

Evangelization Action Plan: Detailed Steps

Step 1: Pastor identifies his team (e.g. 4-6 people) and invites them to meet via conference/video call for prayer, sharing, and to solicit their help in time of crisis for the good of the whole parish.

- Team member ideas: Parish Staff, Amazing Parish Leadership Team, Trusted Volunteers in the Parish, etc.
- In these circumstances, this team will need to meet daily (or at least 3x per week) for a check-in that will need to include: prayer, sharing testimony and how team members are doing personally, and a brief report on what they are working on.

Step 2: Brainstorm -- What do each of your audiences need from the Catholic Church right now?

- Example Audiences:
 - Highly Engaged Parishioners (those who already go to Mass and activities in the Parish)
 - Somewhat Engaged (those who regularly attend Mass)
 - Disengaged (Non-Catholics, Fallen Away Catholics)
 - People in Special Need (Sick, Lonely, Hungry, Grieving in Community)

Step 3: Brainstorm -- How can the team most readily provide for the needs of each audience?

- For example:
 - One-Way Communication (such as online Mass)
 - Two-Way Communication (such as video-conference for small groups)
 - Outreach (such as personalized phone calls to pray for and encourage each community member)
 - Service (such as collaborating with local social services to respond to the physical and emotional needs of isolated community members)
- Generate a list of possible offerings for each audience

Step 4: Prioritize and determine which of the possibilities from Step 3 will be pursued over the course of the next week and who will be responsible for each.

- Consider which tools/resources you have at your disposal
- Consider financial constraints
- Consider the personal/spiritual giftedness on the team and others in the community who could be brought on for extra help in a specific area

Step 5: Execute the plan.

Step 6: Conduct a weekly strategic meeting in order to ensure accountability and to revise and adjust the plan as new needs arise.

- This will require a longer meeting than the regular (i.e. daily or 3x per week) check-in listed in Step 1.

Leaders may each design different plans, but they ought to have several things in common. First, when it comes to evangelization, authentic mission only springs from communion with Christ. So, any plan should be rooted in the life of prayer of a community of persons. Second, they ought not be haphazard but well-reasoned, with clear goals and measurable steps of progress. Third, they cannot rely solely on the leadership of one man, but rather they must maximize the gifts of several followers through delegation. Finally, they cannot only focus on supporting faithful Catholics, but all people in need, especially those who are most spiritually vulnerable. Hopefully, through the grace of God and multiple layers of collaboration we can uncover what it means to not only survive this crisis as a Church, but thrive in it.



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