



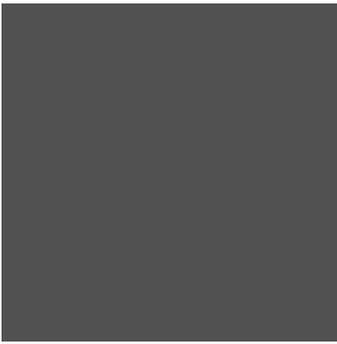
Divine Mercy



Discipleship

JULY 2018
LinC Host Guide





+ July

Host Guide

WELCOME (30 minutes)

- Refreshments and /or food served
- Light-hearted and social atmosphere

PROCLAIM (10 minutes)

- Host leads opening prayer

Loving God who created us in His image and likeness, we offer this time to you and pray that the Holy Spirit will be present to guide and lead us into a deeper understanding of our mission here on this earth. Let us decrease as you increase in us now.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

- Watch the video – Bishop Robert Barron

DISCUSS (30 minutes)

1. Bishop Barron explains that the divine Mercy is relentless; the divine mercy is after us. The bible is not the story of our quest for God but God's quest for us. When Jesus enters Samaria most Jews would have traveled around Samaria because it was considered unclean. People from Samaria were known as half breeds, marginalized, and the forgotten. Here is the example of Christ's relentlessness and quest for us. Take some time to reflect and share when God was relentless for you?
2. St John Paul the Great called the law of the spiritual gift "spiritual physics". Spiritual physics is explained by Bishop Barron as your being increases in the measure that you give it away, it's the fundamental law of the spiritual life. We all think the opposite, my being increases the more I hold onto things. Truly embracing the divine life we experience being filled by God, the more I receive from God the more I am able to pour out and share. How have you shared this gift with family, friends, and the community at American Martyrs?
3. Bishop Barron explains that mercy and moral demand go hand and hand. St. Agustin said that the well symbolizes errant desires, spiritual dysfunctional desire. How often do you go to the well to be filled up to be happy with wealth, honor, privilege, and power? We all have a version of this, something we go to and we drink and we experience a little satisfaction but we remain thirsty and need to go back to the well to be filled again but are never truly satisfied. What is the well in your life that keeps you coming back for more and never truly being satisfied? What is holding you back from getting rid of that empty well in your life?
4. The divine mercy sends us on mission. In the bible Bishop Barron expresses that nobody is given an experience of god with out being sent out. The women at the well put her jar down after speaking with Jesus. The woman then goes into the city and shares her experience of Christ with others. The jar that she puts down symbolizes conversion. Unless you identify what is the jar or well you keep going back to, unless you are able to put that thing down your not there yet. Once you put down that jar you automatically become an evangelist. Have you put down that jar or well yet? Have you shared with others the mercy and love you experienced and received from Christ the moment you put down that jar or well?

SEND (5 minutes)

- Host leads closing prayer
Good and gracious God, your Son, Jesus Christ, invites all people to follow Him to become His disciples. Touch our hearts, enlighten our minds, and stir our spirit. Help us daily to take up our cross and follow Him; by living His word and proclaiming His good news to those around us. May our faith in you increase, may our hunger for the gospel intensify, and may our parish be strengthened as we learn to love one another as He loves us. In Jesus name we pray Amen.