

# *St. John Paul II Parish, Sellersburg IN*

## *The First Fifteen*

The Spiritual Life and Evangelization Commission has asked that all parish meetings begin with a program we are calling "The First Fifteen." We are asking all parish meetings to begin with a few minutes of faith sharing. One person in the group reads the reading provided below (which corresponds with this next week's weekend readings) and everyone is given an opportunity to reflect and share on the readings. The questions below are simply a way to stimulate your reflection. You can use them or anything that strikes you about the word of God.

**Sunday, February 11, 2018**

**Gospel Reading: Mark 1:40-45**

A leper came to Jesus and kneeling down begged him and said, "If you wish, you can make me clean." Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched him, and said to him, "I do will it. Be made clean." The leprosy left him immediately, and he was made clean. Then warning him sternly, he dismissed him at once. He said to him, "See that you tell no one anything, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses prescribed; that will be proof for them."

The man went away and began to publicize the whole matter. He spread the report abroad so that it was impossible for Jesus to enter a town openly. He remained outside in deserted places, and people kept coming to him from everywhere. The Gospel of the Lord.

### **Questions to Ponder:**

Lepers in the time of Jesus were considered unclean. No one could touch them under the law. Lepers had to call out as they passed by- "Unclean" to warn people to avoid them. Yet, Jesus reaches out to heal him by touching him.

1. Who are the "unclean" people in society today? Have you ever had a personal encounter with someone considered outside of society? How did you deal with them?
2. Why did Jesus tell the leper to tell no one what had happened to him?
3. Where in your life do you need Jesus to "touch" you?

End with the "**Glory Be**"

**"Glory be to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen"**