

**6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B**  
**(Together in Mission Commitment Weekend)**

WWJD? What Would Jesus Do? It is familiar as a bumper sticker, and many people try to live by it. However, Jesus was human and divine; we are only human. He could walk on water, turn water into wine, and heal at a word; we cannot do any of those things.

In short, we cannot do exactly what Jesus did, and so the question—what would Jesus do—is not a very helpful one. But there is another question that can be asked: WWDJD? What Would a Disciple of Jesus Do?

This question is one that we can answer and in a way that we can actually put into practice. We can look to the Gospel to see how our teacher acts and how we might show ourselves to be like him in his example. In the first three verses of this Gospel passage, three things happen in short order: (1) a man in need presents himself, (2) Jesus is moved with compassion for him, and (3) Jesus heals him.

We cannot heal people simply by saying “I do will it,” and so the third thing cannot be the essential instruction. Likewise, the first thing is something that we cannot control, and so it cannot be the mark of a disciple either. Instead, only the second part can be what identifies a follower of Jesus, and it is having compassion on those who present their needs to us.

This weekend, brothers and sisters from all throughout the Archdiocese of Los Angeles are presenting their needs to us through Together in Mission. These are the parishes and schools who cannot quite stand on their own two feet, and they are asking if we can help them up. It is an opportunity show compassion, as our Lord himself did.

It is the call contained in the very title of this year’s appeal, “Be Imitators of Christ.” And it is a motto and phrase that can be applied not just to this effort, but to the whole of the Christian life. Given what Jesus did long ago, what might we do now in imitation of Him?