



Good morning, I am Tom and this is our third and final combined session of Confirmation Class with Adult Sunday School. It's all an introduction to stir your love and curiosity about Jesus and his Church, and this, our Episcopal and Anglican branch of what our Presiding Bishop Michael Curry calls The Jesus Movement. The idea of confirmation class is that you may want to keep on learning and being more and more part of us. In our first meetings we talked about,

**first**, Organization and History, our parish Holy Nativity Episcopal Church, our Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast, our place in The Episcopal Church and the worldwide Anglican Communion, with chat and lists and maps and links to everything online, people, webpages and Facebook pages.

**and second**, Theology and Worship, discussing our liturgical worship and texts, The Book of Common Prayer, Enriching Our Worship, Bible, Hymnal. Showing you how to discern our theology, that Lex Orandi Lex Credendi, what we believe about God is experienced in worshiping with us, in what we do and say and sing and pray when we gather before God. That our Sunday worship happens in two parts, Word and Table. We had

handouts both to look at and talk about together in class, and for you to take home and look over at your leisure. I am now taking steps to make those available online through what the parish office sets up to help us continue through current events,.

This our third meeting was to be, and is, for your comments and questions, and our discussion together. For example, [The Jesus Movement confirmation booklet](#) I gave you the first hour, or that you may now read or download online, lists dozens of terms that you may hear around The Episcopal Church, with the suggestion that you glance through those and circle any you'd like to know about. This is our time for that.

Now as we "Shelter In Place" while CoVid-19 runs its course, I invite and welcome your questions, back to me online at [fr.tom1011@gmail.com](mailto:fr.tom1011@gmail.com) or [twellerpc@gmail.com](mailto:twellerpc@gmail.com) or perhaps Madge will have our parish website and other electronic features set up so we can visit, talk, converse as a group and respond, me to you, and maybe all of us to each other. The idea certainly is not new in the electronic age, this was done in online meetings of EfM (Education for Ministry) classes starting about a decade or more ago.

We are learning new things, I have no experience or knowledge about group discussion and responses online, but we can learn together; and whatever may fall through any cracks will be fun to pick up and resume when we meet again.

Part of what I'm doing now is assembling all the handout material I prepared for our first two class sessions, so Madge can make it available online, especially for anyone who missed one or both class meetings.

I hope and expect that we may have time to gather again before the bishop comes for Confirmation, whenever that new schedule happens. In the meantime, and regardless, look over the handout material online, ask me anything you will, and I certify to our rector and the bishop that you are sufficiently instructed in the Christian faith!

Lovingly and respectfully,

Fr Tom

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Telephone 850-532-0114 (I am hard of hearing, and even with hearing aids telephone conversation is difficult for me, so email or text only, if you please!)