

WE ARE ALL PIECES OF ONE WORLD

A McAuley Community Retreat



October 27, 2017 9:00 am-1 pm
Church of the Transfiguration
1165 Broad Street, Cranston, RI 02908



Agenda

- 9:00 -9:15 Registration • Welcome • Coffee • Ice breaker
- 9:15-9:45 We are all Pieces of God's Kingdom
 • Zacchaeus the Tax Collector
- 9:45-10:20 Who am I?
 • My Piece
- 10:20-10:45 My piece in Mercy
- 10:45-11:15 When the Pieces Don't Fit: The Practice of Patience
- 11:15-12:00 A Deeper Look at Fitting Together: A Discovery Walk
- Man in the Mirror
 - Privilege Walk
 - The Last of Human Freedom's
 - Make Your Piece
- 12:00-12:30 Lunch
- 12:30-1:00 Closing Liturgy



Bible Study



Luke 19:1-10

Zacchaeus the Tax Collector

19 Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. 2

A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. 3 He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. 4 So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.

5 When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.” 6 So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

7 All the people saw this and began to mutter, “He has gone to be the guest of a sinner.”

8 But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, “Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.”

9 Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. 10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”



Reflection: Bible Study

- What do we discover about Jericho?
- What do we discover about Zacchaeus?
- How is the crowd surprised by Jesus' actions?
- What surprises you about this passage?
- Who is your Zaccheus?
- Are there ways this might impact you going forward?



Who am I: My Piece

Any surprises?

What assumptions do we make?

Statement	Answer	Visible/ Invisible/ Both
I am		
I Can		
I Have		
I Like		
I Will		

Were you surprised by any of your answers?

How do these statements help you to better understand who you are as a person?

What are the visible characteristics of your identity?

What are the invisible characteristics?





My Piece in Mercy



When the Pieces Don't Fit: The Practice of
Patience

Notes:



The Last of Human Freedom's . . .



*We who lived in concentration camps can remember the men who walked through the huts comforting others, giving away their last piece of bread. They may have been few in number, but they offer sufficient proof **that everything can be taken from a man but one thing: the last of the human freedoms —***

to choose one's attitude in any given set of circumstances, to choose one's own way.

- Viktor Frankl

Reflection:

1. What circumstances (behaviors, persons, situations, events or issues) challenge your own attitude at McAuley?
2. How does that effect you? (Irritates, scares you, pisses you off)
3. Based on Viktor Frankl's quote, how could you chose your attitude or "own way" in response?



Man in the Mirror



Take a few minutes to listen deeply to the lyrics of this familiar song . . .

I'm Gonna Make A
Change,
For Once In My Life
It's Gonna Feel Real Good,
Gonna Make A Difference
Gonna Make It Right . . .

As I, Turn Up The Collar
On My Favorite Winter
Coat
This Wind Is Blowin' My
Mind
I See The Kids In The
Street,
With Not Enough To Eat
Who Am I, To Be Blind?
Pretending Not To See
Their Needs
A Summer's Disregard,
A Broken Bottle Top
And A One Man's Soul
They Follow Each Other On
The Wind Ya' Know
'Cause They Got Nowhere
To Go
That's Why I Want You To
Know

I'm Starting With The Man
In The Mirror
I'm Asking Him To Change
His Ways
And No Message Could
Have Been Any Clearer
If You Wanna Make The
World
A Better Place
Take A Look At Yourself,
And Then Make A Change

I've Been A Victim Of A
Selfish
Kind Of Love
It's Time That I Realize
That There Are Some With
No Home, Not A Nickel To
Loan
Could It Be Really Me,
Pretending That They're
Not Alone?

A Widow Deeply Scarred,
Somebody's Broken Heart
And A Washed-Out Dream
They Follow The Pattern Of
The Wind, Ya' See



Cause They Got No Place
To Be
That's Why I'm Starting
With Me

I'm Starting With The Man
In The Mirror
I'm Asking Him To Change
His Ways
And No Message Could
Have Been Any Clearer
If You Wanna Make The
World
A Better Place
Take A Look At Yourself
And Then Make A Change

I'm Starting With The Man
In The Mirror
I'm Asking Him To Change
His Ways
And No Message Could've
Been Any Clearer
If You Wanna Make The
World
A Better Place
Take A Look At Yourself
And Then Make That . . .
Change!

I'm Starting With The Man
In The Mirror,
I'm Asking Him To Change
His Ways
No Message Could Have
Been Any Clearer

If You Wanna Make The
World A Better Place
(Take A Look At Yourself
And Then Make The
Change)
(You Gotta Get It Right,
While You Got The Time)
('Cause When You Close
Your
Heart)
You Can't Close Your Mind!

That Man, That Man, That
Man, That Man
With That Man In The
Mirror
(Man In The Mirror, Oh
Yeah!)

That Man, That Man, That
Man
I'm Asking Him To Change
His Ways
(Better Change!)

You Know . . . That Man
No Message Could Have
Been Any Clearer
If You Wanna Make The
World
A Better Place
Take A Look At Yourself
And
Then Make A Change
(Take A Look At Yourself
And
Then Make A Change)



Reflection-Man in the Mirror:

1. In the song, what are some of the troubles that he sees in the world around him?
2. What are some of the troubles you have witnessed in your work at McAuley?
3. What specific change can you make? **Write them on the mirror.**



Privilege Walk

What is privilege? Defined as “an unearned benefit” or “a special right, advantage, or immunity granted or available only to a particular person or group of people,” privilege can ultimately mean much more than that.



In this exercise, you will be asked to physically take steps in relation to answers to a series of questions associated to privilege or disadvantage, including questions about your household, significant other, disability and race.

Reflection: Privilege Walk

1. What did you observe as you were doing the activity?
2. What is your “gut reaction” to where you find yourself at the end of this list of privileges?
3. Did anything surprise you?
4. Did you come to any new realizations? What were they?
5. Has this activity changed your perspective of others?



Make Your piece



As part of the McAuley Community, we find ourselves, each of us, a piece of the Whole. We are strengthened by our connection to each other.



Liturgy



Hymn

Opening Prayer

O God, you created all people in your image. We thank you for the astonishing variety of races and cultures in this world. Enrich our lives by ever-widening circles of friendship, and show us

your presence in those who differ most from us, until our knowledge of your love is made perfect in our love for all your children and we stand hand in hand with those who are different from us; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Voice One

Now, the Star-Belly Sneetches-
Had bellies with stars.

The Plain-Belly Sneetches-Had none upon thars.

Those stars weren't so big. They were really so small.

You might think such a thing wouldn't matter at all.

But, because they had stars, all the Star-Belly Sneetches

Would brag, "We're the best kind of Sneetch on the beaches.

With their snoots in the air, they would sniff and they'd snort

"We'll have nothing to do with the Plain-Belly sort!"

And whenever they met some, when they were out walking,

They'd hike right on past them without even talking.

When the Star-Belly children went out to play ball,



Voice Two

“We’re exactly like you! You can’t tell us apart.
We’re all just the same, now, you snooty old smarties!
And now we can go to your frankfurter parties.”

Voice Three

“Good grief!” groaned the ones who had stars at the first.
“We’re still the best Sneetches and they are the worst.
But, now, how in the world will we know,” they all frowned,
“If which kind is what, or the other way round?”
Then came McBean with a very sly wink.
And he said, “Things are not quite as bad as you think.
So you don’t know who’s who. That is perfectly true.
But come with me, friends. Do you know what I’ll do?
I’ll make you, again, the best Sneetches on beaches
And all it will cost you is ten dollars eaches.”
“Belly stars are no longer in style,” said McBean.
“What you need is a trip through my Star-off Machine.
This wondrous contraption will take off your stars
So you won’t look like Sneetches who have them on thars.”
And that handy machine Working very precisely
Removed all the stars from their tummies quite nicely.
Then, with snoots in the air, they paraded about
And they opened their beaks and they let out a shout,
“We know who is who! Now there isn’t a doubt.
The best kind of Sneetches are Sneetches without!”

Voice Four

Then, of course, those with stars all got frightfully mad.
To be wearing a star now was frightfully bad.
Then, of course, old Sylvester McMonkey McBean
Invited them into his star-off machine.
Then, of course from THEN on, as you probably guess,
Things really got into a horrible mess.



All the rest of that day, on those wild screaming beaches,
The fix-it-up Chappie kept fixing up Sneetches.
Off again! On Again! In again! Out again!
Through the machines they raced round and about again,
Changing their stars every minute or two.
They kept paying money. They kept running through
Until neither the Plain nor the Star-Bellies knew
Whether this one was that one...or that one was this one
Or which one was what one ...or what one was who.
Then, when every last cent
Of their money was spent,
The Fix-it-Up Chappie packed up
And he went.
And he laughed as he drove
In his car up the beach,
“They never will learn.
No. You can’t teach a Sneetch!”

Voice Five

But McBean was quite wrong. I’m quite happy to say
That the Sneetches got really quite smart on that day,
The day they decided that Sneetches are Sneetches
And no kind of Sneetch is the best on the beaches
That day, all the Sneetches forgot about stars
And whether they had one, or not, upon thars.

Holy Sharing from the Pieces of the Puzzle

Prayers

Leader: In Christ there is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither
Roman Catholic nor Protestant,
All: All are one in Jesus Christ.



Leader: In Christ there is neither black nor white, male or female,

All: All are one in Jesus Christ.

Leader: In Christ there is neither rich nor poor, neither middle class nor working class,

All: All are one in Jesus Christ.

Leader: In Christ there is neither straight or gay, neither transgender nor asexual,

All: All are one in Jesus Christ.

Leader: Christ lived and died for us so that we might know the power of God's love. God's love is a love that does not label, it is a love that does not discriminate, it is a love that does not segregate. And while we may have different colored skin, different economic statuses, different abilities, different needs, it is this divine love that unites us one to another as cherished sisters and brothers. For the reality is

All: All are one in Jesus Christ. Amen.

All Pieces of One World

Hymn

The Commissioning

Leader: There are different gifts,

People: but the same Spirit who gives them.

Leader: There are different ways of serving God,



People: but it is the same Lord who is served.

Leader: Each of us is given a gift by the Spirit,
People: to use for the common good.

Leader: Together we are the body of Christ,
People: and individually called to God's mission.

Leader: We are called to different ministries as we seek
to live God's love. As we commission you today
to go forth and do this work, will you renew your
commitment to the loving service of God, of one
another, and of all people?

People: We do.

Leader: Will you, as long as you are engaged in this
work, seek to reform it prayerfully
and in a spirit of compassion and dignity, and
respecting the dignity of every human being?

People: We will, with God's help.

All: Living God, draw us deeper into your love, send
us to care and serve, and make us heralds of
good news. Stir us, strengthen us, teach and
inspire us to live your love with generosity and
joy, remembering always that we are all pieces of
one world. **Amen.**

Leader: I commission you to this ministry of serving
those most in need.

Blessing



Leader: God, whose power working in us can do
infinitely more than we can ask or
imagine, grant you the gifts of faith and hope.
Almighty God, Father, † Son, and
Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. Amen.
Our worship has ended; our service has just
begun!

Hymn: Be God's

Dr. Seuss wrote “Sneetches”, in 1961 to teach children about discrimination. He wrote the book to address how different groups of people did not like each other during World War II. A number of the Seuss books address the subject of diversity and teach children to be fair and treat people equally. Ted Geisel's (Dr. Seuss) family was German immigrants and was often targets for many slurs to their heritage. Ted and his sister overcame this ridicule during their teenage years when they became active participants in the pro-American campaign of World War I.

