

# **Christian Community in Action**

## **Overview**

This rollo is given on the third day of the Pilgrimage. It follows the Transformation of the Environment and the Life in Grace rollos. This rollo gets very specific about the ideas presented in the Christian Action and Leaders rollos. Through personal testimony, the listeners are given living and practical examples of what Christians acting together can do and how they can do it. The maximum length of this rollo is 30 minutes.

Immediately following the end of the rollo, the Rector should allow the Pilgrims a short time for personal reflection before introducing the discussion time. This time of reflection is to allow the Holy Spirit to inform their thoughts.

## **Purpose of this Rollo**

The purpose of this rollo is to introduce the concept of intentional Christian communities as a means of effecting change in our environments. It also prepares the listeners for the idea of the reunion group.

## **Objectives**

- To encourage participation as a member of a group.
- To provide specific examples of what groups can do and how they accomplish their purpose.

## **References**

The Holy Bible

## **Visual Aids**

None required.

## **Opening Prayer**

Please turn to page \_\_\_ in your Pilgrim's Guide and pray with me.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in us the fire of Your love. Send forth Your Spirit and we shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth.

O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, instructs the hearts of the faithful, grant, that by the same Holy Spirit, we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in His consolations. Through Christ our Lord.

Please continue to pray with me:

We believe, Lord, that you are here present. Although our eyes do not see You, our faith senses You. Take any stray thoughts from our minds. Help us understand the truths You wish to teach us in this meditation. Let us make up our minds to put them into practice. Your servants are listening; speak Lord, to our souls. Amen

I. Introduction

A. Self

1. Name
2. Church name
3. Pilgrimage/Via de Cristo/Emmaus/Cursillo
  - a. Date
  - b. Table Name
  - c. Today's Table Recognition
4. Family
5. Church Involvement – name a few activities
6. Occupation/Vocation
7. Hobbies/Interest

B. Quick review of previous Rolls *[Note to Speaker: The following points may be put into your own words. Keep this review brief.]*

1. Transformation of the Environment (Speaker's name \_\_\_\_). To make a friend, be a friend and share Christ with a friend.
2. A Life of Grace (Speaker's name \_\_\_\_\_). We are all called to live a life in grace, balancing our inward and outward spiritual journey.

C. Topic

1. Title of this rollo is **Christian Community in Action**.
2. Purpose of this rollo *[Note to Speaker: The following are the main points to be covered in this rollo.]*
  - a. To encourage participation as a member of a group.
  - b. To provide specific examples of what groups can do and how they accomplish it.

II. This weekend has been:

A. An experience in Christian community.

1. Small groups of people working together.
2. Purposeful in what was said and done.
3. Planned in a way to allow it to happen.
4. Accountable to God, one another and to you.

- B. In this experience of Christian living we have:
  - 1. Been supported through prayer.
  - 2. Cared for one another.
  - 3. Centered our hearts and minds on Christ.
- C. When we go home, we will return to many unique environments:
  - 1. Our family or close friends.
  - 2. Our church.
  - 3. Our work.
  - 4. Our neighborhood.
  - 5. Our recreational, social or business groups.
- D. Pilgrimage experience encourages us to focus on these different environments.
  - 1. To cause each environment to be an experience in Christian living.
  - 2. To bring the world to Christ by bringing Christ into each environment.
- D. We are not called to bring the world to Christ by ourselves!
  - 1. Christ calls people into community.
  - 2. Christ is present in communities formed in His name.

III. **Intentional Christian communities are an effective means to transform the world.** *[Note to Speaker: The following points and write-downs should be presented, but not dwelt upon. They describe a small group. The main thrust of this rollo should be the personal examples of such small groups in action. I Corinthians 12:27.]* **An intentional Christian community is a small group of people with:**

- A. **A common purpose.**
  - 1. To recognize that the group is counting on Christ.
  - 2. To seek ways to communicate the Good News.
  - 3. To seek to discover and reveal Christ in the world.
- B. **A common plan.**
  - 1. To recognize they are counting on Christ.
  - 2. To understand the environment.
  - 3. To exercise personal leadership and example.
  - 4. To be as Christ to the world.
- C. **Accountability**
  - 1. To God.
  - 2. To one another.
  - 3. To the environment they are attempting to change.

IV. Personal example or witness portion of the rollo. *[Note to Speaker: This portion should act to stimulate the listener to want to seek out a similar*

*group, to realize that he or she is not expected to take on the task of bringing the world to Christ all by themselves. Examples should include the common purpose, common plan and accountability aspects of an intentional Christian community.]*

V. Summary

- A. We are called to share Christ with the world.
- B. Through our participation in intentional Christian communities, we can influence the various environments in which we find ourselves.
- C. Intentional Christian communities have a common purpose, a common plan and are accountable.

*[Note to Speaker: Please end with “God loves you, my brothers and sisters in Christ, and so do I.”]*