

My brothers and sisters, this weekend I would ask that you warmly welcome Fr. Robert “Mac” McAleer to St. Francis Church as he is our guest presider this week for our weekend Masses. Fr. Mac is associated with Unbound and will be discussing how Unbound partners with families that are living in poverty, empowering them to become self-sufficient and help them fulfill their desired potential.

Remember I mentioned last weekend in my homily about the early Christian community that was being formed in the Acts of the Apostles. This community was formed to be of the mind and heart of Jesus. They took to a radical way of life in which they sold all their belongings and pooled everything together so that there would not be anyone in need, particularly in need of food, water, and shelter. Without these basic needs met our brothers and sisters that live in poverty will not be able to fulfill their God created potential. Unbound helps us in a very real way to provide these basic needs to families that live in poverty.

Father Mac, priest of the Diocese of Davenport, Iowa, served in parish ministry both in rural and suburban settings, taught at Catholic high schools and was one of the original “Founding Fathers of the Association of United States Priests.” While in seminary, he studied in Mexico and saw true poverty firsthand. Having served as chair of the diocesan presbyteral council, priests’ personnel board and marriage tribunal has brought his leadership skills to a new ministry: Unbound. He currently serves as Trustee at St. Ambrose University and helps local parishes and convents. In his free time he enjoys golfing, traveling, and spending time with friends.

I am grateful to Fr. Mac for coming this weekend and sharing Unbound’s mission with our community and providing our community the opportunity to bring Christ’s Light into our world in a very real way.

See you all next weekend!

Fr. James