



Everyday Evangelizing in All Situations

- Respond with “thank God” when someone shares good news with you.
- Wear a cross or other symbol of your faith.
- Share a story of how God works in your life.
- Ask people to pray for your intentions.
- Gently start a discussion with “I believe” or “Jesus says.”
- Assist those who are searching by introducing them to Christ.
- Invite to church those who are not part of a faith community.
- Make the sign of the cross when dining out.
- Treat everyone with dignity.
- Share a smile and personal greeting.
- Share with neighbors about your parish.
- Leave religious materials in unexpected places.



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.

A Christian who is not evangelizing is a Christian on early retirement.



Everyday Evangelizing Through Holy Days and Holidays

New Year’s Day - make a resolution to evangelize.

Martin Luther King Day – reflect on: “Are you willing to stand up for the rights of others?”

Valentine’s Day – celebrate God’s love for you by sharing it with others.

Ash Wednesday – receive ashes and wear them proudly.

Lent – display a cross in your window.

April Fool’s Day – don’t be afraid to be a fool for Christ (See 1 Cor. 4:10).

Pentecost – wear red as a symbol of the Holy Spirit.

Flag Day – wear the flag of your freedom, the cross.

July 4 – pray for those still under oppression.

Labor Day – write to Congress regarding fair and equitable wages.

Halloween – carve a jack o’lantern with a symbol of God’s love.

Thanksgiving – share your dinner table with someone who is alone.

Advent – use an Advent wreath and/or calendar.

Christmas – use religious stamps and cards.



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Office for Formation of the Laity
Parish Evangelization
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“assisting parishes to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ”

Everyday Evangelizing for Everyday Catholics



Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope, but do it with gentleness and reverence.
(1 Peter 3:15)

Evangelization first begins when you accept God's Word into your life. Then you proclaim that Word to others by living it out in service and witness. Whenever possible you share your story of Jesus in your life, and then invite others to deepen their relationship with Christ through the Church community (Pope Paul VI, *Evangelization in the Modern World*). This is most effectively done through **everyday evangelizing**.



Everyday evangelizing is everyone's mission. By virtue of our Baptism, we are all called to share our faith.



Everyday evangelizing is not a program, but a way of life. It takes place any time, any place, under any circumstance.



Everyday evangelizing reaches out to everyone, including active and inactive Catholics and those with no faith community.



Everyday evangelizing also addresses the social structures that affect us. In the U.S. Bishops' document, *Go and Make Disciples*, it states: "The fruit of evangelization is changed lives and a changed world – holiness and justice, spirituality and peace."



Before You Can Evangelize

You must be open to God as the center of your life, allowing yourself to be formed by God's Word.

- Pray daily.
- Participate in a small Christian community, bible study or prayer group.
- Carry a cross in your pocket.
- Read Catholic magazines, books and/or newspapers, etc.
- Fast periodically.
- Communicate with those who inspire you.
- Receive the sacraments.
- Attend Christian enrichment sessions.
- Reflect on the witness of others.
- Pray the rosary.
- Read the Bible.



Everyday Evangelizing in the Home

- Pray grace before meals.
- Proudly display symbols of your faith.
- Have a religious calendar with the dates of baptism, first communions, weddings, etc.
- Establish family rituals based on the Church year.
- Celebrate your feast days.
- Discuss the morality of a TV show.
- Begin and end the day with prayer.

*Our words illuminate,
our witness illustrates.*



Everyday Evangelizing in the Parish

- Exchange names with 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 who are not familiar with the Catholic faith.
- Send a card to newly baptized or confirmed.
- Support parish leaders.



Everyday Evangelizing in the Workplace

- Transact all business dealings honestly.
- Offer to pray for a co-worker who has shared some 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 for Those Experiencing Stress

- Give ongoing support.
- Send a Mass card or other card of support.
- Pray with and for the person.
- Seek out agencies that can address their needs.

Evangelization is holding Jesus in your heart and carrying Jesus to the hearts of others.