



# DIOCESE OF BOISE

## OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND CATECHETICAL LEADERSHIP

The Office of Religious Education and Catechetical Leadership supports the mission of the Diocese of Boise by assisting the Bishop in carrying out his role as the chief catechist of the diocese.

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## Basic Catechist Certification Evangelization



Kathy Barkdull, Presenter

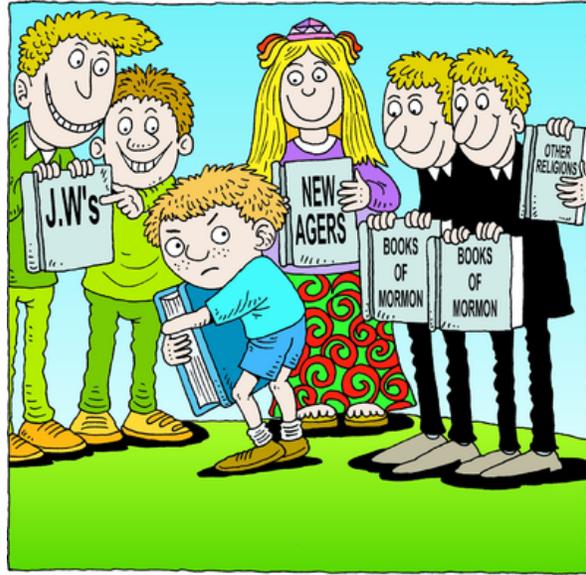
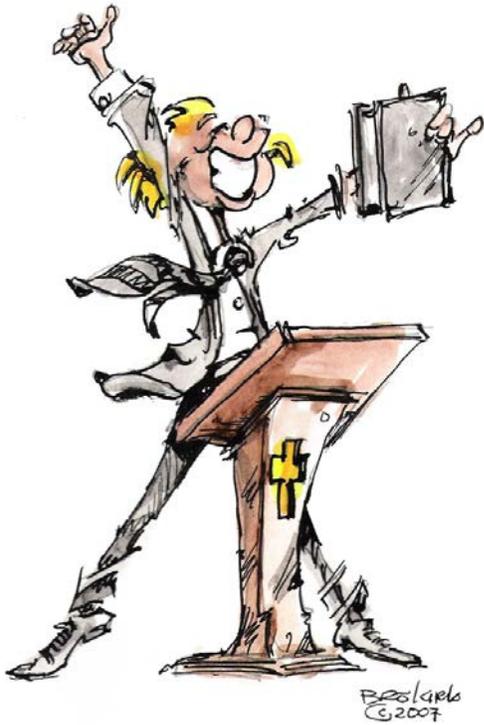
# Outcomes for Evangelization

- To understand evangelization as an essential mission of the Church and all baptized Christians.
- Identify the key Church documents, such as *Evangelization in the Modern World*, *Go and Make Disciples*, etc.
- Describe evangelization in a Catholic context.
- Describe the relationship between evangelization and conversion.
- Articulate the importance of sharing one's faith with others.

# Opening Prayer

*The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them. When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted. Then Jesus approached and said to them, "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."*

*Matthew 28: 16-20*



*Evangelization: To preach the Gospel  
To live the faith of our baptism more openly and to share it more freely.*



*"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. When he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight. While they were looking intently at the sky as he was going, suddenly two men dressed in white garments stood beside them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky.'"*

*Acts 1: 8-11*



*Evangelizing means bringing the Good News of Jesus into every human situation and seeking to convert individuals and society by the divine power of the Gospel itself.*

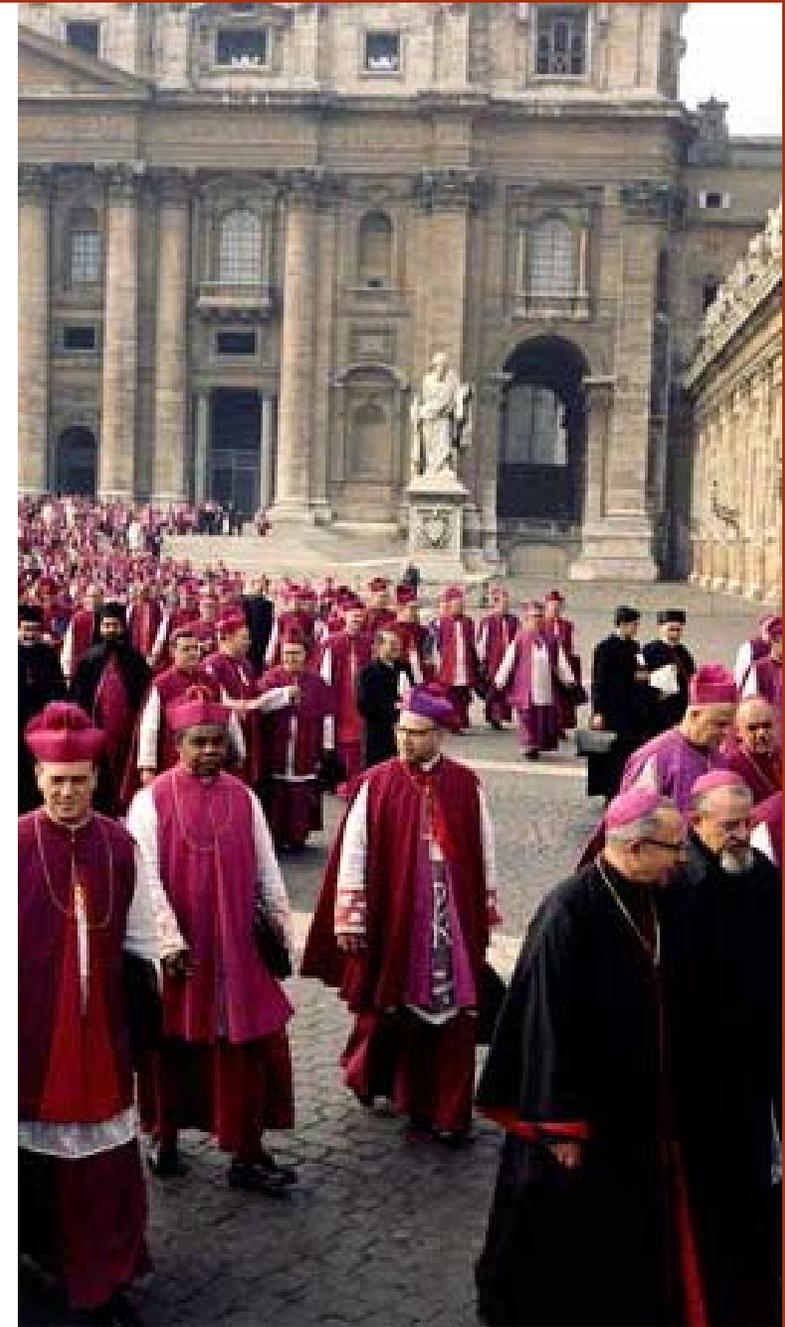
Go and Make Disciples, USCCB

# Evangelization: An Historical Context



# Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity

*"The Church's mission is concerned with the salvation of men; and men win salvation through the grace of Christ and faith in him. The apostolate of the church therefore, and of each of its members, aims primarily at announcing to the world by word and action the message of Christ and communicating to it the grace of Christ. The principal means of bringing this about is the ministry of the word and of the sacraments. Committed in a special way to the clergy, it leaves room however for a highly important part for the laity, the part namely of "helping on the cause of truth". It is in this sphere most of all that the lay apostolate and the pastoral ministry complete each other."*



# The Process of Evangelization

## *Evangelization...*

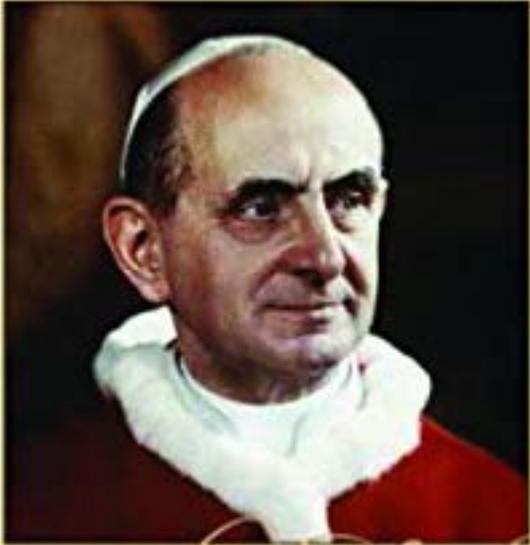
- is urged by *charity*, impregnating and transforming the whole temporal order, appropriating and renewing all cultures;
- bears *witness amongst peoples of the new way of being and which characterizes Christians*;
- *proclaims explicitly the Gospel*, through “first proclamation” calling to conversion;
- *initiates into the faith and the Christian life*, by means of “catechesis” and the “sacraments of Christian Initiation.” those who convert to Jesus Christ or those who take up again the path of following him, incorporating both into the Christian community;
- constantly nourishes the gift of *communion* amongst the faithful by means of continuous education in the faith (homilies and other forms of catechesis), the sacraments and the practice of charity;
- continuously arouses *mission*, sending all the disciples of Christ to proclaim the Gospel, by word and deed throughout the whole world.

— General Directory for Catechesis

## Decree *Ad Gentes* on the Mission Activity of the Church

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- Principles
  - Mission Work
  - Particular Churches
  - Missionaries
  - Planning Missionary Activity
  - Cooperation

LESSED POPE PAUL VI



*Evangelii Nuntiandi*  
**On Evangelization  
in the Modern World**

APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION

Includes  
Study  
Guide

FOREWORD BY  
CARDINAL DONALD WUERL

*"Evangelizing is in fact the grace and vocation proper to the Church, her deepest identity. She exists in order to evangelize, that is to say in order to preach and teach, to be the channel of the gift of grace, to reconcile sinners with God, and to perpetuate Christ's sacrifice in the Mass, which is the memorial of his death and glorious Resurrection."*

*"We wish to confirm once more that the task of evangelizing all people constitutes the essential mission of the Church."*

# Evangelii Nuntiandi: Evangelization in the Modern World

- Synod of Bishops in 1965.
- Third Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops in 1974.
- Confusion following Vatican II.
- Evangelii Nuntiandi in 1975.
- The Call of all mankind to the “household” of the Church.
- Defining Evangelization.
- Conversion of consciences and conversion of cultures.
- The essence of the Church’s mission.

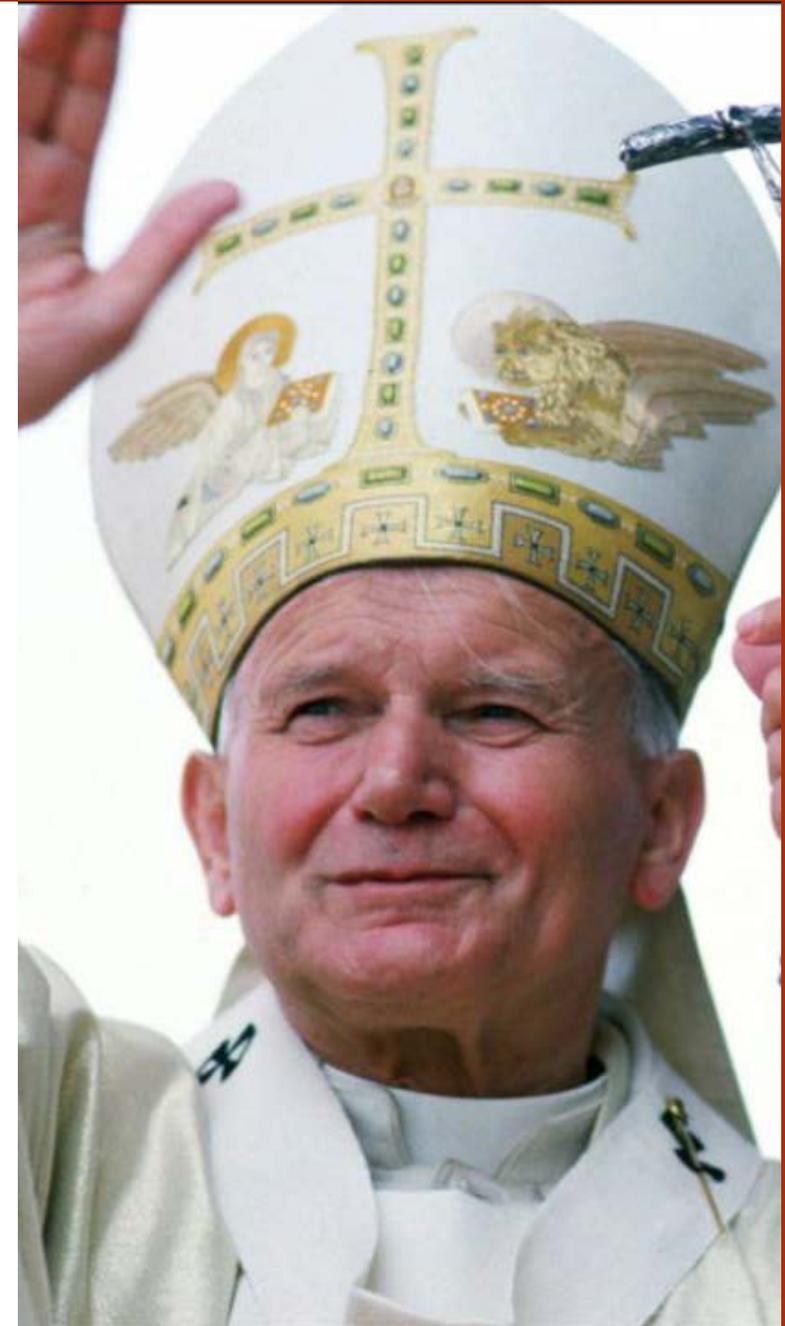
# The New Evangelization

*"No believer in Christ, no institution of the church can avoid this supreme duty: to proclaim Christ to all peoples."*

*"The commemoration of the half millennium of evangelization will gain its full energy if it is a commitment, not to re-evangelize but to a New Evangelization, new in its ardor, methods and expression."*

## Redemptoris Missio

1. Preaching to those who have never heard the Gospel.
2. Preaching to those Christian communities where the Church is present and who have fervor for their faith.
3. Preaching to those Christian communities who have ancient roots but who have lost a living sense of the faith, or even no longer consider themselves members of the Church, and live a life far removed from Christ and his Gospel.

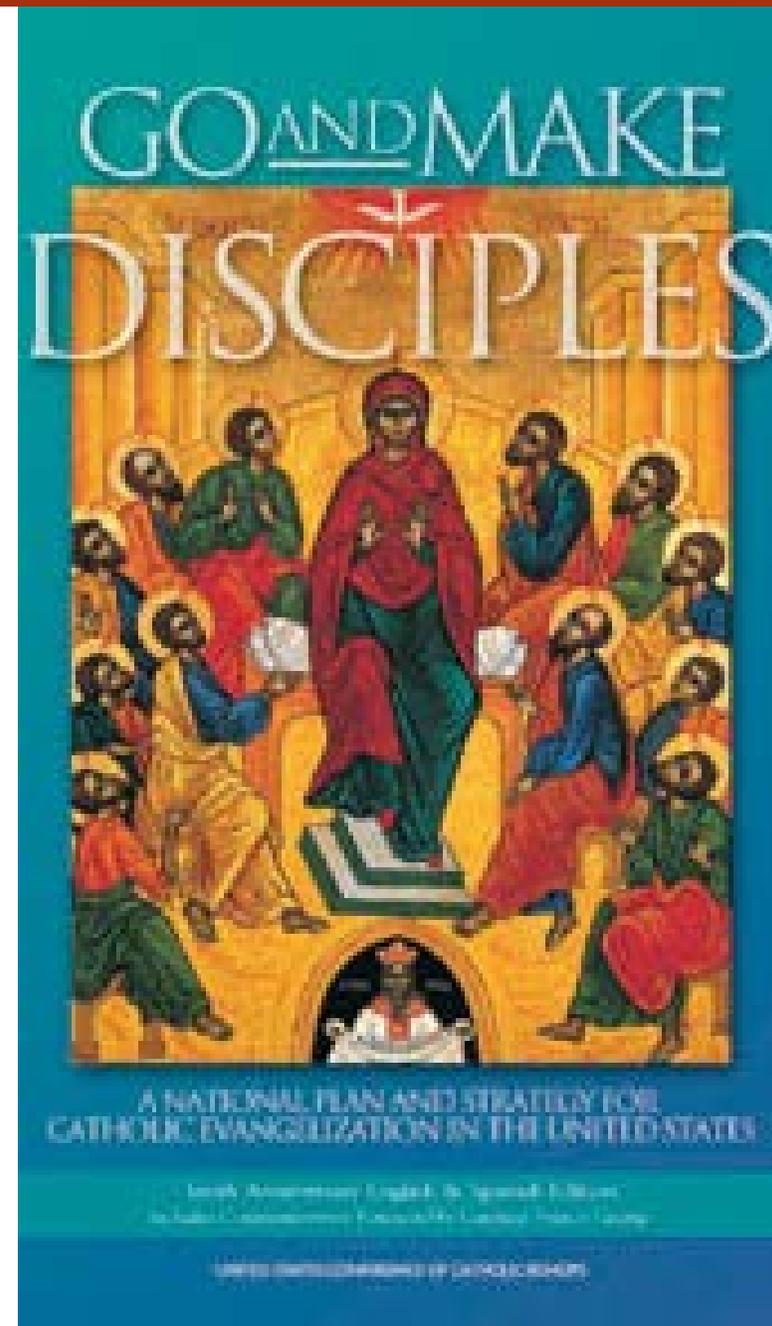


# The Goals of Evangelization

Goal I: To bring about in all Catholics such an enthusiasm for their faith that, in living their faith in Jesus, they freely share it with others.

Goal II: To invite all people in the United States, whatever their social or cultural background, to hear the message of salvation in Jesus Christ so they may come to join us in the fullness of the Catholic faith.

Goal III: To foster gospel values in our society, promoting the dignity of the human person, the importance of the family, and the common good of our society, so that our nation may continue to be transformed by the saving power of Jesus Christ.



# The New Evangelization into the Future

June 28, 2010 Homily on the Solemnity of SS. Peter and Paul at the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls.

*"...the 'riproporre' or 're-positioning' of the Gospel to those regions still awaiting a first evangelization and to those regions where the roots of Christianity are deep but that have experienced a serious crisis of faith due to secularization."*

Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization

- *"The mission of the Church remains the same, but the cultural contexts that confront man and the Church have changed."*
- *"New Evangelization is not a single formula meant for all circumstances, first and foremost, it is a personal profound experience of God."*





# The Missionary Mandate of Jesus

*"Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature." Mk 16:15*

*"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." Mt 28:19*

*"... Do this in memory of me." Lk 22:19*

*"This is my commandment: love one another as I love you." Jn 15:12*

*"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8*



*"...they accepted what he said and were baptized. That very day about three thousand were added to their number... Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved."*

*Acts 2:41, 47*



*"There is no true evangelization if the name, the teaching, the life, the promises, the Kingdom and the mystery of Jesus of Nazareth, the Son of God are not proclaimed."*

*Evangelization in the Modern World*



# Evangelization: Our Relationship with Jesus

*The Community of Jesus: the Church*

- A Call to ongoing growth and renewed conversion.
- A Call to re-evangelization.
- A Call to Reconciliation.
- A Call to be formed into Disciples.
- An Invitation to know the fullness of the Gospel.
- A Call to conversion.

# How Evangelization Happens

*Witness – the simple living of the Faith.*

*Sharing – spreading the Good News of Jesus in an explicit way.*

In the Life of the Church

- By the way we live God's love in our daily lives.
- By the love, example, and support we give to each other.
- By the way parents pass on the faith to their children.
- Through the proclamation of the Word and the celebration of the saving deed of Jesus.
- In renewal efforts of local and national scope.
- In the care we show to those most in need.
- In the ways we go about our work, share with our neighbors, and treat the stranger.



# Sharing the Gospel with Others



- Those who have given up the practice of their Catholic faith.
  - Welcome, welcome, welcome
  - Express our sincere regret for any misunderstandings or mistreatment.
  - Talk with them, share with them, accept them as brothers and sisters in Christ.
- Those who do not belong to a faith community.
  - Most difficult evangelization task.
  - Examples of Faith
  - RCIA
- Those who belong to other Christian traditions.
  - The Ecumenical movement.
  - Sharing the fullness of revealed truth in the Catholic Church.
- Those from non-Christian religions.
  - Interreligious dialogue.

A framed photograph of a wooden wall with the text "share the LOVE" overlaid. The wall is made of vertical wooden planks with peeling white paint. The word "share" is in a lowercase serif font, "the" is in a smaller lowercase serif font, and "LOVE" is in a large, bold, uppercase serif font. The entire image is set within a white frame with a drop shadow.

share

the

LOVE



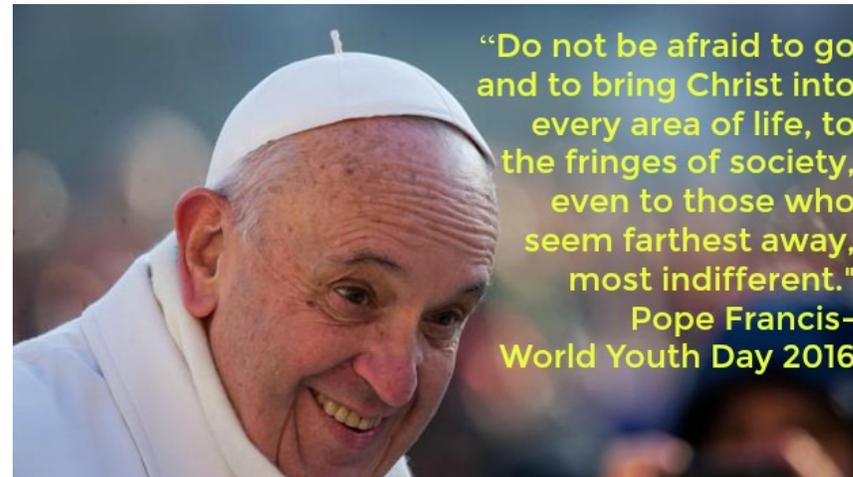
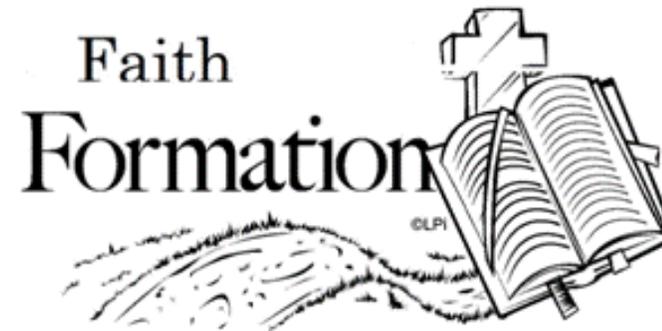
# Evangelization and Conversion

*Conversion is the change of our lives that comes about through the power of the Holy Spirit.*

- Sudden, shattering insight leading to rapid transformation.
- Gradual growth over many years.
- Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults process.
- Through ordinary relationships of family and friends.
- Through formation programs in Catholic Schools and Religious Education Programs.
- In Renewals, Ecumenical Encounters, Retreats, Parish Missions or other great Spiritual Movements of the Church.

*"The purpose of the [new] evangelization is to bring about faith and conversion to Christ. Faith involves a profound change of mind and heart, a change of life, a 'metanoia.'"*

*National Directory for Catechesis 17.A*





# Conversion as Individuals and Society

*If faith is not transforming each heart and life, it is dead.*

The fruits of Evangelization

- Changed lives and a changed world.
- Holiness and Justice.
- Spirituality and Peace.

Acceptance of the Gospel

- The way we serve others especially the poorest, the most marginalized, the most hurting, the most defenseless, and the least loved.

The Power of the Gospel

- A different vision of what life is about.
- All new things are possible.



Evangelization has an...

***Inward Direction***



***Outward Direction***



# Culture of Witness



*"Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses."  
...It is therefore primarily by her conduct and by her life that the Church will evangelize the world, in other words, by her living witness of fidelity to the Lord Jesus – the witness of poverty and detachment, of freedom in the face of the powers of this world, in short, the witness of sanctity."*

*Evangelization in the Modern World #41*

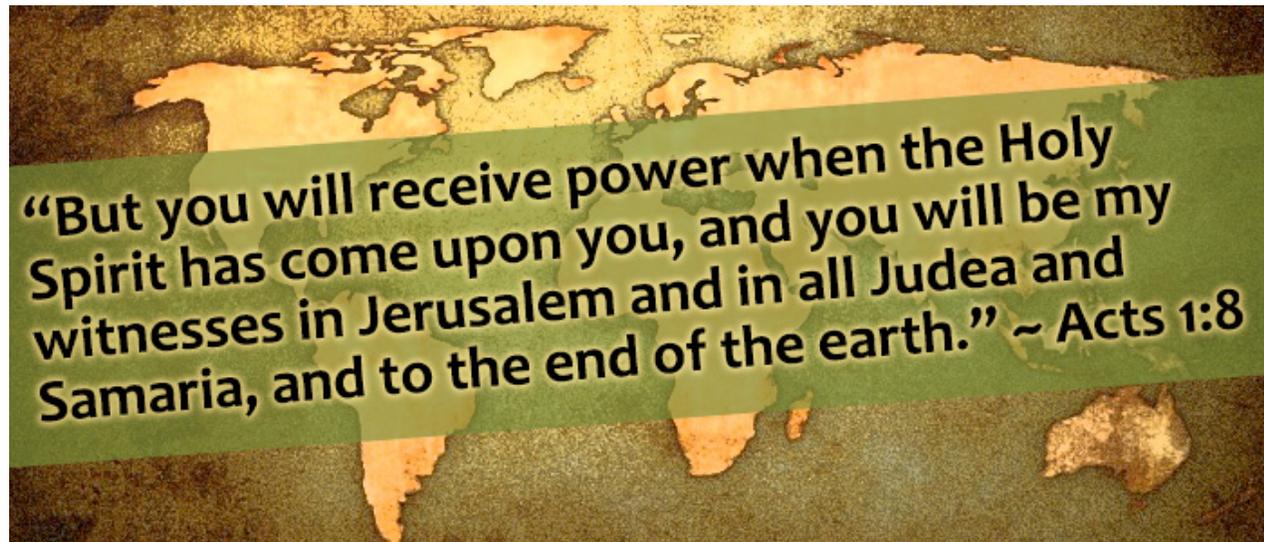
# Methodologies for a Culture of Witness

- Discipleship
- A commitment to the Christian Life
- Parish Life
- The liturgical life of the Church: popular devotions and piety
- The Christian family
- Catechists and teachers of the faith
- Human experience

National Directory for Catechesis



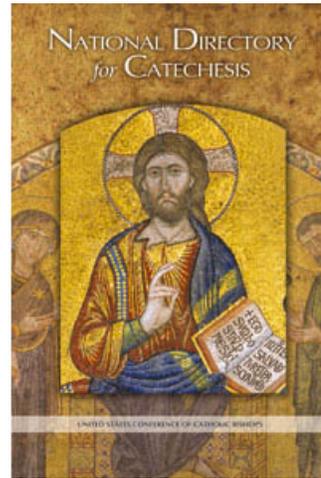
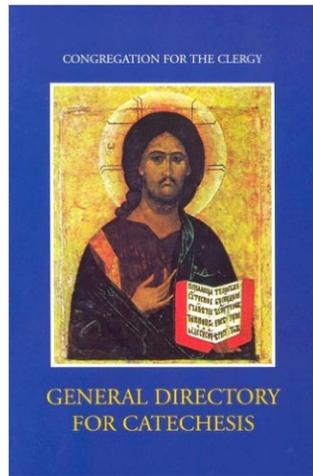
- Primary Proclamation and Catechesis.
  - Pre-Catechesis or Pre-Catechuminate.
- An essential “Moment” in Evangelization.
- Fundamental element of Christian initiation.
- Characteristics of Catechesis in the process of evangelization.
  - Comprehensive and systematic formation in the faith.
  - More than just instruction.
  - Basic and essential formation.



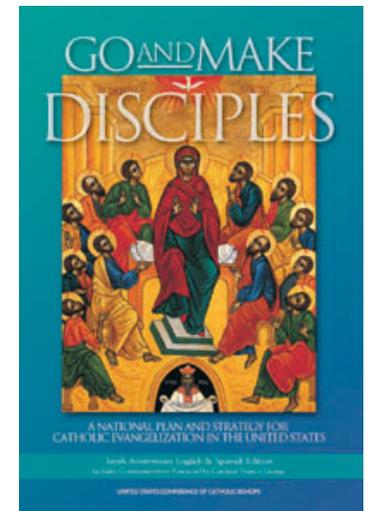
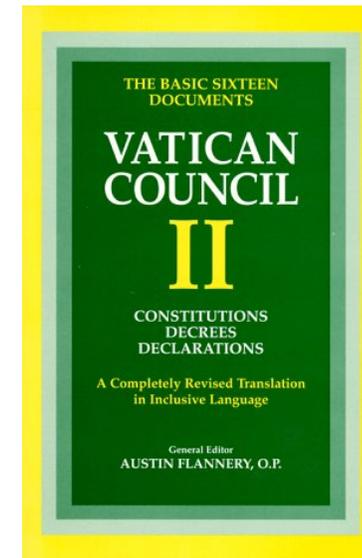
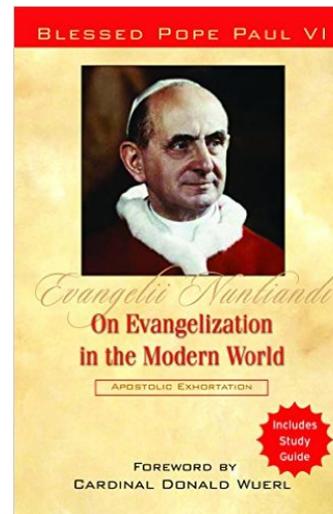
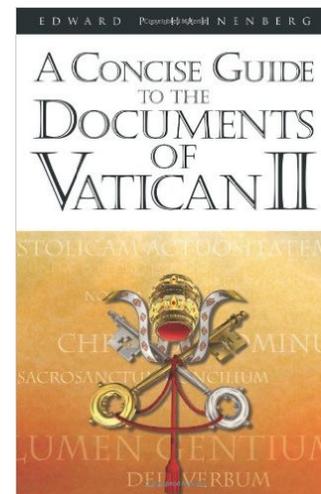
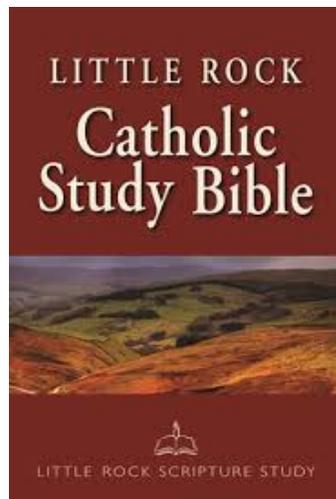
# Conclusion

- Through our Baptism: witnesses and disciples.
- Called to ongoing Conversion.
- Evangelized to become evangelizers.
- Evangelization is a serious commitment.
- "Re-propose" the Gospel to our missing brothers and sisters.

# Resources



UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF  
CATHOLIC BISHOPS



# Diocese of Boise

## Office of Religious Education and Catechetical Leadership



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# Reflection Questions

- What was your first experience of “Evangelization” or being evangelized?
- Are you comfortable with evangelizing others or are you still “looking up at the sky” looking for inspiration to share the Good News?
- How do you relate to the statement that “Evangelization is the essential mission of the Church?”
- How does your parish provide opportunities for evangelization of the parishioners?
- Have you ever experienced an “abandonment of your faith”? If so, what brought you back?
- What have the conversion experiences been like in your life? Were they sudden, life-changing events or gradual through the RCIA or other faith formation opportunities?
- How do you continue the process of ongoing conversion in your life?
- How have you taken this ongoing conversion in an outward direction for evangelization to your family, your community and your world?
- How could our faith formation programs for adolescents and young adults be improved to enable them to share their faith with others as they enter college or the workforce?

# Closing Prayer

We pray through the Holy Spirit to bring renewal to our Church and new life to all who search for God.

We pray that all of us will be set ablaze with a desire to live their faith fully and share it freely with others.

We ask Mary to help us share in her courage and faithfulness as we share the Good News of Jesus to everything throughout the world.

We pray that, like the disciples walking that Easter morning to Emmaus, all Catholics may feel their hearts burning through the presence of Jesus and help all believers feel that presence of Jesus anew and non-believers to discover his gracious presence.

We pray that the fire of Jesus enkindled in us by God's Spirit may lead more and more people in our land to become disciples, formed in the image of Christ our Savior.

Amen.