

Parish Mission – St Joseph Parish, Libertyville, IL
February 26, 27, & 28, 2017

Theme: **THE NAME OF GOD IS MERCY**

Session 1
Sunday Evening

Repentance: Becoming a member of Jesus' family

Returning to God is a constant theme in the Scriptures. Both Jesus and John the Baptist warned the people, "Repent and believe in the Good News." Our repentance is not so much about sin; it is much more about God's mercy and love. Like the sinful woman in Luke's gospel, we truly repent when we opt to become a member of Jesus' family.

Session 2
Monday Evening

Forgiveness: Going the extra mile

As recipients of God's mercy, we are in turn called upon to share that mercy with our brothers and sisters. Offering forgiveness is a pre-condition to receiving God's mercy. Forgiveness is not something that the perpetrator can claim as a right. It is a gift that we are called to give. It is all about going the extra mile.

Session 3
Tuesday Evening

Charity: Serving the Christ among us

Hardly anyone has made the Gospel more credible to the people of our time than St Mother Teresa of Calcutta. By her lifelong dedication to the destitute and the poor, she has demonstrated to us how we should love. When we take care of our suffering brothers and sisters, we serve the Christ among us.

Short Bio

Fr Britto M Berchmans

Born in India, Fr. Britto Berchmans has since served the Church in various capacities in India, Italy, and the US, and is now a Chicago diocesan priest. He speaks extensively to groups on spirituality, relationships, and personal growth, and conducts parish missions. He holds multiple Master's degrees in physics, journalism, and theology, and a Doctorate in mass communications. He has produced a six-part set of CDs entitled, Enrich your Marriage. He is currently the pastor of St Paul of the Cross Parish in Park Ridge, a parish that ministers to over 4,800 registered families. Fr Britto laces humor into all his presentations, and recently he has been doing a comedy routine known as "Holy Smokes!" for audiences around Chicago. A year ago Fr Britto started to host on Catholic Radio a monthly talk show entitled "Built on the Rock" which focuses on Christ-centered marriages and relationships.

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First Day

Sunday, February 26

Repentance: Becoming a Member of Jesus' Family

Opening

Deep within (Gather #486)

Reading:

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Responsorial

Change our Hearts (Gather # 493)

Closing

Amazing Grace (Gather #645)

Second Day

Monday, February 27

Forgiveness: Going the Extra Mile

Opening

Let there be peace on earth (Gather #829)

Reading:

Matthew 18: 21-35

Responsorial

If today you hear God's voice (Gather #66)

Closing

Make me a channel of your peace (Gather #828)

Third Day

Tuesday, February 28

Charity: Serving the Christ among us

Opening

The Servant Song (Gather #751)

Reading:

Matthew 25: 31-46

Responsorial

We are called (Gather #710)

Closing

Go, make a difference (Gather #775)