



Anchor Family Faith Formation

3/12/2025



Welcome! Please take this time to check in with the people at the table. How was their week/day? How are they doing?

Talking Point!-Fun Fact in Church History-

Since the earliest times of the Church, there is evidence of some kind of Lenten preparation for Easter.

For instance, St. Irenaeus in A.D. 203 wrote to Pope St. Victor I, commenting on the celebration of Easter and the differences between practices in the East and the West.

“The dispute is not only about the day, but also about the actual character of the fast. Some think that they ought to fast for one day, some for two, others for still more; some make their ‘day’ last 40 hours on end.”

Lent becomes more regularized after the legalization of Christianity in A.D. 313. The Council of Nicea A.D. 325, in its disciplinary canons, noted that two provincial synods should be held each year, “one before the 40 days of Lent.”

Announcements











Getting Outside Ourselves

Mercy

Opening Prayer/Scripture:

Divine Mercy Chaplet

St. Maria Faustina Kowalska

Meditate on God's mercy, Jesus' Passion, and the salvation of souls



Divine Mercy Chaplet

Our Father; Hail Mary; Apostles Creed

On each "Our Father" bead of the rosary, pray:

V. Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, soul and divinity of your dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,

R. in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

On each of the 10 "Hail Mary" beads, pray:

V. For the sake of his sorrowful Passion,

R. have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Conclusion (3x): Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One
Have Mercy on us and on the whole world.



LENT

WELCOME

THE WORKS OF MERCY

CORPORAL & SPIRITUAL

FEED THE HUNGRY



INSTRUCT THE IGNORANT

GIVE DRINK TO THE THIRSTY



COUNSEL THE DOUBTFUL

SHELTER THE HOMELESS



ADMONISH SINNERS

CLOTHE THE NAKED



FORGIVE OFFENSES

VISIT THE SICK



COMFORT THE AFFLICTED

VISIT THE IMPRISONED



BEAR WRONGS PATIENTLY

BURY THE DEAD



PRAY FOR THE LIVING AND THE DEAD

“A BIT OF MERCY MAKES THE WORLD LESS COLD AND MORE JUST” (POPE FRANCIS)

The Judgement of the Nations

Matthew 25:31-46 (1/3)

³¹ “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³² All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³ and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴ Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’



The Judgement of the Nations

Matthew 25:31-46 (2/3)

³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸ And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹ And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰ And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family,^[g] you did it to me.'



The Judgement of the Nations

Matthew 25:31-46 (3/3)

⁴¹ Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴² for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' ⁴⁴ Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' ⁴⁵ Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' ⁴⁶ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."



THE WORKS OF MERCY

CORPORAL & SPIRITUAL

FEED THE HUNGRY



INSTRUCT THE IGNORANT

GIVE DRINK TO THE THIRSTY



COUNSEL THE DOUBTFUL

SHELTER THE HOMELESS



ADMONISH SINNERS

CLOTHE THE NAKED



FORGIVE OFFENSES

VISIT THE SICK



COMFORT THE AFFLICTED

VISIT THE IMPRISONED



BEAR WRONGS PATIENTLY

BURY THE DEAD



PRAY FOR THE LIVING AND THE DEAD

“A BIT OF MERCY MAKES THE WORLD LESS COLD AND MORE JUST” (POPE FRANCIS)



CatholicLink

THE WORKS OF MERCY

CORPORAL & SPIRITUAL

FEED THE HUNGRY



GIVE DRINK TO THE THIRSTY



SHELTER THE HOMELESS



CLOTHE THE NAKED



VISIT THE SICK



VISIT THE IMPRISONED



BURY THE DEAD



INSTRUCT THE IGNORANT



COUNSEL THE DOUBTFUL



ADMONISH SINNERS



FORGIVE OFFENSES



COMFORT THE AFFLICTED



BEAR WRONGS PATIENTLY



PRAY FOR THE LIVING AND THE DEAD

"A BIT OF MERCY MAKES THE WORLD LESS COLD AND MORE JUST" (POPE FRANCIS)



CatholicLink



2016-2017



2018-2019



2020-2022



2023-2025

- Pen Pals

- Prison
Visits

- Covid

- Today

2016-2017



2018-2019



2020-2022



2023-2025

- Pen Pals

- Prison Visits

- Covid

- Today



2016-2017

- Pen Pals



2018-2019

- Prison Visits



2020-2022

- Covid



2023-2025

- Today



2016-2017

- Pen Pals



2018-2019

- Prison Visits



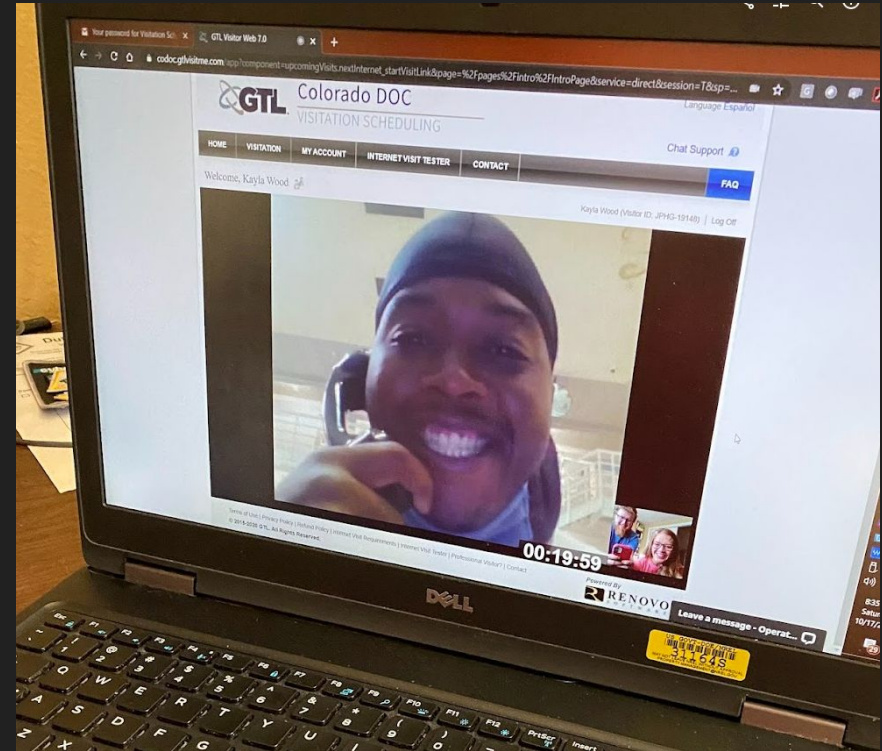
2020-2022

- Covid



2023-2025

- Today



2016-2017



2018-2019



2020-2022



2023-2025

- Pen Pals

- Prison Visits

- Covid

- Today



Impact on our Family

- Initial concerns, fears
- A new pen pal
 - “Mama Mary”



The fruits of a visit with Chris



to connect the dots between past experiences, present perspectives, and future desires.

Book offers relatable examples as well as practical steps and exercises all designed to encourage and empower you. If you are fed up with the cycle of unhealthy habits, tired of the same patterns of behavior, or are just looking for some tools that may help inspire growth, this book that you've been waiting for.

A must read! Ten percent of each book sold will be donated to non-profit organizations in the names of Krystal Taylor, Kyle Boyd, and Susan Holifield.



Christopher Joseph Alfred Taylor is an inspiring author and journalist. He is serving a Life Sentence in Colorado Department of Corrections, where he is currently working as an offender care aide III.

In his free time He mentors his peers in 1 on 1 settings as well as through motivational presentations. Using his life as an example He has created the CATCH project (Changing Attitude Through Cognitive Healing.) A class aimed at the Cognitive Development of at risk youth.

He's also a cofacilitator of the S.U.R.G.E Movement, as well as, editor and contributor to the resource newsletter.

 PUBLISHED by
PARABLES
Ecclesly Stories with a Heavenly Meaning
© 2019 by www.parablesbooks.com



A Note from Chris (1/2)

My name is Christopher Taylor and I would like to share a little about my relationship with Kayla, Eric, and the Wood family. The first thing you should know about me is I'm currently incarcerated in the Colorado Dept. of Corrections and am serving a life sentence. I've been locked up Since I was 20 years old and today, I'm 39. During these past 19 years, I've experienced a lot of loss. Family, friends, opportunities, you name it, I've lost it.

With that, I've lost my fair share of relationships. However, around 9 years ago, I put a profile on a pen pal website seeking friendship in an attempt to meet people and build new relationships. One day, I received a letter of encouragement from the Wood family. Initially, I thought they were warm and friendly so I decided to write them back to express my gratitude. I didn't expect a response, honesty, I was just happy that someone thought enough of me to write a letter period. But they did write back and the rest is history. (smile)

A Note from Chris (2/2)

Kayla and Eric have helped to restore the value in my life that I had lost many years ago. They've shared their family, their lives, and experiences with me. They have opened their arms to me in ways that my own flesh and blood relatives haven't. They have loved me as if I was a brother to them and for me, being at my lowest point in life and to have a family see me, care for me, pray with me, and accept me with all my flaws... has meant more to me than words can express.

As those close to me have either passed away or simply moved on in lives, this family has stepped into my life and embraced me deeply. I feel their love, I see them as family, and I've found this relationship to have restorative properties. In one of the last conversations that Kayla and I had, we talked about how we are called to give to others of ourselves. Well, when people are able to give their time, energy, and love to their relationship, authentically, it has no choice but to flourish into something beautiful. In fact, if I had to choose one word to define this relationship, that would be it...Beautiful. Thank you for this opportunity.

Call to Action

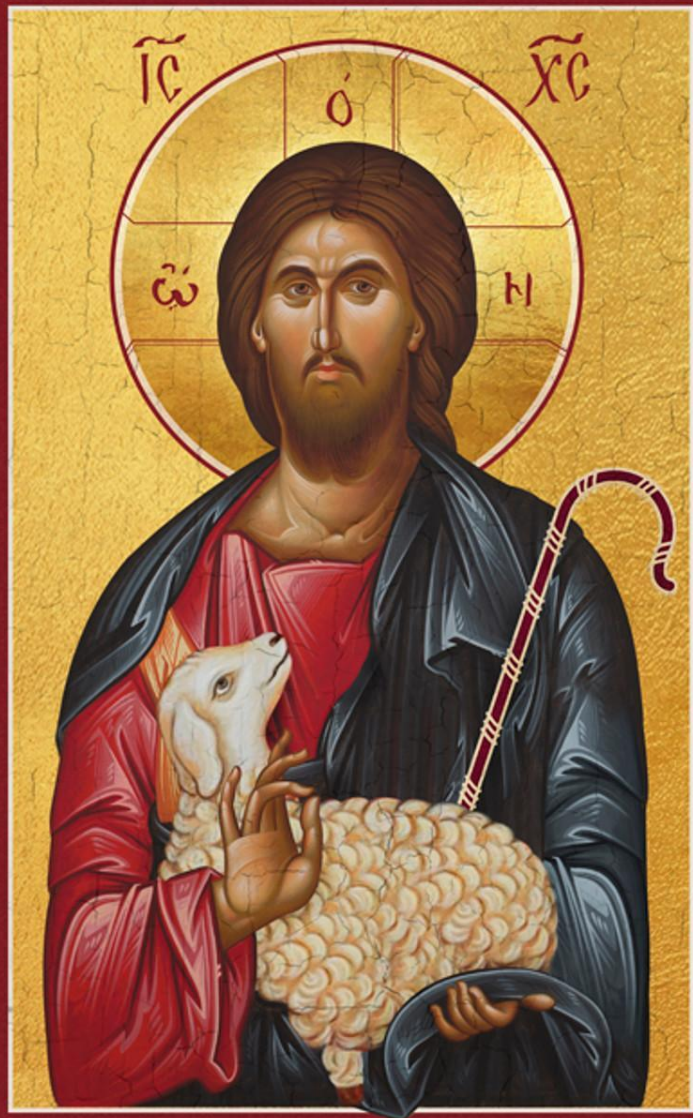
- This has all been a gift to us
- We could not have imagined we'd be here today
- We feel called to take this gift and multiply it
- Starting a new program



Some Closing Thoughts






- Don't forget about the other Works of Mercy
 - Christ in the City
 - Local nursing homes: Covenant, Arbor View, and Brookdale
- Pray about it!
 - Is now the right season for your family?





Discussion Questions

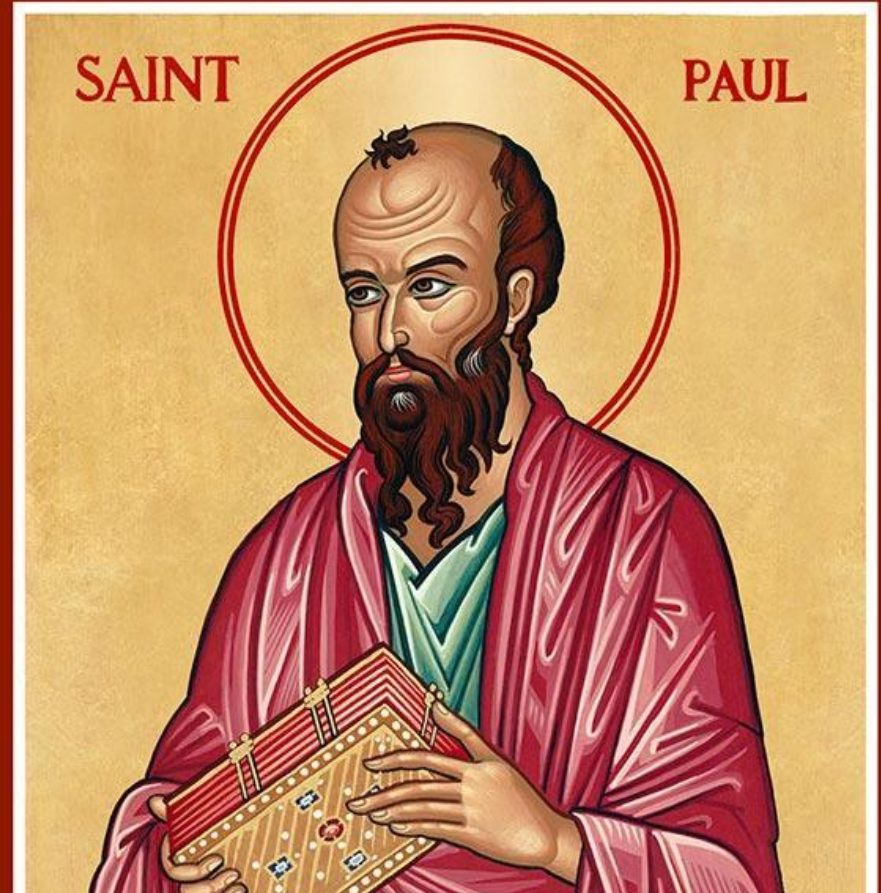
- Have you ever visited someone in prison? Tell your table about it!
- What is your family doing to help show the Mercy of God to others?
 - Corporal Works of Mercy
 - Spiritual Works of Mercy
- What Works of Mercy do you want to try going deeper with?

THE WORKS OF MERCY			
CORPORAL		& SPIRITUAL	
FEED THE HUNGRY			INSTRUCT THE IGNORANT
GIVE DRINK TO THE THIRSTY			COUNSEL THE DOUBTFUL
SHELTER THE HOMELESS			ADMONISH SINNERS
CLOTHE THE NAKED			FORGIVE OFFENSES
VISIT THE SICK			COMFORT THE AFFLICTED
VISIT THE IMPRISONED			BEAR WRONGS PATIENTLY
BURY THE DEAD			PRAY FOR THE LIVING AND THE DEAD
"A BIT OF MERCY MAKES THE WORLD LESS COLD AND MORE JUST" (POPE FRANCIS)  CatholicLink			

EXTRA SLIDES

Examples of Conversion & Mercy

- St Paul
 - Wicked oppressor of the early Church
 - Conversion on the road to Damascus
- St Olga
- St Joseph Kafassa
 - Italy in the 1800s
 - Horrific prisons
 - Accompanied condemned inmates to their death; hearing confessions just before execution; hanged Saints
 - “Priest of the Gallows”
 - Patron Saint of Prisons



Kayla's notes