Radical Inclusiveness: The Ministry of Jesus and His Followers Today
A Retreat for Lesbian/Gay Catholics, Parents, Pastoral Ministers, and other interested Persons

CONTENT

To many in his day Jesus’ life and ministry of radical inclusiveness, boundary-breaking, and table-fellowship was a scandal. He ate with and met with all the wrong people, in the wrong places, at the wrong times, and gave them a sense of self-worth in a culture that despised, rejected, or simply did not notice them.

Jesus exposed the theology of election and the purity code as bad theology.

The retreat will develop the text from Ephesians 2:12-22, present some insights about Jesus’ outreach to all the wrong people, and offer ways his disciples are called to emulate the Teacher.

SCHEDULE

Friday, May 23, 2008
6:00 pm Check-in
7:30 pm Presentation
9:00 pm Evening Prayer
9:30 pm Social

Saturday, May 24, 2008
8:00 am Breakfast
9:00 am Morning Prayer
9:30 am Presentation
10:30 am Quiet time
11:00 am Small group discussion
11:40 pm Large group discussion
12:00 pm Lunch
2:30 pm Presentation
3:30 pm Quiet time
4:00 pm Small group discussion
4:45 pm Large group discussion
5:15 pm Break
5:30 pm Dinner
7:00 pm Evening Prayer
7:30 pm Video and discussion
9:00 pm Social

Sunday, May 25, 2008
8:00 am Breakfast
9:00 am Morning Prayer
9:30 am Q&A, Announcements, Evaluations
10:45 am Mass
12:00 pm Lunch
1:30 pm Departure

PRESENTER


Father Anthony Gittins is the Bishop Francis X. Ford, M.M., Professor of Catholic Missiology at the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago.

He is the author of 11 books, including Ministry at the Margins: Strategy and Spirituality for Mission and A Presence That Disturbs: A Call to Radical Discipleship.

A former missionary to Sierra Leone, Fr. Gittins is also involved with ministry to the homeless.

Fr. Gittins is known for his exceptional ability to combine teaching and speaking with learning and listening.
Francis DeBernardo

Francis DeBernardo is the Executive Director of New Ways Ministry. He has an MA in Rhetoric and Composition from the University of Maryland, has published articles and book reviews on religious and secular themes, and presented scholarly papers at universities and various organizations.

He delivered a keynote presentation at the Conference on Religion and Homosexuality at the first World Pride Week in Rome, in July 2000.

Matthew Myers

Matthew Myers is a full time Staff Associate at New Ways Ministry. He earned his Bachelors degree in Philosophy from John Carroll University in Cleveland, served as a Capuchin Lay Volunteer at the Torture Abolition and Survivors Support Coalition, and lived and worked at the Dorothy Day Catholic Worker House in Washington, DC. He is pursuing graduate work in theology at the Washington Theological Union.

Frank and Matt will facilitate prayer services, discussions, and other retreat activities.