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## **Award-winning speaker, Art Zannoni, to present Lenten mission at St. John's in Grafton**

Lent is a time to reflect on Jesus' call to be his disciples and to recommit ourselves to our baptismal promises. The Gospels challenge us to respond by following Jesus, seeing ourselves and one another as Jesus sees us.

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Grafton will be hosting a Lenten Mission entitled "The Challenge of Jesus: Come Follow Me — The Call to Discipleship."

Among the Gospel stories that help us discover our call to discipleship are the three conversion stories in the Gospel of John. These include Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman at the well (John 4:3-42), his cure of the man born blind (John 9:1-41) and the raising of Lazarus (John 11:1-44). In each of these stories the characters are converted to a new understanding of who Jesus is and what it means to follow him and become his disciple.

The mission will look at each of these stories and other Gospel texts as proven models for the practice of our faith.

The mission will be led by Art Zannoni, an award-winning freelance writer, Scripture scholar, theologian and workshop leader in the areas of biblical studies and Christian-Jewish relations. Zannoni is the author of three books, "Jesus of the Gospels," "Tell Me Your Name: Images of God in the Bible" and "Tell Me Your Story: The Parables of Jesus." He has had articles published in numerous Catholic magazines and newspapers. He is also a regular contributor to the web page [www.pastoralplanning.com](http://www.pastoralplanning.com).

Zannoni is an engaging speaker and master teacher who combines the best of scholarship with humor and clear explanation.

The mission will be held Sunday, March 27, through Tuesday, March 29. The presentation will begin at 7 p.m. each evening. On Monday and Tuesday (March 28 and 29), Mass will be celebrated at 5:15 p.m. followed by a light supper prior to the mission presentation.

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church is located at 1515 Western Avenue in Grafton. For more information, please call (701) 352-1648. The family of St. John the Evangelist invites you to answer the challenge of Jesus this Lenten season and share this powerful, faith-building experience with them.