

# GO AND ANNOUNCE THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

A diocesan-wide vision for a  
NEW EVANGELIZATION

## GOAL OF EVANGELIZATION:

**"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. At its essence are the *proclamation of salvation in Jesus Christ* and the *response of a person in faith*, which are both *works of the Spirit of God.*"  
(United States Bishops, Go and Make Disciples)

**"CONVERSION** means accepting by a *personal decision*, the saving sovereignty of Christ and *becoming his disciple.*"  
(St. John Paul II, Mission of the Redeemer, 46)

## The parish exists to form MISSIONARY DISCIPLES.

"In all its activities the parish encourages and trains its members to be **EVANGELIZERS**. It is a community of communities, a sanctuary where the thirsty come to drink in the midst of their journey, and a centre of constant missionary outreach ... completely mission-oriented."  
(Pope Francis, Joy of the Gospel, 28)



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



BISHOP BOYEYEA'S PASTORAL LETTER: *Go and Announce the Gospel of the Lord*

"We wish to confirm once more that the task of evangelizing all people constitutes the *essential mission* of the Church ... Evangelizing is in fact the grace and vocation proper to the Church, her deepest identity. *She exists in order to evangelize.*"  
(Pope Paul VI, *Evangelization in the Modern World*, 14)



## EQUIP PARISHES FOR A NEW EVANGELIZATION:

- Intercessory ministry
- Encounter opportunities
- Welcoming environment
- Discipleship groups

"The mission of proclaiming the word of God is the task of all of the disciples of Jesus Christ based on their baptism. No believer in Christ can feel dispensed from this responsibility."  
(Pope Benedict XVI, *The Word of the Lord*, 94)



## EQUIP PARISHES AND INDIVIDUALS FOR WELCOMING NON-PRACTICING CATHOLICS BACK TO CHURCH:

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"CATHOLICS COME HOME"

- Pray
- Witness
- Invite
- Accompany

"In our day, Jesus' command to "go and make disciples" echoes in the changing scenarios and ever new challenges to the Church's mission of evangelization, and all of us are called to take part in this new missionary "going forth." Each Christian and every community must discern the path that the Lord points out, but all of us are asked to obey his call to go forth from our own comfort zone in order to reach all the "peripheries" in need of the light of the Gospel." (Pope Francis, *Joy of the Gospel*, 20)



## INTO THE HIGHWAYS AND BYWAYS:

- Catholic Charities
- Missions
- Charitable Organizations
- Lay Apostolate
- Radio
- Pregnancy Crisis

"MANY TODAY DO NOT KNOW JESUS. Let us evangelize our world! There are sisters and brothers, family members and friends who have left the Church. Let us re-engage them in the life of the Body of Christ! We cannot do this unless we ourselves are converted more fully to the Lord Jesus. Let us be his disciples!" (Bishop Boyea, *Go and Announce the Gospel of the Lord*, 1)

