



**COURAGE**

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



[yahad.mt](http://yahad.mt)

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**ABOUT THIS SESSION**

This session takes on the theme of courage through watching the film *Just Mercy* (2019).

Film synopsis: It explores the work of young defence attorney Bryan Stevenson who represents poor people on death row. The film is based on Stevenson's 2014 memoir of the same name, in which he explored his journey to making his life's work the defence of African-American prisoners.

**GOAL**

The goal of this session is for young people to listen to the story of a man who, with courage, fought for justice.

**RESOURCES NEEDED**

- Film: *Just Mercy* (2019)

If you have enough time after the session, reflect on the following questions:

- Were you inspired by the movie?
- What struck you most about the story?
- Which character had the biggest impact on you?

**For the following session**

Ask a few young people to research and learn about the story of Pope St John Paul II's shooting: how it happened, and the saint's encounter with his aggressor. Invite them to prepare a presentation for the following session. (The theme of the next session is merciful patience).

## Our World

On the 16th of October, 2017, a car-bomb ripped through a car in Bidnija and took the life of Malta's foremost investigative journalist: Daphne Caruana Galizia. In more ways than one, we can say that this was truly a watershed moment when it comes to Malta's modern political history. There is a clear before and after.

## Reflection from Lent Resources #YAHADMT

In the face of widespread opposition and scorn, it's never easy to stand up for what is right and just. It takes courage to take a principled stand, whilst seeking real dialogue, in the public sphere. It's the courage of those pioneers who choose the less trodden path, of those bridge-builders who risk being misunderstood by all sides and labelled as outsiders by everyone, of those upright people who end up politically homeless, of the fool who chooses the well-being of the marginalised and the promotion of the common good over the comfort of the crowds.

It takes courage to abandon the comfort of your "clan" or the comfortable neutrality of the armchair critic.

As a community of faith we always have to ask ourselves if we are sometimes guilty of living the complacency of those who find themselves on the side of social privilege and thus fail to work courageously to transform the sinful structures of society. The transforming force of the Gospel can never be domesticated, and it's up to us to make sure that a holy restlessness continues burning from within as we engage in the hopeful renewal of society with courage and creativity. And if we ever get

scared, let's turn to the Lord who is our "light", our "salvation" and our "refuge".