

Today, we celebrate Mission Month - Serve Boldly



Dr. Ping Lady, Chief of Surgery at Ascension NE Wisconsin - St. Elizabeth campus, has great respect for her patients. She states that some, especially those who are marginalized, can appear defensive and angry which perpetuates their experience of being ignored. By not allowing their attitude or words to bother her, she **serves boldly** by demonstrating kindness and showing her patients that she cares. These encounters lead to patients opening up and sharing their problems, which allows her to find new ways of helping. [Watch her video.](#)

For reflection and discussion: Recall a time when you saw through a gruff exterior to find the fearful person who you were able to help. As you share your story, consider how these encounters can and do develop trust.

Call to action: Serve boldly and with compassion by honoring the dignity and inherent worth of others, regardless of their appearance or attitude.

Prayer: Merciful God, open our eyes to see the needs of the poor and vulnerable around us. Grant us the grace to extend kindness as we care for patients, families and those we serve alongside. With humble hearts, we pray. Amen.



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Gregory Ammon, Director of Clinical Operations for Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital in Illinois, **serves boldly** through providing health, joy and peace by encouraging others to rediscover and live out these aspects of well-being within themselves, their families and their colleagues. [Watch his video.](#)

For reflection and discussion: Recall a time when someone reminded you of your own goodness and inner joy. How did that encounter lift you up and sustain you, especially in challenging times?

Call to action: Choose one practice this week to enhance well-being. As you engage in your own wellness and encourage nurturing practices in others, you set a bold example for spiritually centered, holistic care.

Prayer: God who grants us each breath, inspire us to extend gentle and loving care toward ourselves. As we seek a healthy body, mind and spirit, surround us with those who support our well-being. Give us wisdom to know when to slow our pace so we may recuperate physically, mentally and spiritually. We humbly pray. Amen.



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Jennah Roy, Nursing Manager for Ascension All Saints Hospital in Racine, Wisconsin, has great empathy for the new nurses who work on her unit.

She states that as she serves as a preceptor for new nurses, nurturing, giving and receiving grace, and extending kindness is so important. Taking the time to allow colleagues to feel safe to ask questions and appreciated for who they are is a way to **serve boldly** in the work that we do every day. [Watch her video.](#)

For reflection and discussion: Recall a time when you were new in your role and felt overwhelmed because you had many questions. Who calmed you by their presence and saw through to your hidden gifts and talents? As you share your story, consider how these encounters can and do develop trust.

Call to action: Serve boldly and with compassion by honoring the dignity and inherent worth of those you work alongside; be a mentor to others.

Prayer: Merciful God, open our eyes to see the needs of others. Grant us the grace to extend kindness and empathy as we care for patients, families and those we serve alongside. With humble hearts, we pray. Amen.



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Dr. Jocko Zifferblatt is a physician who serves in a busy Emergency Department at Ascension St. Elizabeth Hospital in Milwaukee.

When he feels fatigued and anxious, he practices slowing down, taking a deep breath and knocking on the door before he interacts with the next patient. In this way, he is not reactive to the situation or person but **serves boldly** by extending kindness, deeply listening and being responsive to the needs of the patient before him. [Watch his video.](#)

For reflection and discussion: Recall a time when you needed a reset during a tense interaction. What steps did you take to pause and practice self-care, and how did that shift the outcome? Consider how pausing helped you navigate the situation more effectively.

Call to action: Serve boldly by practicing compassion for both yourself and others. Stay present in the moment, consistently honoring the dignity and inherent worth of everyone you encounter, including yourself.

Prayer: Merciful God, grant us the generosity to extend grace to ourselves and others as we listen deeply and extend kindness to all we serve. With humble hearts, we pray. Amen.

