

This ecumenical version of JustFaith is offered in partnership with Bread for the World. Those interested in the Catholic version of JustFaith can contact the JustFaith Ministries Office.

Our Christian faith and Biblical tradition extend an extraordinary invitation to each of us and our faith communities to become agents of God's compassion and healing in a wounded world. The Good News of Christ is both a comfort and a promise for the poor and, at the same time, a call to those of us who are not poor to be linked with God's vision of justice and reconciliation. The Church's history shines with examples of courage and commitment of those who addressed themselves to the needs of our most desperate sisters and brothers.

JustFaith[®], a thirty-week adult formation program, offers an opportunity for people of faith across the country to experience this spiritual journey into compassion. Most of us long to be a generous and compassionate people; however, the occasions to explore this tradition in a deliberate and engaging way have largely not been available. JustFaith, now offered in hundreds of cities and towns across the country, provides a lively and challenging format to read, view, discuss, pray, experience and be formed by the faith tradition that changes lives, inspires compassionate witness, and transforms the world through love and justice.

JustFaith was first introduced nationally in 2001 with the sponsorship of Catholic Charities USA; it was immediately and dramatically successful in hundreds of Catholic parishes. Since then, more than 750 parishes and churches around the country have had similarly exciting results. Because of this tremendous impact and success, JustFaith is now also offered in an ecumenical version in partnership with Bread for the World to address growing interest in the larger Christian community.

THE PROGRAM

Engaging in the Church's social mission is without argument one of the most challenging messages of our Gospel Tradition. JustFaith is a process that recognizes the complexity of the Gospel call to compassion and provides a wide range of compelling resources and experiences to communicate this tradition. The prophetic call to bring justice to a broken world deserves a preparation that honors the difficulty of the task.

JustFaith is an educational experience, a formation process and a spiritual journey. Over the course of seven to eight months, participants meet weekly for readings, videos, lecture, discussion, prayer, retreats, and immersion experiences. The intent is to provide a tapestry of learning opportunities that emphasize and enliven the remarkable justice commitment of the Church. Participants are not only exposed to a substantive and demanding course of study but also are afforded the privilege of becoming a small faith community with other participants and sharing a journey of faith and compassion that is both life-giving and challenging. JustFaith is typically facilitated by church members, meaning it does not create added responsibilities for church staff.

INTRODUCTORY WORKSHOP

It is suggested (but not required) that a church or cluster of churches schedule an introductory workshop in the spring or summer, with the intent of actually starting the process in the fall. The aim of the workshop is to describe and promote the program as well as recruit potential participants and facilitators. The workshop covers the theological tradition on which the program is based, stories of the impact of JustFaith, and the logistics of how to get started and implement the program.

The timeframe of the workshop is flexible and can be adjusted to meet local needs. The cost of the workshop is \$650 plus travel expenses. Most churches recoup all of the expenses of the workshop by charging a modest registration fee.

GETTING STARTED

The cost for a church to register for JustFaith for 2007-2008 is \$250. Churches or groups that use JustFaith are provided a wide range of support services. Comprehensive materials are provided, including a detailed curriculum, facilitation training and directions, prayer materials, retreat instructions and follow-up opportunities. An e-mail discussion list linking all co-facilitators across the country is also provided. JustFaith staff members offer full-time telephone assistance to answer questions and assist with any issues that arise in the process of preparing for or facilitating the program. Other costs associated with the program include books and videos, which can all be purchased from a single source. For more information about the program, costs or for a registration form, contact the JustFaith Office or visit the JustFaith web site, www.justfaith.org.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact the JustFaith Ministries Office for more information

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JUSTFAITH MINISTRIES WORKS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:



Bread for the World is a nationwide Christian movement that seeks justice for the world's hungry people by lobbying our nation's decision makers to bring about public policy changes that address the root causes of hunger and poverty in the United States and overseas. Bread for the World's 56,000 members are organized by congressional district into local networks nationwide. Members write, call and visit members of Congress, and generate media attention about national legislation and other efforts that address hunger.



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