

Go and Make Disciples: A Vision and a Plan

Links and Resources

Scripture

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Matthew 28:18–20	Jesus invites us to “make disciples of all nations” in the name of the Trinity.
Matthew 16:13–19	Jesus asks every follower, “Who do you say that I am?”
Luke 4:16–22	Being sent to the poor, those in prison, and the blind.
Luke 9:23–25	Call to discipleship and self-denial.
John 1:35–46	Disciples invite relatives, friends, and associates to come to Jesus.
John 14:6	“I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”
Acts 10:34–43	The spread of the gospel, testifying about Jesus who brings forgiveness.
Philippians 2:5–11	Jesus empties himself and is then exalted so that “every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”
1 Peter 3:13–17	Be ready to share a personal faith in Jesus.

Conciliar Documents

Declaration on Religious Liberty (Dignitatis humanae)

http://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_decl_19651207_dignitatis-humanae_en.html

This document ratifies the rights of each person and of communities to social and civil freedom in religious matters.

Decree on the Church’s Missionary Activity (Ad gentes)

http://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_decree_19651207_ad-gentes_en.html

Calls for renewed Catholic evangelization and missionary efforts. Document lays out the principles of such activity and strives to rally the entire people of God to spread the reign of Jesus Christ everywhere.

Papal Documents

As the Third Millennium Draws Near (Tertio millennio adveniente) (November 14, 1994), John Paul II

http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/john_paul_ii/apost_letters/documents/hf_jp-ii_apl_10111994_tertio-millennio-adveniente_en.html

In preparation for renewed efforts in Catholic evangelization for the third millennium, calls for a renewed commitment to the teachings of Vatican II, to the goal of unity among all Christians, and to the need for the Church to ask forgiveness for past failures.

General Directory for Catechesis. Washington, DC: USCC Publishing, 1998; (United States Catholic Conference, 3211 Fourth St., NE, Washington, D.C. 20017-1194); 800-235-8722; www.usccb.org Redefines catechesis as an essential moment in the process of evangelization. Calls for teachers in the Church to espouse “evangelizing catechesis” using the catechumenate (RCIA) as a model.

Mission of the Redeemer (Redemptoris missio) (1990), John Paul II
http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/john_paul_ii/encyclicals/documents/hf_jp-ii_enc_07121990_redemptoris-missio_en.html.
Calls for worldwide Catholic “new evangelization” during the third millennium.

On Evangelization in the Modern World (Evangelii nuntiandi) (December 8, 1975), Paul VI
http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/paul_vi/apost_exhortations/documents/hf_p-vi_exh_19751208_evangelii-nuntiandi_en.html
Groundbreaking document on the centrality of spreading the gospel.

On Social Concern (Sollicitudo rei socialis), (December 30, 1987), John Paul II
http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/john_paul_ii/encyclicals/documents/hf_jp-ii_enc_30121987_sollicitudo-rei-socialis_en.html
Encyclical letter commemorates the twentieth anniversary of Pope Paul VI’s *Populorum Progressio* and reaffirms the continuity of the Church’s teaching on social doctrine. Catholic evangelization includes proclamation of the Good News of Jesus Christ and witness to him through testimony, works of charity, and action for social justice.

Springtime of Evangelization: 1998 Ad Limina Addresses to the Bishops of the United States, John Paul II, Reverend Thomas D. Williams, L.C., ed. San Francisco: Basilica Press and Ignatius Press, 1999; 800-651-1531; www.basilicapress.com and www.ignatius.com. Invitation to American Catholics to embrace this historical moment as an extraordinary opportunity for evangelization in our country.

Catechism of the Catholic Church

http://www.vatican.va/archive/catechism/ccc_toc.htm

- #422–429 Belief in Jesus is central.
<http://www.vatican.va/archive/catechism/p1s2c2.htm>
- #684–688 The Holy Spirit reveals God to us.
<http://www.vatican.va/archive/catechism/p1s2c3a8.htm>
<http://www.vatican.va/archive/catechism/p1s2c3.htm>
- #713–715 Proclaim the Good News.
<http://www.vatican.va/archive/catechism/p1s2c3a8.htm#III>
- #849–856 Missionary call to evangelize
<http://www.vatican.va/archive/catechism/p123a9p3.htm#IV>
- #1816 Necessity for giving witness to faith
<http://www.vatican.va/archive/catechism/p3s1c1a7.htm#III>

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Documents

A Time to Listen...A Time to Heal: A Resource Directory for Reaching Out to Inactive Catholics. Committee on Evangelization, National Conference of Catholic Bishops. Washington, DC: United States Catholic Conference, 1999; 800-235-8722; www.usccb.org/evangelization/publications.htm. Selection of the best programs being used in our country to evangelize inactive Catholics.

Go and Make Disciples: A National Plan and Strategy for Catholic Evangelization in the United States—Text, Study Guide, and Implementation Process. Susan W. Blum-Gerding, Ed. D. South Holland, IL: National Council for Catholic Evangelization, 1993. (NCCE, Suite 90, 415 Michigan Ave. N.E. Washington, DC 20017); 1-800-786-NCCE(6223); fax: 202-832-7800; www.catholicsevangelization.org. Excellent study edition that includes a process for personal reflection, faith sharing, and assessing, planning, and implementing parish evangelization.

Books and Articles

Aridas, Rev. Chris, Steve Benthall, and John J. Boucher. *From Ashes to Fire: A Parish Process for Lenten, Eastertime and Pentecost Evangelization.* Brentwood, NY: CHARISM, 1999. (CRS, P.O. Box 2151, Brentwood, NY 11717); 631-952-7517. Draws active, marginal, and inactive Catholics into deeper relationships with Jesus Christ and the Church through annual evangelistic Ash Wednesdays.

Blum, Susan W. *The Ministry of Evangelization.* Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 1988; 800-858-5450; www.litpress.org; e-mail: sales@litpress.org. Everyday person's guide to Catholic evangelization, as called for in *On Evangelization in the Modern World (Evangelii nuntiandi)* by Pope Paul VI.

Blum-Gerding, Susan, Ed. D. *Heart to Heart Evangelization: Building Bridges Between Proclamation and Justice.* Bluffton, SC: Jeremiah Press, Inc., 1997. (Isaiah Missions, Inc., 404 Abbeyridge Ct., Ocoee, FL 34761); 888-472-4241; e-mail: jmission@aol.com. Workbook and facilitator's guide for parish-based, one-to-one evangelization training.

Blum-Gerding, Susan, and Frank DeSiano. *Lay Ministers, Lay Disciples: Evangelizing Power in the Parish.* Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 1999. (Paulist Press, 997 Macarthur Blvd., Mahwah, NJ 07430); 800-218-1903; www.paulistpress.com; e-mail: info@paulistpress.com. How to develop the potential and power of evangelization in all parish ministries. How can we make what we are already doing more evangelistic?

Boucher, John J. *Bringing Christ to My Everyday World: Adult Catholic School of Evangelism.* Locust Grove, VA: Chariscenter USA, 1997. (Chariscenter USA, P.O. Box 628, Locust Grove, VA 22508-0628); 800-338-2445; www.nsc-chariscenter.org; e-mail: chariscenter@nsc-chariscenter.org. Workbook for training Catholics in one-to-one evangelization.

Boucher, John J., et al. *Simple Ways Catholics Can Share Faith: A Guide for Beginners and Those Who Have Forgotten How.* Pamphlet. Rockville Centre, NY: Diocese of Rockville Centre, 1993. (CRS, P.O. Box 2151, Brentwood, NY 11717); 631-952-7517. Simple steps to evangelize others one-to-one and in small and large groups.

Boucher, Therese. *Evangelizing Unchurched Children: A Pocketbook for Catechists.* San Jose, CA: Resource Publications, 2000. Resources Publications, Inc., 160 East Virginia St., #290, San Jose, CA 95112-5848); 888-273-7782; www.rpinet.com. Practical ways to reach out to and evangelize unchurched children and their families.

Boyack, Kenneth, ed. *The New Catholic Evangelization*. Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 1992. (Paulist Press, 997 Macarthur Blvd., Mahwah, NJ 07430); 800-218-1903; www.paulistpress.com; e-mail: info@paulistpress.com. Articles on what “new Catholic evangelization” is and how we can get started doing it.

Brennan, Patrick J. *Re-Imagining Evangelization*. New York, NY: Crossroad Publishing, 1994. (Crossroad Publishing Co., 370 Lexington Ave., New York, NY 10017); 800-395-0690; www.crossroadpublishing.com; e-mail: market@crossroad.com. Process described for refounding a parish so it becomes an evangelizing community.

_____. *Re-Imagining the Parish: Base Communities, Adulthood and Family Consciousness*. New York, NY: Crossroad Publishing, 1990. (Crossroad Publishing Co., 370 Lexington Ave., New York, NY 10017); 800-395-0690; www.crossroadpublishing.com; e-mail: market@crossroadpublishing.com. Describes the parish’s mission of evangelization in the areas of small Christian communities, adult faith formation, and family.

Ciango, Sr. Donna. *Follow Me: Catholic Evangelization Program*. National Pastoral Life Center, 18 Bleecker St., New York, NY 10012-2404; 212-431-7825; e-mail: dciango@nplc.org. Parish process for evangelization, small faith sharing groups, and pastoral planning.

Deck, Sylvia Cirone. *Ministry of Hospitality*. Ashland, OH: Sheed and Ward, 1996. (Sheed and Ward, 30 Amberwood Pkwy., Ashland, OH 44805); 800-266-5564; www.bookmasters.com/sheed. Hospitality ministry training that creates a welcoming presence in the parish.

DeSiano, Frank, CSP. *Evangelization: a Parish Planning Workbook*. Cincinnati, OH: St. Anthony Messenger Press, 1998. (St. Anthony Messenger Press, 1615 Republic St., Cincinnati, OH 45210); 800-488-0488; www.americancatholic.org. Presents the key elements and goals for a parish to embrace and to grow in the mission of evangelization.

_____. *The Evangelizing Catholic: a Practical Handbook for Reaching Out*. Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 1998; www.paulistpress.com; e-mail: info@paulistpress.com. Attempts to unite personal and parish efforts of evangelization. Excellent resource, especially on parish evangelization teams and home visiting.

DeSiano, Frank, CSP, and Kenneth Boyack, CSP. *Creating the Evangelizing Parish*. Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 1993; www.paulistpress.com; e-mail: info@paulistpress.com. Basics and beyond of what a parish can do to move forward in evangelization.

_____. *Discovering My Experience of God: Awareness and Witness*. Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 1992, www.paulistpress.com; e-mail: info@paulistpress.com. A process for reflecting on experiences of God. Helps reader uncover what he or she has to share.

Dulles, Avery, S.J. “Why Catholics Don’t Evangelize and Why They Must,” *America Magazine*, February 1, 1992, pp. 52–59, 69–72.) Reprinted by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, Mission Office, 50 N. Park Ave., Rockville Centre 11570; 631-678-5800, ext. 516. Renowned theologian explains the necessity of Catholic evangelization and ways to overcome obstacles in doing so.

Hater, Rev. Robert. *Catholic Evangelization: The Heart of Ministry*. Dubuque IA: Harcourt Religion Publishers, 2001. (Harcourt Religion Publishers, 1665 Embassy West Drive, Suite 200, Dubuque, IA 52002); 800-922-7696. A newly updated and expanded version of *News That Is Good*; written in 2001.

Hoover, Brett C. *Losing Your Religion, Finding Your Faith: Spirituality for Young Adults*. Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 1998; www.paulistpress.com; e-mail: info@paulistpress.com. Provides many insights about young adults and their search for spirituality.

Horan, Michael P. *Catechesis as an Evangelizing Moment: Singular Challenge to a Maturing Church*. Washington, DC: National Catholic Educational Association, 1999. (NCEA Publications Office, 1077 30th St., NW, Suite 100, Washington, DC 20007-3852); 202-337-6232; fax: 202-333-6706; e-mail: pubs@ncea.org. Examines evangelizing catechesis to foster adult faith as proposed in *General Directory for Catechesis* (1997).

Kleissler, Thomas A. "A Community of Communities," *Catholic Evangelization in the United States of America*, January/February 1989, pp. 22–25. Explores the potential of small Christian communities as key evangelizing environments in the parish.

Mansfield, Patti Gallagher. *Proclaim His Marvelous Deeds: How to Give a Personal Testimony*. Steubenville, OH: Franciscan University Press, 1987. (Franciscan University Press, University of Steubenville, Steubenville, OH 43952); 800-282-8283. Presents simple guidelines for preparing personal witnesses, or stories, about God in our lives.

Martin, Ralph, and Peter Williamson, eds. *John Paul II and the New Evangelization: How You Can Bring Good News to Others*. San Francisco, CA: Ignatius Press, 1994; 800-651-1531; www.ignatius.com. Excellent how-to-evangelize articles on many aspects of the "new Catholic evangelization."

Ranaghan, Kevin M. *In the Power of the Spirit: Effective Catholic Evangelization*. Williston Park, NY: Resurrection Press, 1991; 800-874-8453; www.resurrectionpress.com; e-mail: cbpcl@bellatlantic.net. The power of the Holy Spirit is meant to give strength and guidance to all our evangelizing efforts.

Scheuring, Tom, and Lyn Scheuring with Marybeth Greene. *The Poor and the Good News*. Mahwah, NJ: Paulist, 1993; www.paulistpress.com; e-mail: info@paulistpress.com. The relationship between faith, the gospel, and the mission of evangelization with the poor.

RENEW International Resources

Flood, Edmond. *The World of Work* (An IMPACT Series that offers participants prayerful reflections, sharing questions, and concrete actions)
A look at the opportunities believers have to affect day-to-day life at the workplace through living out gospel values and spirituality there. (six sessions)
<http://www.renewintl.org/Resources/Pages/workimp.html>

Invitational Ministry Handbook. Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 1997. (RENEW International, 1232 George St., Plainfield, NJ 07062-1717); 908-769-5400; orders only 1-888-433-3221; www.renewintl.org; e-mail: resources@renewintl.org) This handbook provides concrete training and formation sessions for both the Invitational Ministry Team and all those who make visits and telephone calls. This ministry involves an opportunity to evangelize in a very concrete way.

Kleissler, Thomas A., Margo A. LeBert, and Mary C. McGuinness. *Small Christian Communities: A Vision of Hope for the 21st Century*, revised and updated. Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 1997. Chapters 13 and 15 offer insights about evangelization and small communities.
(To order: <http://www.renewintl.org/Resources/Pages/voh.html>)

Mannon, Michael T. *Embracing Life* (An IMPACT Series that offers prayerful reflections, sharing questions, and concrete actions)
Call to reflect and share on a number of life issues. Based on the conviction that society can be transformed by the gospel value of the sacredness of each person and all creation. (Six sessions)
<http://www.renewintl.org/Resources/Pages/embrcimp.html>

McGuinness, Mary C., and Thomas A. Kleissler, *Beginnings: Human and World Issues* (An *IMPACT* Series that offers participants prayerful reflections, sharing questions, and concrete actions) Introduces the necessity of acting on our gospel values to transform our lives and the fabric of our society. (Eight sessions) <http://www.renewintl.org/Resources/Pages/beginimp.html>

Reaching Out to Young Adults: RENEW 2000 and Beyond. Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 1997. (RENEW International, 1232 George St., Plainfield, NJ 07062-1717); 908-769-5400; orders only 1-888-433-3221; www.renewintl.org; e-mail: resources@renewintl.org.) Results of RENEW 2000 national symposium on how to evangelize adults in their twenties and thirties.

RENEW 2000: A Concrete and Practical Means of Evangelization to Implement Go and Make Disciples. (RENEW International, 1232 George St., Plainfield, NJ 07062-1717); 908-769-5400; <http://www.renewintl.org/Resources/Pages/cpme.html>; e-mail: resources@renewintl.org. Free copy available.) This booklet addresses all three goals of the USCCB's document *Go and Make Disciples, a national plan for Catholic Evangelization in the United States*. Offers detailed strategies for implementing these goals using the RENEW 2000 process.

Web site Links

A link to books about conversion to Catholicism

http://www.catholic-pages.com/bookrack/category_conversion.asp

Answers to frequently asked questions about being Catholic

<http://www.daughtersofstpaul.com/growinginfaith/basicqas/index.html>

ExPRESS. A comprehensive newsletter on evangelization published by the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops, 3211 4th St., NE, Washington, DC 20017-1194; 202-541-3000;

<http://www.usccb.org/evangelization/newsletter/index.htm>

National Council for Catholic Evangelization. NCCE, Suite 90, 415 Michigan Ave. NE, Washington, DC 20017; 800-786-NCCE(6223); fax: 202-832-7800; www.catholicevangelization.org. National grass roots organization for individuals, parishes and religious groups—regular newsletter and annual conference.

Paulist National Catholic Evangelization Association. 3031 Fourth St., NE, Washington, DC 20017; 202-832-5022; www.pncea.org; e-mail: pncea@pncea.org. Paulist Fathers Office for Evangelization—evangelization how-to newsletter, resources, training institutes, and projects like “Disciples in Mission,” “Take Another Look,” and so on.

www.usccb.org/evangelization/ This site, of the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops, includes several listings of resources, conferences, diocesan contacts, publications, and an extensive bibliography on Catholic evangelization.