

Three readings or proclaiming of the Gospel with three moments:

**First, "What word/phrase caught me?"** (Hear in your heart, listen well, what are you called to pay attention to, and share the word or phrase aloud.)

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After the Siw Week Starter Set for Households of Faith...

1. Give thanks to God for your time with The Word and one another!
2. Journal some key points to what you have experiences in the six-week starter of HoF.

*What have I noticed in my day-to-day life during these weeks...*

*What have I noticed about the world around me during these weeks...*

*What have I noticed about God's presence during these weeks...*

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3. Share your experience with us and others! Email us with your comments or encouragement for others to [households@archsaintboniface.ca](mailto:households@archsaintboniface.ca)
4. Decide together how you will continue your HoF experience...weekly, every second week, monthly? (Or using your bible or your Sunday Missal and a simple journal, continue reflecting in this manner at home for the rest of Holy Week, and/or the weeks of Easter to Pentecost!)

*"À ceci, tous reconnaîtront que vous êtes mes disciples, si vous avez de l'amour les uns pour les autres."*

*~Jean 13, 35*



*"By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."*

*~ John 13. 35*