



MOVIES FOR LENT



DIOCESE OF ALGOMA
The Anglican Church of Canada



THORNELOE
UNIVERSITY

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT - Film: *A Hidden Life* (2019), Theme: Obedience, Scripture: Psalm 121; John 3:1–17

Introduction: On the Second Sunday in Lent, the Church invites us to consider what it means to live faithfully in a world shaped by competing loyalties. *A Hidden Life* tells the true story of Franz Jägerstätter, an Austrian farmer who refuses to swear allegiance to Hitler during the Second World War. His quiet resistance, rooted in conscience and faith, comes at tremendous personal cost.

This film is not merely historical; it is a meditation on obedience—what it means to follow “the Jesus Way” when doing so leads not to comfort or recognition, but to suffering and isolation. Lent calls us to examine our own allegiances and to ask whether we are prepared to trust God when obedience is costly. In a season marked by self-examination and repentance, *A Hidden Life* reminds us that faithfulness is often hidden, unnoticed by the world, yet deeply known by God.

Discussion Questions

1. After viewing *A Hidden Life*, what thoughts and impressions lingered after the credits rolled? Why?
2. From a cinematic perspective, what did you appreciate about the film? What worked well? What felt challenging?
3. Obedience to “the Jesus Way” brings great joy, but often comes at great cost. In what ways are the joys and sacrifices of fidelity to God on display in this film? How is *A Hidden Life* both historical and relevant for today?
4. How does Psalm 121 speak into Franz’s journey of faithfulness? Where do you see echoes of “the Lord is your keeper” in the story?
5. In John 3, Jesus speaks of being “born from above.” What might it look like to live and love from that place of spiritual rebirth? Where is God in the midst of great suffering and injustice like that endured by Franz Jägerstätter?

How to Access This Film

A Hidden Life (2019) is available through the following legal streaming and rental options in Canada: Preferred Streaming Option: Disney+, \$8.99/month (no free trial). Rent / Buy: Apple TV, Amazon Prime Video: Rent: \$4.99, Buy: \$24.99. For additional options or to check availability in other countries, www.justwatch.com/ca is a helpful tool for locating where films can be streamed, rented, or purchased legally.

About Movies for Lent

Movies for Lent is a Lenten film series curated by The Rev. Jason Tripp, President of Thorneloe University, in partnership with the Diocese of Algoma. Each film is paired with a central theological theme and Scripture from the lectionary, inviting viewers into reflection and conversation at the intersection of faith, culture, and lived experience.

Film Credit: *A Hidden Life* (2019), Written and directed by Terrence Malick, © 2019 Fox Searchlight Pictures. Used for educational and discussion purposes only.