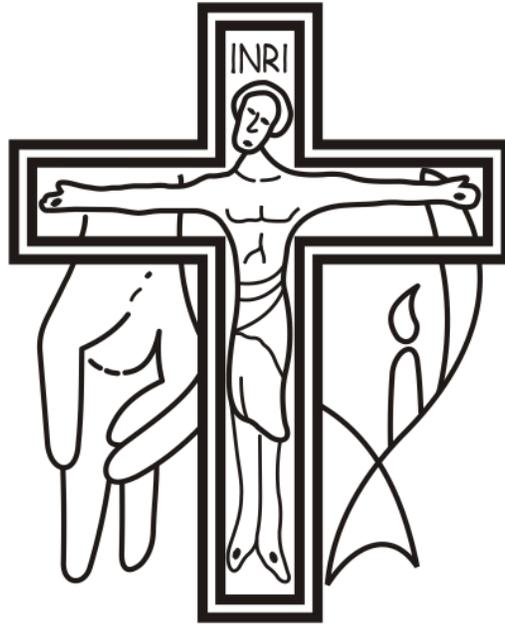


# Via de Cristo



***“Christ is counting on you”***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Laity

Rollo # 3  
20 Minutes

## LAITY

**Time:** 20 minutes. Content of this rollo is expected to take 15 minutes, allowing for 3-5 minutes of personal examples or testimony.

**Orientation:** This talk reminds us to be active members of the Christian community. God's plan for salvation is continuous and current. It is not part of biblical history. God still acts and requires action from each of us. Key concepts of this talk are that the Church is the body of Christ and the Church is made up of all God's people; clergy and laity together. We are to be conscious and responsible parts of the Church. As the body of Christ, we are the hands, feet, eyes, and ears of Jesus, called to teach others of God's presence in the world.

**Style:** At this point in the weekend, the pilgrims are still settling in. Some may feel overwhelmed by the first Grace talk. The discussions are on the surface since the groups are still forming. Some participants will hold back as they are building trust. The talk should be a lively and vital presentation. It should not be weighed down in heavy theological concepts or theories. The rollista should show excitement for our call to action rather than providing a list of definitions or instructions. The talk should inspire the feeling of being energized by their calling to the mission of continuing Christ's work as the Church.

**Objectives:** This is the third talk of the weekend. It should build on the concepts from the first two discussions: the Christian Ideal and a living relationship with God. It also sets the foundation for the remaining lay talks by introducing the pilgrims to the concept of their Christian responsibility. They are called to not only attend church, but to share Christian Ideals with their larger community. It should spark enthusiasm for Christian action and show the significance each person plays in God's plan for the world. Emphasis should be placed on working together, not individual accomplishments. The concepts of the talk are:

- Christ's mission is to save the world from sin, not save only individuals. Christ founded the Church to continue His mission.
- As members of the Church, the laity has a specific mission to the world and in the world to be fully Christian.
- Christians are called to transform society through the power of the gospel.

**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.

Philippians 3:7-9

Ephesians 1:9-10

Colossians 1:15-20

Hebrews 13:8

1 Corinthians 12:27

Luke 4:43

John 12:32

Matthew 5:13-16

Acts 2:32

Matthew 28:19-20

Ephesians 4:11-18

1 Corinthians 4:1

1 Corinthians 12:12-14

Galatians 6:4

Matthew 22:39

Ephesians 4:11-13

1 Corinthians 3:16

11 Corinthians 4:7

Philippians 4:4,10

Matthew 25:40

**Do not include all the verses in your talk.** Pick two or three 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

God has a plan for each individual and the entire world.

- A. The ideal of grace is in community, not isolation.
- B. God works out His plan of salvation at both a personal level and at the community level.
  - The key to our individual happiness lies in our relationship with Christ.
  - Jesus Christ is the only solution to our global problems.
- C. The world is plagued with problems that people are incapable of solving without God.
- D. The root of our troubles is the world's separation from God.

## 2. GOD'S COMMUNITY

God's community is formed through his Son Jesus Christ.

Christ was and still is God's answer to save the world from their sins.

- A. The body of Christ is alive and real. Christ today is the same as he was 2000+ years ago.
- B. The church was born from the evangelizing (sharing the Good News) activity of Jesus and the disciples.

## 3. WHAT IS THE CHURCH?

The Church is the living body of Christ

- A. It is the people of God who are the light and salt of the world.
- B. It is the reunion of those who believe that Jesus is Lord.
- C. It is the community of believers united in spreading the word of the Lord.
  - I am the Church.
  - You are the Church.
  - We are the Church.
- D. The church isn't a religious social club with membership fees.
- E. It isn't a social service agency designed solely for community service.

F. The church does not exist to serve its members or society.

G. The church serves God and God alone.

#### **4. THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH**

The core of the Church is to further Christ's work given to us in the Great Commission.

A. The Mission of the Church is to evangelize (sharing the Good News) the world.

B. Each person within the Church serves different roles, functions, and ministries.

C. Clergy: Ordained leaders called to shepherd and equip the church to do God's work.

D. Laity: All members of God's church.

All Christians, both Clergy and Laity, are responsible to fulfill the Church's mission. We are called to work together to bring Christ's message to the world.

#### **5. THE MISSION OF LAITY**

When we achieve the Christian Ideal, we transform our whole world and bring Christ into all our environments: home, work, school, the grocery line, on a phone call, etc. Whoever we interact with and regardless of where we are, Christ counts on us to share his word, and his love.

A. We all have a unique and personal role to play in completing God's work.

B. We are called to work in a community as brothers and sisters in Christ.

C. We proclaim the good news to the world by our relationship with God.

D. We transform our environments and the world by living our faith out loud.

E. We achieve our ideal and the Christian ideal when we commit every aspect of our lives to Christ.

**The world is our mission field.**

## **6. CONCLUSION**

We are called to be modern day saints, empowered by the Holy Spirit courageously sharing our faith. All of us play a part in God's plan. He has called each of us by name. He needs us individually and together.

**I am the Church  
You are the Church  
We are the Church.**

(Reminder: be sure you are just touching on these ideas and not expounding. Remember, this is the core of the Action talk and you are only laying the groundwork.)