

## Evangelization Workshop

The Office of Evangelization and Family Life Ministries is pleased to be able to offer our parishes pastoral equipping in the area of relational evangelization. Our training is broken into three distinct areas which could be delivered all at one time or split up across multiple sessions. Ideally the training would be conducted in person so that participants could benefit from discussion and role playing, however, the training could be adapted to be delivered digitally. A great “first audience” for this training would be your parish staff and volunteer leaders. However, this training is also an excellent resource for parishioners who have a desire to share the faith with their family members, neighbors, or co-workers. This training would not be a good fit for individuals who are in need of being evangelized, as its goal is not to bring about an initial conversion in the participants, but to equip the participants to partner with the Holy Spirit in bringing about conversions in their circle of influence. Our office *is not charging any fee* for this training, as we consider it central to our mission.

### The Three Sections of the Training

#### Addressing Misconceptions about Evangelization

We have found that almost all of us have inherited or espoused misconceptions about the nature of evangelization. These misconceptions cause us to fear the idea of sharing the faith, falsely believe we are incapable of it, or at worst, think that evangelization is an insult to another’s personal freedom. In this section of the training, we draw out the most common misconception’s we’ve found in our work to dispel them and regain a realistic understanding about the nature of evangelization.

#### The Thresholds of Conversion

Although each person’s conversion is unique and unrepeatable, we can know the general path from “lost” to “found” also known as the “thresholds of conversion” (made popular by the book “Forming Intentional Disciples” by Sherry Weddell). In this section of the training, we teach the threshold of conversion, how to come to know where someone is on their journey, and share tips on what we can do to assist them at each stage of the journey.

#### Practical Skills

Our third and final section is focused totally on equipping the “soft skills” of evangelization. We discuss things such as: engaging in spiritual conversations, what to do when we get into spiritual conversations, what is a testimony and how to share one, what is the kerygma and when is it appropriate to share it, etc. This section of the training relies heavily on small role playing and hands on exercises that give the participants a chance to practice in the moment.

### Two Examples for How the Training Could Be Hosted at a Parish

#### Option 1: Multiple Sessions Example Schedule

Meeting Overview (repeated 3x)  
(20 minutes) Opening Prayer  
(45 minutes ) Teaching/Presentation  
(20 minutes) Group Discussion  
(5 minutes) Closing Prayer

#### Option 2: One Day Event Example Schedule:

8:30 AM Opening Prayer  
9:00 AM Session One  
10:00 AM Break  
10:15 AM Session Two  
11:00 AM Session Three  
12:00 PM Q+A and final prayer