

Important Highlights

- God is a personal God, and *every* individual is called to a personal relationship with Him, through which our lives are forever changed.
- Living for the Lord, we give our lives over to Him.
- As disciples, we are called to “make disciples,” that is, to help others know and follow the path of Jesus.
- Be an attentive listener to the concerns, problems, and unique experiences of individuals who are searching for God, and offer them intentional support, encouragement, and answers. This encourages a relationship of trust, resulting in a more comfortable context in which one may be open to a personal relationship with Jesus.
- Be willing to share your life and walk with the Lord.
- Remember to share the Great Story of Jesus (Chapter Ten).

Other Points to Remember

- Pray—God blesses and sustains us in continuing Christ’s mission of evangelization.
- As disciples, we encounter Christ, as well as the Church.
- To know and follow the Path of Jesus is living the Mystery of His Passion, Death, and Resurrection.
- We walk the path of discipleship together. All are integral in the encounter with Christ and being His Church.
- There is a time for sharing, as well as for catechesis. We help catechize our parishioners through our conversations, homilies, and even our bulletin inserts. As members of the ministerial priesthood, we may not rely on the family culture, schools, and other organizations to educate our parishioners but must take a leading role in sharing the faith.
- Jesus came so that “my joy may be yours and your joy may be complete” (Jn 15:11). We should be disciples who live the joy of Christ.

Important Topics or Helps

- We must encourage parish community-building opportunities, such as social events like fish fries and luncheons, adult faith formation classes, small group study sessions, and parish-sponsored organizations. Adults who leave the Catholic Church often cite a lack of community as their primary reason for seeking God elsewhere, but Jesus encourages us to “love one another, as I have loved you” (Jn 13:34).
- Interview Questions for individuals in the inquirer stage (p.198 – benefit RCIA Directors). Possibly determine a faithful parishioner to whom those seeking information about the Catholic faith or who are searching for a personal relationship with Jesus may be directed. Invite the inquirer to contact this parishioner for faith sharing and fellowship. This parishioner should be trustworthy, provide attentive listening, begin an initial community, and share the resources of the diocese with the inquirer. The Office of Laity and Family Life has numerous resources available, and Sr. Mary Kathleen Ronan also offers support and resources for Lay Formation.
- Five Thresholds of Conversion (pp 128-130 – benefit Parish Evangelization Committees).
- Ways to Encounter Jesus (Chapter Eleven – benefit all to encounter Jesus present in their lives). Make available regular Eucharistic Adoration at every parish so that *all* parishioners have an opportunity personally to be in the quiet presence of God. Eucharistic Adoration raises the prominence and visibility of the Eucharistic Lord, as well as encourages vocations. To develop a personal relationship with Jesus, we should also encourage other various aids to prayer, such as praying the rosary, practicing *lectio divina*, reading the Liturgy of the Hours, attending Mass during the week when possible, joining a praise and worship group, or starting a fellowship or Bible study group.
- Develop a Parish Evangelization Plan (Chapter Twelve).