

Parish Evangelization

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Evangelization is a term that is often used by Christians to convert the world to Jesus Christ. By the nature of the baptismal call, each Christian is called to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ to one another and to those who have not yet heard or understood the Words of Christ found in the Gospels.

It is essential for Christians to be firmly rooted in the faith themselves first before they can spread the Good News of Jesus Christ to the world. Therefore, a parish must give top priority to the evangelization of its members, and then it can begin to reach out to the world. Once the faith of parishioners has been fortified, their emblazoned faith will spread to the surrounding community and beyond.

Some ideas parishes have used to evangelize include:

- Mission during Lent or yearly parish retreat
- Renowned Catholic speaker visit the parish about a particular topic
- Have an annual or biannual lecture series
- Providing a subscription for parishioners to FORMED
- Having a book rack with Lighthouse Media materials available
- Having a parish library for parishioners to have access to books about the faith, saints, Church, etc.
- Provide spiritual bouquets to the sick and elderly members of the parish
- Conduct prayers/support groups for: youth, young adults, bereavement, divorced, etc.
- Parish groups should meet on a day and time that would be conducive to everyone
- Have doctors, nurses, psychologists, and other parishioners who are medical professionals conduct clinics and talks about various health topics
- Participate in pro-life rallies and walks
- Homilies should be used to educate parishioners about Catholic teachings about abortion, the sanctity of marriage and family life, the death penalty, etc.
- Provide parishioners with bulletin inserts that explain the faith and Catholic Church teachings
- Encourage parishioners to donate to the parish food pantry and invite the youth to assist in collecting, organizing, and delivering food
- Encouraging young people to adore the Blessed Sacrament by providing them with music and prayer experiences that appeal to them
- Participate in ecumenical prayer services and activities