

OFFICE OF NEW EVANGELIZATION

TRANSFORMING PARISH CULTURE

MISSION

To form missionary disciples

VISION

To Hear Jesus' call to be His Disciple
To Give our entire life over to Jesus
as His Disciple
To Go and make disciples of Jesus

WHAT IS AN EVANGELIZING PARISH?

Forms a committed team of disciple leaders dedicated to the mission of evangelization

Applies a disciple-making pathway to individuals and all aspects of parish life

Raises up new disciples of Jesus in the Church and sends them as missionaries into the world.

SEEING PARISH LIFE IN A NEW WAY

- A. Introduce an experience of the kerygma to the parish leadership and other key individuals
- B. Bring an understanding of the central role of the kerygma in the life of the whole parish
- C. Form parish leadership team to bring this vision to the whole parish

DISCIPLESHIP FORMATION

- A. Why evangelize?
- B. What is a missionary disciple?
- C. How do we make disciples as individuals and as a parish?

DOING PARISH IN A NEW WAY

- A. Plan disciple-making pathway experiences
- B. Build a system to raise up and form new leaders
- C. Apply the disciple-making process to every aspect of parish life

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CHARACTERISTICS OF A MISSIONARY DISCIPLE

A missionary disciple of Jesus lives the following practices and accompanies others in doing likewise...

- Has a personal relationship with Jesus in His Church.
- Repents from sin and seeks ongoing conversion to Jesus.
- Prays in intimate conversation with Jesus.
- Studies and lives the Bible.
- Participates fully in the Sunday Eucharist and the Sacraments.
- Engages in the life of the Christian community.
- Knows and practices basic Catholic teachings.
- Acknowledges and shares his or her charisms and gifts.
- Discerns and lives his or her personal vocation.
- Tells his or her faith story with clarity.
- Shares Jesus with confidence.
- Works for the transformation of the world.

SIX SPIRITUAL PRACTICES FOR RENEWAL

In his Pastoral Letter, *"For Greater Things You Were Born,"* Archbishop Gomez recommends to the Church that we engage in spiritual practices that can "help us to grow in our relationship with Jesus and deepen our sense of connection to his plan for our lives" (30). How much truer is this recommendation when we speak of developing a community of saints?

Individuals and the faith community need spiritual practices they can do together as a community, that will foster the spiritual, pastoral, and missionary conversion within ministry.

These spiritual practices lead us to a way of life that can be lived by any baptized person who seeks to infuse into ministry the transformative power and light of the Gospel.

The first spiritual practice is: To communicate consistently, a simple and clear vision of missionary discipleship.

The second spiritual practice is: To form individuals and the faith community in a clear understanding of the process of becoming a missionary disciple.

The third spiritual practice is: To establish in every faith community a communal missionary discipleship making process.

The fourth spiritual practice is: To connect with and accompany individuals daily, especially those experiencing transition, so they can encounter Jesus and grow in the midst of His Church.

The fifth spiritual practice is: To accompany individuals through vocational discernment to raise up leaders in all aspects of the Church's life and the secular world.

The sixth spiritual practice is: To send individuals out into the periphery to build trusting relationships and foster curiosity about Jesus.

FIVE THRESHOLDS OF CONVERSION

Initial Trust	Spiritual Curiosity	Spiritual Openness	Spiritual Seeking	Intentional Discipleship
<p>Able to trust or has a positive association with:</p> <p>Jesus Christ</p> <p>The Church</p> <p>A Christian believer or something identifiably Christian</p> <p>Trust not the same as active faith</p>	<p>Intrigued by or desiring to know more about:</p> <p>Jesus</p> <p>His life</p> <p>His teachings or some aspect of the Christian faith</p> <p>Curiosity can range from mere awareness to quite intense</p> <p>Not yet open to personal change</p>	<p>Acknowledges to self or to God - open to the <i>possibility</i> of personal and spiritual change</p> <p>One of the most difficult transitions for a postmodern nonbeliever</p> <p>Openness is not a commitment to change</p>	<p>Moves from essentially passive to actively seeking to know God, who is calling him or her</p> <p>"Dating with a purpose" but not yet marriage</p> <p>Seeker engaged in an urgent spiritual quest seeking to know if he or she can commit to Christ in his Church</p>	<p>Decision to "drop one's net"</p> <p>Conscious commitment to follow Jesus in the midst of his Church as an obedient disciple</p> <p>Reorder one's life accordingly</p>

Information for Table from - *Forming Intentional Disciples* by Sherry A. Weddell

PATHWAY TO MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP

Archdiocese of Los Angeles	HEAR To Hear Jesus' Call to Be His Disciple		GIVE To Give Our Entire Life Over to Jesus as His Disciple		GO To Go and Make Disciples of Jesus	
The Evangelization Process	Pre-Evangelization	Kerygma		Catechesis		Missionary Formation
Methodology	Relationship building Hospitality & healing Welcoming environment: truth, goodness, beauty Creating a space for dialogue and non-judgmental listening Helping others connect their desires with a personal God Fostering curiosity about Jesus Witness Testimony Works of mercy	Proclamation of the kerygma Encounter with Christ Responding to the proclamation of the kerygma Developing Liturgical / Sacramental interior disposition Repentance Personal faith Trust and belief God has liberated us through the Cross and resurrection of Jesus Hunger for God Desire for a new life		Initiatory catechesis Mystagogical or post-baptismal catechesis Permanent or continuing catechesis		Liturgical / Sacramental fruitfulness Mission orientation Works of justice & peace Accompaniment of others Discernment of charisms and vocation Leadership Cultural transformation
The Thresholds of Conversion	Trust	Curiosity	Openness	Seeking	Intentional Discipleship	Missionary Discipleship
Scripture	"Come & See"		"Follow Me"		"Remain in me"	"Go Make Disciples"