

OLM :: MISSION & METHODS

• OUR MISSION

Christians don't define the mission of the Church. Jesus does. He sums it up for us in the Great Commandments and in the Great Commission. Therefore, OLM's mission is simple:

1. To love God.
2. To love others.
3. To make disciples.

The Great Commandments: "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:34-40)

The Great Commission: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." (Matthew 28:16-20)

• OUR METHODS

WORSHIP :: We believe in Christian principles as taught by the Catholic Church. The Eucharistic celebration (the Mass) is the source and summit of our faith in Jesus Christ. We seek to live that faith with integrity, creativity, and joy. In other words, we strive for a "dynamic orthodoxy." Excellence in our worship honors God.

EVANGELIZATION :: We believe that Jesus came to seek and save the lost. That means he (Jesus) focused his efforts on people. We seek to do the same. We heed Christ's command to share the "Good News" of God's love with others, inviting them to believe in Jesus and to know him. That means we look for the opportunity to invite disconnected people to join us. We strive to be open to "outsiders" and welcoming to all who inquire about our faith. As a parish we want insiders to reach outsiders. We want to grow in our understanding that the Church's "job" is to produce Christians. The Church exists for growth. *(Continued on other side.)*

DISCIPLESHIP :: We believe that the Bible is the inspired Word of God. As Christians, we accept that the Bible teaches us what we are to believe and what we are to do. Our preaching and teaching aim to open up the relevance of the Bible for our daily lives. Changing and growing into Christian disciples is not just about gaining greater knowledge, but is also about actually doing what God's Word says we should do. Discipleship ultimately means allowing the power of God's Word to change us.

FELLOWSHIP/FRIENDSHIP :: We believe that our shared faith makes us one family in which we are learning to love one another as Christ loves us. Like Jesus, we want to be focused on other people. We strive to build a church culture through encounters in which people become open and authentic--especially about their need to grow and change. The members of our parish will experience life together.

SERVICE :: We believe that the Holy Spirit has prepared tasks for us to do that will advance the Kingdom of God. We recognize that, as Christians, God has called us to serve both within our parish and beyond it--in our community and in the world. In serving Christ we are challenged to reach out to others. We accept that challenge.