Just Faith

Purpose. From a new perspective.

What is JustFaith?

JustFaith offers an opportunity for parishioners to connect their life's purpose and calling with the needs of the world, locally and globally. Our Catholic faith and biblical tradition extend an extraordinary invitation to each of us and to 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. Throughout the program, you will focus on the Gospel's call to compassion, the roots of Catholic social teaching, engagement in the life of Jesus, and exploring how the world is scarred by the domestic and global crisis called poverty.

JustFaith, has been offered in nearly 2,000 parishes, churches, and organizations across the country with more than 30,000 graduates. It provides a lively and challenging format to read, view, discuss, pray, experience and be formed in community by the power of the Holy Spirit. The hope is that you and your group members will become a community and share a journey of faith and compassion that changes each other, inspires faithful witness, and transforms the world through love and service.

How is the JustFaith program structured? (details can be found at www.justfaith.org/newperspective) Small groups of 8-15 people are engaged with intriguing reading, captivating videos, and powerful group discussion, as you explore the challenges of following Jesus today. The program explores, in depth, the tradition of Catholic Social Teaching, primarily the option with the poor, that has so deeply shaped the Catholic Church. JustFaith groups meet in four phases, each with six sessions. Each session is two hours and typically meets on a week night. During each phase, groups will go on a Saturday immersion experience together, which are opportunities to engage with those living in poverty in your community. Your group may go to a local homeless shelter, but instead of serving a meal you will dine and chat with the residents. There are also two retreats during the program. Each retreat is conveniently held on a Friday evening and Saturday during the day, but do not involve an overnight stay.

JustFaith Ministries recognizes how busy you are and your schedule is already packed. This program is flexible so it will fit into the group members' lives, but also involves a significant commitment in order to give you time to invest in your own spiritual journey. The group will be done meeting in seven to nine months and uses books, videos, guest speakers, discussion, prayer, retreats, and immersion experiences.

Does it cost anything to participate in JustFaith?

The books cost approximately \$145-155/person, paid in installments; no one has to pay the full book costs up front. If this is a hardship, individual JF groups may offer help in covering this cost. Options may include scholarship help. Participants may also share the books.

















Are you seeking to live your faith more deeply, with a greater sense of service?

For me, JustFaith was more than learning about hunger, suffering and need outside the "bubble" I live in, or how to get involved in works of mercy or social change. It was about being transformed from the inside so that whatever I am called to "do" in the world, whether it's something I do already or something new, I do it differently, with a different heart... I was led into the depths of solidarity and compassion, the dignity of the human person and peacemaking, embodied by prayerful leaders and thinkers around the globe who make a difference because they listen to and empower the people they are serving. Linda S.. JF participant from Albuquerque

Participate if you're feeling a longing to:

- Explore the challenges of following Jesus today.
- Engage in understanding Catholic social teaching, service and justice.
- Be exposed to the realities of living in poverty at home and globally.
- Be challenged to make a commitment to a small faith-sharing group, your parish, your local community, and the global community

You are looking to connect with others at church:

- Maybe you're a new empty nester, widow/widower, or your caretaking responsibilities recently ended?
- Maybe you're new to town and want to get involved?
- Maybe you've graduated from college in the past several years and are looking for meaningful ways to connect to the world with your passions?
- Maybe you're looking for new ways to demonstrate to your children how to live out your faith?
- Maybe you want to learn more about the social teachings of the Church?

Now is the time in your life to make the commitment and investment in your own spiritual journey and education. You've heard of one of the 30,000 grads across the country who have enjoyed the experience.

Where Are Groups Forming?

- Groups are open to participants from all parishes
- Start one in your own parish!

What is the Commitment?

- Willingness to engage in a small faith-sharing group through 4 phases of 6 sessions—over the course of 6 to 9 months.
- Engagement in prayer and discussions and with quest speakers.
- Openness to interacting with those who are living in poverty.
- Preparation for each session with about 2 hours of intriguing reading.
- Learn more about yourself and your fellow group members through convenient retreats.
- An affordable financial commitment, determined by your local coordinator. No one is turned away because of inability to pay.

What Do I Gain?

- A deeper connection to your Catholic faith, parish, and community.
- Higher energy levels for your current social ministry work.
- A new perspective on yourself and the world's needs.
- Better tools to affect and work with those living in poverty.

Who do I contact for more information?

 For General information contact Archdiocese of Santa Fe Social Justice and Respect Life Office, Anne Avellone, 505-831-8167, justice@archdiosf.org