



ARCHDIOCESE
of MILWAUKEE

Proclaim Christ *and* Make Disciples *through the* Sacramental Life *of the* Church.

ignite • renew • energize • ignite • renew • energize • ignite • renew • energize



Beginning December 8, 2015, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Pope Francis is inviting us to enter into a **Jubilee Year of Mercy**. The pope expresses his fervent hopes for the year in these inspiring and powerful words:

Archbishop
Jerome E. Listecki

"How much I desire that the year

to come will be steeped in mercy, so that we can go out to every man and woman, bringing the goodness and tenderness of God! May the balm of mercy reach everyone, both believers and those far away, as a sign that the Kingdom of God is already present in our midst!" (Misericordiae Vultus, 5)

With these words, the pope is articulating the essential two-step nature of our Catholic lives.

First, we need to be "steeped in" the unearned gift of mercy that God showers upon each and every one of us. Especially through the merciful death and resurrection of his Son, Jesus Christ, God saves us from ourselves and calls us into new life through repentance and conversion. Jesus is the mercy of the Father calling us away from the separateness of sin into a life of communion with God and each other. Jesus wants to "steep us" in the saving mercy of God!

This brings us to step two of our Catholic identity. Once we are immersed in the overwhelming mercy of God and discover our newfound identity, we are called to "go out



to every man and woman, bringing the goodness and tenderness of God." Having received mercy, we give mercy away. And amazingly, according to the paradoxical laws of Divine Economics, the more mercy we give away, the more mercy comes back to us thirty, sixty, or one hundredfold (Mt 13:8).

The pope's call for a **Year of Mercy** is especially well-timed as we continue to live into our new Archdiocesan Mission Statement. We "encounter Jesus through the sacramental life of the Church" so that we can be "steeped in mercy." And we give this gift of mercy away by going out to "proclaim Christ and make disciples." We are a Church born of mercy and sent on a mission of mercy!

The **Year of Mercy** will include many opportunities locally for us to be "steeped in mercy" and to "go out" in mercy. Some of the highlights include making pilgrimages, practicing the spiritual and corporal works of mercy, experiencing prayer, adoring the Blessed Sacrament, and participating in the sacrament of reconciliation. You can find details on **Year of Mercy** initiatives and resources by visiting www.archmil.org/YearOfMercy.

Archbishop Listecki invites you to join him for the Opening Mass of the **Year of Mercy** on Tuesday, December 8, 2015, 5:15 p.m., at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, 812 N. Jackson St., Milwaukee. Also, mark your calendars now to join him again at the cathedral for the Closing Mass on Sunday, November 20, 2016, 11 a.m.

All Are Welcome: Practicing *Jujutsu* at Mass



Grace Mazza Urbanski

Of all the martial arts, *Jujutsu* intrigues me most. As I understand it, *Ju* means gentle or flexible, and the art of *Jujutsu* developed specifically so unarmed people could deflect attacks by samurai warriors with their mighty swords.

Jujutsu reminds me of going to Mass. Why? Because no matter how many times we sing “All Are Welcome,” I sense some hostility in the pews from time to time.

Sometimes the bad feelings come from people who feel awkward, angry, or unwanted. Those feelings might come from any number of people:

- a young person feeling she is being dragged to church
- a divorced person feeling excluded and judged
- a blended or multicultural family
- a person suffering with mental illness

The hearts of faithful churchgoers can also get upset, for understandable reasons:

- their parish has been merged and renamed
- parents seem to have no control over their noisy children
- strangers appear on major holidays and are never seen again
- the style of worship in a particular parish feels wrong – monotonous, disrespectful, irrelevant, superficial, etc.

What's the way out? Jesus. Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. He shows us how to approach one another with genuine openness: “I am gentle, and humble of heart” (Matt 1:29).

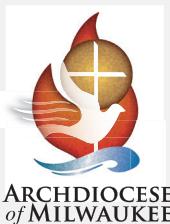
Here's where *Jujutsu* comes in. Gentle, but by no means passive or weak, *Jujutsu* accepts the full strength of the opponent and neutralizes it. When an older gentleman glares

at a young family with distracting children, for example, the mother accepts the icy rebuke and prays that her lively children will one day love the Mass as much as this faithful man, but with even more joy.

If a teenager's inappropriate attire scandalizes a woman, she can absorb the offense in prayer. Closing her eyes, she might consider the ways she has ever offended Jesus by failing to do good or by forgetting the great mercy Jesus offered by dying for our sins.

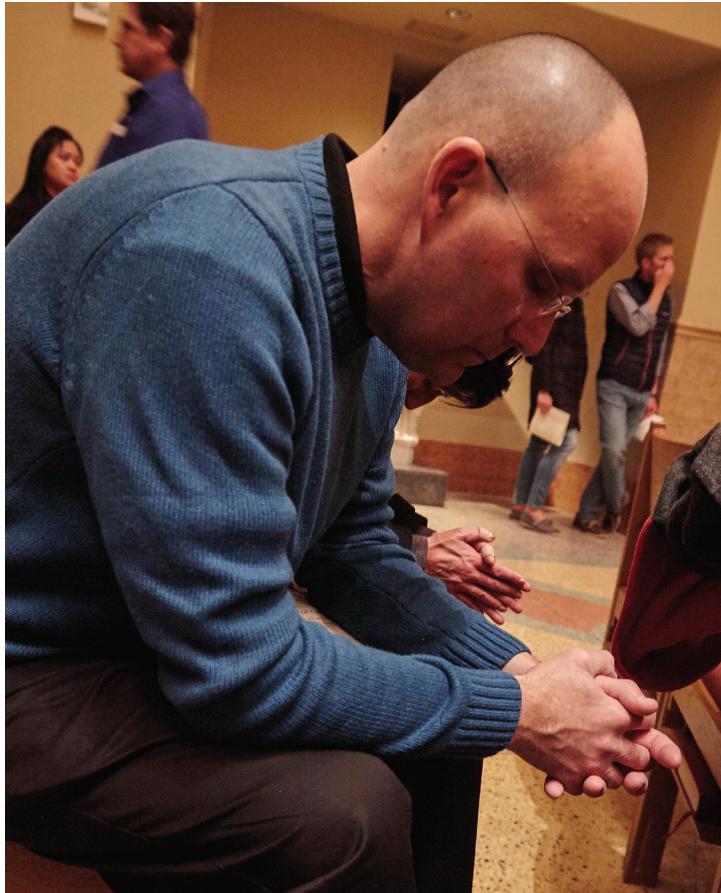
This spiritual *Jujutsu* can help us enter more deeply into the mystery of God's mercy. At some point, we all resist God's loving plan. Sometimes we oppose God in outright battle. But God, all-powerful and always gentle, absorbs our attacks and offers mercy instead.

Grace Mazza Urbanski is a member of the Evangelization and the Sunday Mass Synod implementation Pastoral Priority Team and Director of Children's Ministry at the U.S. National Office of the Apostleship of Prayer.



ARCHDIOCESE of MILWAUKEE | MISSION STATEMENT

To proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ through his saving death and resurrection by calling, forming and sending disciples to go and make new disciples. As a people, we are called to encounter Jesus and grow as disciples through the sacramental life of the Church.



Intentional Discipleship Habit Four: Seek Jesus' Mercy in Reconciliation Often

Intentional discipleship is like any high level skill, it takes practice. The more you do it, the better you get! Practice your Catholic discipleship by repeating and building six essential habits. In this series, we explore these habits one at a time. Today we focus on **Habit Four: Seek Jesus' Mercy in Reconciliation Often.**

The temptation of our secular age is to live as though we do not need God. We can be duped into thinking that we are the masters of our destiny and that the material world is of ultimate value. When this happens, we deny our brokenness and have no need of God's forgiveness.

Disciples intentionally cut against this cultural grain. They practice the awareness that they regularly need to be saved from their sins. With heaven as their goal, they hunger to encounter Jesus' mercy in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Prayer for the Mission of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee

(Shortened Version)

Almighty and ever living God,

we praise you and we bless you,

for you are great indeed!

Grant, we pray,

as on that first Pentecost,

that tongues of fire may descend upon us,

and that the driving wind of your Holy Spirit

may blow boldly into our hearts.

Embolden us, O God,

so that we may go forth to proclaim

your Gospel and renew the face of the earth.

In this Archdiocese of Milwaukee,

we humbly pray for strength and fortitude

to follow your great commission:

to go and make disciples of all people,

living our faith through word and deed.

We ask all this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The 6 Habits of Catholic Intentional Discipleship

- Encounter Jesus in Daily Prayer Time
- Know Jesus in Daily Scripture Reflection
- Receive Jesus in the Eucharist Often
- Seek Jesus' Mercy in Reconciliation Often
- Serve Jesus in the Least Often
- Share Jesus in Regular Parish Service

Impregnémonos de misericordia



Arzobispo
Jerome E. Listecki

El papa expresa sus fervientes esperanzas para el año en estas palabras inspiradoras y poderosas:

¡Cómo deseo que los años por venir estén impregnados de misericordia para poder ir al encuentro de cada persona llevando la bondad y la ternura de Dios! A todos, creyentes y lejanos, pueda llegar el bálsamo de la misericordia como signo del Reino de Dios que está ya presente en medio de nosotros. (Misericordiae Vultus, 5)

Con estas palabras, el Papa está expresando la naturaleza esencial de dos pasos de nuestras vidas católicas.

En primer lugar, tenemos que estar “impregnados” del don inmerecido de la misericordia que Dios colma sobre cada uno de nosotros. Especialmente a través de la misericordiosa muerte y resurrección de su Hijo, Jesucristo,

A partir del 8 de diciembre de 2015, en la solemnidad de la Inmaculada Concepción de la Santísima Virgen María, el Papa Francisco nos invita a celebrar el **Año de Jubileo de la Misericordia**.

Dios nos salva de nosotros mismos y nos llama a una nueva vida a través del arrepentimiento y la conversión. Jesús es la misericordia del Padre que nos llama a alejarnos de la separación del pecado a una vida de comunión con Dios y con los demás. ¡Jesús quiere “impregnarnos” de la misericordia salvadora de Dios!

Esto nos lleva al segundo paso de nuestra identidad católica. Una vez que nos encontramos sumergidos en la gran misericordia de Dios y descubrimos nuestra nueva identidad, estamos llamados a “ir al encuentro de cada persona llevando la bondad y la ternura de Dios”. Después de haber recibido misericordia, nos toca a nosotros brindar misericordia. Y, sorprendentemente, de acuerdo con las leyes paradójicas de la Economía Divina, mientras más misericordia mostremos, recibiremos misericordia treinta, sesenta o cien veces más. (Mt 13, 8).

El llamado del Papa para el **Año de la Misericordia** es especialmente oportuno, ya que continuamos viviendo nuestra nueva Declaración de la Misión Arquidiocesana: “Encontrarnos con Jesús a través de la vida sacramental de la Iglesia,” para que podamos

ser “impregnados de misericordia”. Así, compartimos este regalo de la misericordia saliendo a “proclamar a Cristo y formando discípulos”. ¡Somos una Iglesia nacida de la misericordia y enviados en una misión de misericordia!

El **Año de la Misericordia** incluirá muchas oportunidades a nivel local para que nos “impregnemos de misericordia” y “demostremos” la misericordia. Algunos de los aspectos más destacados incluyen hacer peregrinaciones, poner en práctica las obras espirituales y corporales de la misericordia, experimentar la oración, la adoración del Santísimo, y participar en el Sacramento de la Reconciliación. Pueden encontrar más detalles sobre las iniciativas y recursos para el **Año de la Misericordia** visitando www.archmil.org/YearOfMercy.

Quiero invitarles personalmente a la Misa de apertura del Año de la Misericordia el martes, 8 de diciembre de 2015, a las 5:15 p.m. en la Catedral de San Juan el Evangelista en Milwaukee. También, anoten en su calendario para que me acompañen en la Misa de clausura el domingo, 20 de noviembre de 2016, a las 11 a.m. en la Catedral.

El cuarto hábito del discipulado intencional: buscar la misericordia de Jesús en la reconciliación frecuentemente

El discipulado intencional es como cualquier otra habilidad, requiere práctica – cuanto más practique, ¡más mejorará! Practique su discipulado católico repitiendo y formando seis hábitos esenciales. En esta serie, exploramos estos hábitos uno por uno. Hoy nos enfocaremos en el cuarto hábito: buscar la misericordia de Jesús en la reconciliación frecuentemente.

La tentación de hoy en día es vivir como si no necesitáramos a Dios. Pueden engañarnos al hacernos

pensar que somos los dueños de nuestro destino y que el mundo material es lo más importante. Cuando esto sucede, negamos que somos seres quebrantados y pensamos que no tenemos necesidad del perdón de Dios.

Los discípulos intencionalmente van en contra de esta corriente. Ellos practican conscientemente que necesitan ser salvados de sus pecados regularmente. Ellos tienen como objetivo el cielo y por eso tienen hambre de encontrar la misericordia de Jesús en el Sacramento de la Reconciliación.