

How do I Evangelize?

Sharing: Share your faith with others in both word and deed. Be willing to let your co-workers know that you are Catholic by how you treat others and how you respond to situations.

Listening: When you share your faith listen to the other person, respect their point of view and create a dialog that reflects the love that Christ has for us and His Church. If you are willing to listen to someone they will be more willing to listen to you.

Witnessing: The greatest evangelization comes from the witness of your everyday life. Your actions should reflect what you say you believe. Growing in faith and forming yourself in sacred scripture and sacred tradition are part of our ongoing conversion.

Inviting: Invite people to pray with you or attend Mass. Invite them to read a particular scripture passage or book. Personal invitation helps create fellowship.

Praying: Pray before and after sharing your faith. Jesus promises us that He will be with us when we share the Gospel. Trust in His presence and remember all the saints that have gone before you. Ask for their intercession that you may live and share the Gospel faithfully.

Preach the Gospel at all times and when necessary use words. -St. Francis of Assisi



The burning desire to invite others to encounter the One whom we have encountered is the start of the evangelizing mission to which the whole Church is called.
John Paul II

Ecclesia in America, 68

Recommended Resources:

Catechism of the Catholic Church

-The most comprehensive resource for Catholic teaching on faith, liturgy, morality, and prayer. This book is essential for Catholic homes and schools. Available online at USCCB.org and at all Catholic bookstores.

US Adult Catechism

- Each chapter in the Catechism for Adults includes stories, doctrine, reflection, quotations, discussion questions, and prayer to lead the reader to a deepening faith. Available online at USCCB.org and at all Catholic bookstores.

The Catholic Way: Faith for Living Today

Archbishop Donald Wuerl, Doubleday

-This resource is a collection of 83 brief homilies given by Archbishop Wuerl with reflection questions after each chapter. It is a clear, intelligent, and authoritative guide to the perennial faith of the Catholic Church as presented in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

Know, Love, Live the Catholic Faith

Rev. John E Pollard, Our Sunday Visitor.

-This book presents authentic teaching in a way that's simple to understand without being simplistic. It uses a format that's concise yet complete. Included great study questions for small groups.

Readers Journal For the US Adult Catechism

-An indispensable resource for the new US Catechism for Adults. Including discussion questions, key doctrine prayerful reflections, and ideas to put your faith into practice. Available online at USCCB.org.

Living the Catholic Faith

Bishop Charles J. Chaput, Servant Books

-This resource is a fine explanation of the Catholic Christian way of life for those thinking about becoming Catholic as well as those who have been Catholic all of their lives.

A Father Who Keeps His Promises

Scott Hahn, St. Anthony Messenger Press

- A beautiful introduction to the narrative of Salvation history. This book connects the Old and New Testament, as well as the life of Christ to the life of the Church in clear and meaningful ways.

Websites:



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"Go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature" -Mark 16:15

Sharing Your Faith

Evangelization in the life of the Church



Diocese of Phoenix
Department of Family Catechesis
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Evangelization:

- Sharing the Good News
- Bringing Jesus to others

Evangelization is “bringing the Good News of Jesus into every human situation” (GMD p.2) and ultimately evangelization leads to conversion. This conversion is an ongoing process. John Paul II tells us that “We cannot preach conversion unless we ourselves are converted



anew every day” (RM 47) bringing us ever closer to our Lord and in union with His word and will for our lives. As baptized Christians we are called to witness our faith in Christ. St. Peter tell us to “**Always be willing to**

give a reason for your hope to anyone who asks” 1 Peter 3:15. This witness is essential to our Catholic faith. Jesus tells us that we are “**light of the world”** and that our “**light must shine before others”** -Matt 5:15. We are part of God’s plan to bring others into His fold. By sharing Christ with others in action and deed we fulfill the great commission Jesus gave to His disciples, proclaiming the Gospel to the world.

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the name of the Son, and the name of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you, and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age. - Matthew 28:19-20

Evangelization in Sacred Scripture

“You are the light of the world; a city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house. Just so your light must shine before others” - Matthew 5:15 .

“The seed is the word of God.... the seed that fell on rich soil, they are the ones who, when they have heard the word, embrace it with a generous and good heart, and bear fruit through perseverance. Luke 8:11-15

“you have already heard through the word of truth, the gospel, that has come to you. Just as in the whole world it is bearing fruit and growing, so also among you, from the day you heard it and came to know the grace of God in truth. - Colossians 1:5-6



Evangelization in Sacred Tradition

No believer in Christ, no institution of the Church can avoid this supreme duty: to proclaim Christ to, all peoples. John Paul II (RM 3)

“Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses.” - Paul VI, *Evangelii Nuntiandi* para 41.

What does it mean to be witness? What responsibilities do I have to be a witness to Christ, as a parent, as a spouse, as an employee, as a citizen, as a parishioner?

“it is the whole Church that receives the mission to evangelize, and the work of each individual member is important for the whole. The Church is an evangelizer, but she begins by being evangelized herself.”

-Paul VI, *Evangelii Nuntiandi* para 15.

“For lay people, “this evangelization . . . acquires a specific property and peculiar efficacy because it is accomplished in the ordinary circumstances of the world.

-Catechism of the Catholic Church p. 905