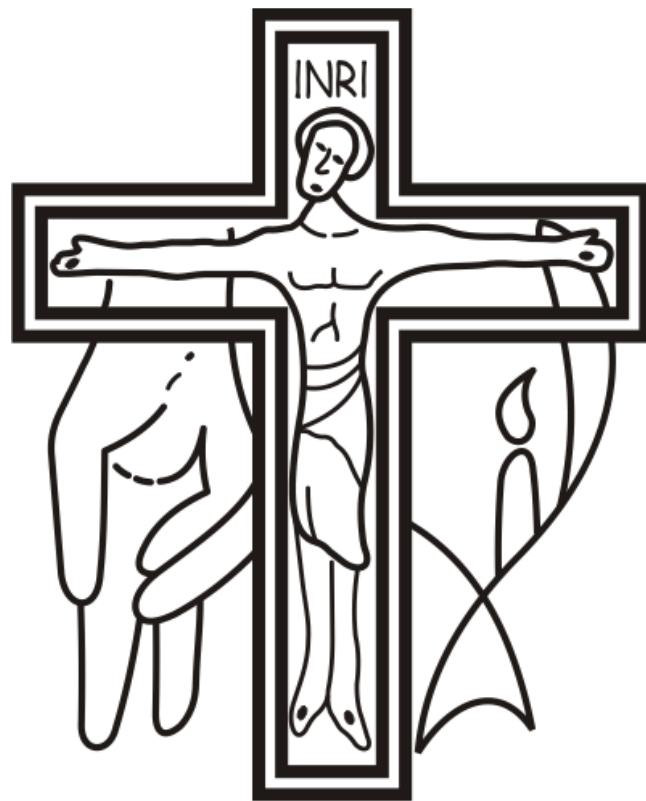


Via de Cristo



“Christ is counting on you”

Name: _____

Environment

Rollo # 11

25 Minutes

ENVIRONMENT

Time: 25 minutes. Content of this section is expected to take 20 minutes, allowing for 3-5 minutes of personal examples or testimony

Orientation: On the first day, the life in grace was presented as our highest ideal with the call to live our lives wholly dedicated to God. The second day emphasized the need for our formation as Christians with a mission. This talk begins the third day and follows the challenge of Christ's call in the morning meditation. The participants usually are eager to go forward and may be asking themselves "Where/how shall I proceed? Is it possible to do something in the environment in which I live?" We must present to them a clear path to follow in living out their personal mission to choose environments.

Style: The Environment Talk should give participants a clear approach to changing the situations they are in for Christ. The concepts should be clear, laying out a plan for participants to follow when they go home. The testimony and examples called for in various parts of the talk should be specific. Examples in Section II should be well chosen to illustrate different behaviors in various environments, how interrelationships and personalities affect the tone of the environment and how hard it is for most people to maintain a behavior pattern which is in contrast with their environment.

The speaker must describe through stories and examples, how a situation can be oriented to Christ, talking about actual individuals or situations that have been changed. The talk should include clear examples of how we work with others and with the environment to draw it to Christ.

Objectives: Each participant should look at their environment, the people in it, and the overall tone of it. They should work to center it in Jesus Christ. Our objective is to present and analyze the environments we live in and to commit them to Christian transformation. The objectives of this talk are:

- Christianity is lived in community.
- We need to study our environments to change them.
- God gives us what we need to evangelize our environments.
- We make our environments more Christ-like by working with others who share our mission.

Preparation: Prepare to write your Rollo with prayerful consideration of the above orientation, style, and objectives. Remember, you are delivering God's message through your words. Studying the following verses will provide context and guidance.

Matthew 5:13-16

Thessalonians 1:4-10

Romans 12:21

Romans 12:2

II Timothy 2:2

Romans 11:16

Philippians 4:13

John 13:34-35

1 Corinthians 9:22

Matthew 9:37

Acts 8:26-40

Romans 10:17

II Timothy 4:1-2

Luke 4:34

I John 1:1-4

John 15:11

John 14:26

John 16

Do not include all the verses in your talk. Pick two to four that speak to you and share them to emphasize your point. The Rector and Spiritual Director may also have verse selections to include.

1. INTRODUCTION

- A. The church's (clergy and laity) mission is to transform all of the world in Jesus Christ
- B. Cursillo movement provides a method for Christians to Christianize their environment.
- C. The environment is the sum of the ideas, persons, and circumstances brought about when people are together.

2. ENVIRONMENTS

A VdC weekend identifies/acknowledges that our lives intersect with multiple groups of people. Within these groups there are certain ideas and attitudes which are encouraged and accepted when various ideals are present.

Our environment has a deep impact on us and others. People with ideals and drive will structure, change and influence environments.

We as Christian leaders are called to influence our environments more than they influence us! (KEY POINT)

3. STUDY OF THE ENVIRONMENT

How can we transform our environments for the better?

- A. A leader must know the people, circumstances, and nature of their surroundings in order to influence and transform it.
- B. Consider what's the ideal, the motivating force? How do these affect relationships? How far is it from the Christian ideal? How can we lead them to Christ?
- C. In each environment, there are individuals who will have more influence than the rest. Among the individuals in a group around us we will find:
 - The followers.
 - The impulsive: conviction not strong.
 - The leaders: agents of change, lead the way.

If we can find the leaders in environments, and lead them to Christ, they will change their environments.

4. INFLUENCING OUR ENVIRONMENTS

In forming a plan to change our environments we should consider three aspects.

Ourselves
Our Friends
Our Groups

A. First, we must consider ourselves

1. God must work in OUR lives to equip and empower us to be effective agents of change or influence.
2. God gives us
 - The power of the Holy Spirit; Enables us to do His will
 - Intelligence; seeking God's will, knowledge and consciousness of what we are about.
 - Foundation of Prayer; any worthwhile deed has its beginning and foundation in prayer; must call on God who is the source and power of our action.
 - Heart for humanity; expressing love of others in order to share Christ with them.
 - Hope, enthusiasm; we will impact/influence lives because God wills it.

B. Consider our friends

We've been chosen by God and entrusted with the sharing of the Gospel with our daily companions.

Remember the Apostolic Action Rollo, Make a Friend, Be a Friend, Bring a Friend to Christ.

It is through genuine relationship that opens the door for conversation and relationship growth with you and God.

1. We must Communicate the Gospel through word and deed.
2. Share with our friends the meaning of Christ in our own life.

C. Consider the Groups around us (the environment)

1. Our own deepening relationship with Christ and growth as a Christian affects our environment.
2. The biblical importance of being light and salt:
 - In the midst of the brokenness of humanity and darkness of the world people are drawn to light. Live in the spirit of truth to shed the light of the Gospel on all activity. Let God's light shine through you.
 - Being salt in the world preserves joy and happiness in our Christian life in the midst of brokenness and anxiety.
3. We are called to change direction and tone of the environment so people, living out their Christian ideal will be leading each other to Christ. It is vital to remember our call is to be a witness of Christ, while being respectful of persons and ideals.

5. CONCLUSION

- A. Environmental transformation, is achieved by introducing new life into the environment, a fully Christian life that indeed changes things!
- B. Tomorrow we will find the world as we left it on Thursday. Nothing will have changed! But YOU have, YOU Can be the change that impacts/influences your environment.