

FATHER RICHARD LEONARD'S PARISH MISSION

A Mission of Mercy and Love

In his writing about the Year of Mercy, Pope Francis said, "... Especially this Lent I am hoping that we will discover there is no one and no place beyond the grace of God's mercy and compassion. No one. We just need to see the eyes to see it and the heart to receive it, and as a result we recommit to follow Christ every day in the real world to which he sends us." Taking the Holy Father at his word, and in the Lenten season, let's focus on Matthew 28: the great commission to out to the real world and proclaim the good news.

Sessions will be as follows:

Monday, February 26th Sessions: Morning from 9:00am-10:15am Evening 7:00pm-8:15pm

Mass & the Sacraments: the place where we are sent on mission

Liturgy Mass and the Sacraments is the primary place from which we are sent out on Mission with Christ and for Christ. How can we reclaim a liturgy that has beauty, uses Christian symbols with wisdom and boldness, and enables God's greatness to meet us in our frailty and call us to do and be even more in the world.

Tuesday, February 27th Sessions: Morning from 9:00am-10:15am Evening 7:00pm-8:15pm

Sent to change the world with mercy and compassion

Pope Francis has said we are all on mission to transform the world into a more humane, just and compassionate place. But we are sent out to live and proclaim our spirituality to the world as it is, and not as we would prefer it to be. Our world is complex. What does the world look like to which we are sent? What questions is the world posing to us, and what are we offering in reply?

Wednesday, February 28th Sessions: Morning from 9:00am-10:15am Evening 7:00pm-8:15pm

Inspired to live lives of faith, hope and love.

If we are sent out on mission by Christ, it is to be faithful, hopeful and love so that others might see the Good News in what we say, what we do and who we are. Who and what are the well-springs of inspiration that sustain in our Christian mission.

Fr Richard Leonard is a Jesuit priest. He has degrees in arts and education, as well as a Master's degree in theology. Fr Richard did graduate studies at the London Film School and has a PhD from the University of Melbourne. He directs the Australian Catholic Office for Film & Broadcasting, is an Honorary Fellow of the Australian Catholic University and has been a visiting scholar within the School of Theatre, Film & Television at UCLA and a Visiting Professor at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. Fr Richard has served on juries at the Venice, Berlin, Warsaw, Hong Kong, Montreal, Brisbane and Melbourne International Film Festivals and he has lectured on faith and culture all over the world. He has been published in America Magazine, Eureka Street, US Catholics, is regular columnist with The London Tablet and is often on ABC Radio. He is the author of nine books including the religious best sellers: *Where the Hell is God?*, *Why Bother Praying?*, *What Are We Doing On Earth For Christ's Sake?*, *What are we hoping for?*, *Reflections for Lent & Easter*, *What Does It All Mean?*, *A Guide to Living lives of faith hope and love* released in January 2017. **BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AFTER SUNDAY MASSES IN PARISH CENTER, THE OFFICE DURING THE WEEK OR AT THE MISSION. GET THEM EARLY BEFORE THEY RUN OUT!!**

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