

Everyday Evangelization

Evangelization has a rich heritage in the Catholic Church, a heritage that extends back 2,000 years to the very foundation of the Church.

Evangelization is a word that may not be associated with the Catholic Church. It can be defined as a gentle caring approach to sharing our Catholic faith through kind works, education, forgiveness, personal witness and positive action. Effective evangelization is more like a steady drip than big splash. It is most effectively done through ***everyday evangelization***.

Everyday Evangelizing in All Situations

- Respond with "thank God" when someone shares good news.
- Wear a cross or other symbol of your faith.
- Share a story how God works in your life.
- Ask people to pray for your intentions.
- Start a discussion with "I believe" or "Jesus says."
- Introduce those searching to Christ.
- Invite to Church those not part of a faith community.
- Make the sign of the cross when dining out.
- Treat everyone you meet with dignity.
- Do not judge others.
- Share a smile and personal greeting.
- Share with neighbors about your parish.
- Leave religious materials in unexpected places.
- Share a smile or personal greeting with a stranger.

Everyday Evangelizing Through Social Justice

- Help those less fortunate by sharing time, talent, or money.
- Identify your own prejudices.
- Network with those who support your values.
- Watch the news with the eyes of Christ.
- Learn the facts on all sides of an issue.
- Publicly express your opinion.
- Act on your conviction.
- Learn and address the values of our government.
- Vote intelligently.
- Work in a soup kitchen, shelter, or at some other charitable agency.

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Everyday Evangelizing in the Workplace

- Transact all business dealings honestly.
- Offer to pray for a co-worker who has shared personal concerns.
- Interact with co-workers who share your Christian beliefs.
- Respect others' religious beliefs.
- Pray before making decisions.
- Verbalize Christ in your life.

Everyday Evangelizing in the Home

- Devote a specific amount of time to your daily prayer life.
- Share a Bible story with your children before bedtime.
- Discuss the readings with your family after Mass.
- Pray grace before meals.
- Proudly display symbols of your faith.
- Celebrate your feast days.
- Establish family rituals based on the Church year.
- Discuss the morality of a TV show.
- Begin and end the day with prayer.

Everyday Evangelizing in the Parish

- Introduce yourself to those around you.
- Get involved, if only on a small scale.
- Periodically change pews to meet others.
- Be gracious in the parking lot.
- Explain rituals to those unfamiliar with the Catholic faith.
- Send a card to the newly baptized or confirmed.
- Support parish leaders.
- Invite a friend for coffee after Mass to discuss the readings.
- Take time to get to know other members of your parish community.
- Warmly greet others at Mass whom you do not know.