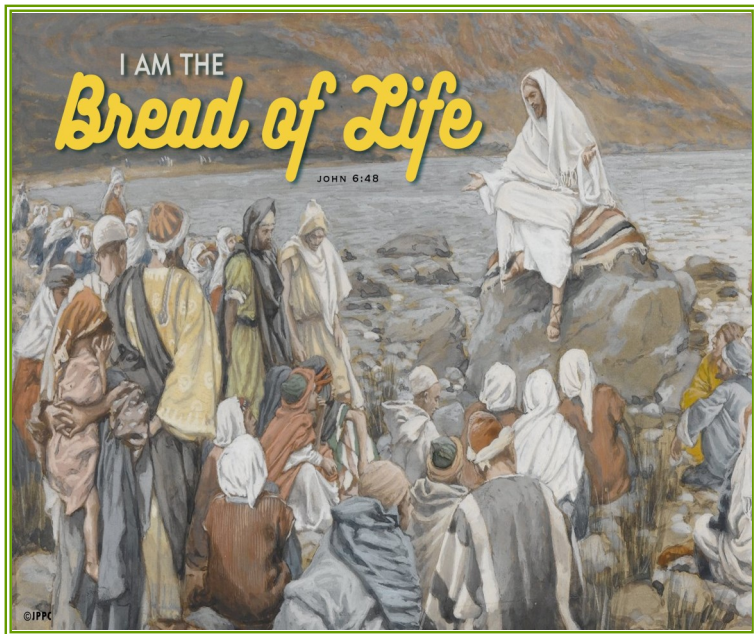


Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul And the Shrine of Saint Katharine Drexel

18th Street and Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Most Reverend Nelson J. Pérez, Archbishop of Philadelphia



August 1, 2021

Parish Mission Statement

As a vibrant Roman Catholic community in Center City, the Cathedral Parish serves all those who come to the Cathedral Basilica, the Mother Church of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. We profess our Catholic Faith, minister to others and welcome all, as founded on the Word of God and the celebration of the Sacraments of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Adopted by the Parish Council, October 13, 2020

Reverend Gerald Dennis Gill
Rector

Reverend Monsignor Arthur E. Rodgers
Rector Emeritus

Reverend Matthew K. Biedrzycki
Parochial Vicar

Reverend Monsignor Louis A. D'Addezio
Priest in Residence

Jesús M. Burgos
Permanent Deacon

Sister Eleanor McCann, R.S.M.
Pastoral Associate

Sister Mary Luchia, P.V.M.I
Parish Evangelization

Sister Mary Raphael Paradis, R.S.M.
Outreach Coordinator

Charlene Angelini
Director of Cathedral Parish Music

Mark Loria
Principal Organist

The Cathedral Shop is open
Wed. 10:30 AM - 2:00 PM / Sat. 11:00 AM - 5:15 PM
Sun. 10:30 AM - 6:30 PM / 215-665-9032

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 5:15 PM Anticipated Mass
Sunday: 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM in Basilica
12:30 PM Spanish in Cathedral Chapel
(Santa Misa en español, en la Capilla)
6:30 PM in Basilica
Weekdays: 7:15 AM, 12:05 PM in Cathedral Chapel
Saturdays: 12:05 PM in Cathedral Chapel
Holy Days: See website

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE SCHEDULE

Sunday: 9:00 AM and 5:30 PM in Basilica
12:00 PM (español) en la Capilla
Weekdays: 11:30 AM in Basilica
Saturday: 4:15 PM in Basilica

Please contact the Parish Office to arrange for the:
**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM AND MARRIAGE,
SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK,
AND HOLY COMMUNION OF THE SICK
AND HOMEBOUND**

Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter & Paul
@CathedralPhila  

Parish Office Hours: Monday to Friday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
The Cathedral and Rectory Office will close at 2pm on Fridays until Labor Day weekend
1723 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103 • 215-561-1313

www.cathedralphila.org • info@cathedralphila.org
Shrine of Saint Katharine Drexel <https://www.saintkatharinedrexelshrine.com/>

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday, August 1, 2021

***“One does not live on bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.”
MT 4:4b R. Alleluia, alleluia.”***



Weekly Mass Intentions



July 31, Saturday

Saint Ignatius of Loyola

12:05 Daniel J. Checchia

5:15 Luciana Sciarretta

August 1 Eighteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

8:00 For the People of the Parish

9:30 Jacob Orbon

11:00 Michael Olivier

12:30 Claudino Colón

6:30 Giuseppina Giacomucci

August 2, Monday, Weekday

St. Eusebius of Vercelli

St. Peter Julian Eymard

7:15 Intentions of Rev. Mark S.

Kunigonis

12:05 Charles “Chuck

Concannon

August 3, Tuesday, Weekday

7:15 Essie Mae Rubin

12:05 Francis McCann

August 4, Wednesday

St. John Vianney

7:15 Intentions of Raymond

Carr

12:05 Steveanna Wynn

August 5, Thursday, Weekday

The Dedication of the

Basilica of St. Mary

Major

7:15 Intentions of Steve Jun

12:05 Intentions entrusted to St.

Katharine Drexel

August 6, Friday

**The Transfiguration of
the Lord**

7:15 Barbara Fedoush

12:05 Jack Pfeffer

August 7, Saturday, Weekday

Saint Sixtus II

12:05 Matteo & Giovannina

Marucci

5:15 Sister Grace O'Connor

August 8 Nineteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

8:00 For the People of the Parish

9:30 Susan Montezinos

11:00 Dott Desiderio

12:30 Josefina Pérez

6:30 Carolina Pomponio

Dear Parishioners,

Today is the Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time! In the Holy Gospel for this Sunday (see John 6: 24-35), Jesus continues to teach us about his great gift to us, the Holy Eucharist.

“I am the bread of life;
whoever comes to me will never hunger,
and whoever believes in me will never thirst.”

We have all heard this amazing teaching of the Lord over and over again. We hear it in the Church’s prayers and we often sing these very words during the reception of Holy Communion during Mass. Listening to Jesus himself announce this teaching to us in today’s Gospel brings us to a stop to truly consider the meaning of his words. Jesus makes a personal connection between himself and the Bread of life. Jesus is the Bread of life. The Bread of life is Jesus. We know who Jesus is. He is God, the Son of God, our Savior and Redeemer. The Bread of life is a phrase that is multivalent, filled with multiple levels of meaning. The Bread of life brings forward all the ways God fed his people throughout the Old Testament, especially with the manna in the desert. Also, it brings forward the many ways Jesus fed those who followed him in the New Testament, looking forward to the greatest feeding of all that will take place at the Last Supper, *this is my Body*. Bread here likewise includes all that only Jesus can provide for us to have his life within us and in heaven, his saving Word and his grace. Jesus is this Bread. This Bread is Jesus. When we have the fuller grasp of the Lord’s statement, we then can also grasp how with this Bread we will never hunger or thirst. Yes, it is the Food that endures and never perishes. As we listen to Jesus teach us about the Holy Eucharist these summer Sundays, may we be renewed in our faith and love for the Mass and the reception of Holy Communion.

This Monday, August 2, 2021, marks the third anniversary of the translation of the Sacred Remains of Saint Katharine Drexel to our Cathedral Basilica. We will commemorate this event at the 7:15 AM and 12:05 PM Masses on Monday with a votive Mass of Saint Katharine Drexel. The presence of the tomb of this Philadelphia Saint in the Basilica continues to bring many blessings to so many. Let us turn to Saint Katharine Drexel even more so asking her heavenly help for us to lead faithful and bold Christian lives, for the works of the Gospel to take deeper root in all parts of the Archdiocese, and to bring an end to all forms of discrimination and racism among us. *Saint Katharine Drexel, pray for us!*

We are preparing for more than 20 possible catechumens and candidates to be a part of our adult Christian Initiation ministry. This is really good news and a sign that the Lord is at work among us drawing people to himself. With so many potential catechumens and candidates, we are in need of additional parish sponsors. If this interests you or you would like more information about a parish sponsor, please contact me.

Once again, please see elsewhere in this edition of the Parish Bulletin information on the preparation for the Sacraments—Confirmation, Penance and Reconciliation, and First Holy Communion—for school age children. Please do not delay in making contact with the Parish Office for enrollment in this preparation program.

Next Sunday, the second collection will be directed to the poor and needy in the neighborhood of the Cathedral Parish. You can mail your Sunday offerings to the Cathedral Parish Office or make use of the many ways to give electronically. Please see <http://cathedralphila.org/donate/>. Thank you so very much for your goodness and generosity to the Cathedral Parish.

God bless you, Father Dennis Gill, Rector



PRAYER | PARTICIPATION | GENEROSITY

One of the best things about summer is the Joy of time away from work and worries with your family.

Remember to remain grateful through prayer for all the joy-filled opportunities.

Your Cathedral parish priests *shore* do have a plan to pray that all of our parishioners have a happy summertime of fun, family and blessings! There are some very cool ways to help us with our ministries this summer! As always, thank you for your generosity and for sharing your joy with us. Please remember our Cathedral parish with your gift.

St. Joseph, pray for us! And let us remember to always pray for each other!
Have the Best Summer Yet!

Your generosity for 7/18/21 was:

Regular	\$ 5,168
Special	<u>1,024</u> (for liturgical music program Cathedral Parish)
Total	\$ 6,192

Your generosity for 7/25/21 was:

Regular	\$ 5,165
Special	<u>900</u> (for landscaping needs of Cathedral Parish property)
Total	\$ 6,065

We hope that your generosity will exceed **\$10,000** next week. Thank you!

Please consider a gift to support the good work of our Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul.

- Become a parishioner! – speak with Father Gill, Father Biedrzycki or Deacon Burgos after any Sunday Mass and he can help you register
- **Planned Gifts** – call and leave a message for Rose at 215-561-1313, so she may discuss with you long-term ways that may be best for you such as annuities, life insurance, stock, estate planning and memorial gifts
- **Text to give** anytime, especially for your Sunday Mass offering – text “Cathedral” to 215-709-9955
- **Donate on-line** at <http://cathedralphila.org/donate/> or scan this QR code:



NOVENA SAINT KATHARINE DREXEL

English Spanish

UPCOMING MASS IN THE EXTRAORDINARY FORM

Sunday, August 15, 2021 @ 3:30pm

Location: Cathedral Basilica

Latin Mass Resources: <http://catholiclatinmass.org/>



LIVE STREAMED SUNDAY MASS AT 11:00 AM

Click [Here](#), or go to: <https://vimeo.com/event/17522>
Worship Aid



YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH

Visit <http://archphila.org/joseph/> often for new events and resources for the celebration of this holy year!



Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary **Sunday, August 15, 2021**

Holy Mass Schedule:

5:15 PM Anticipated Mass, in the Cathedral Basilica
(on Saturday, August 14)

8:00 AM Mass, in the Cathedral Basilica

9:30 AM Mass, in the Cathedral Basilica

11:00 AM Mass, in the Cathedral Basilica ([Livestreamed here](#))

12:30 PM Spanish Mass, in the Cathedral Chapel

3:30 PM Mass, in the Cathedral Basilica in the Extraordinary Form

6:30 PM Mass, in the Cathedral Basilica

Gospel Reflection Group

Location: Neumann Room at the Cathedral Basilica

Tuesdays at 6:30 PM

Please reach out to Paul at pmaleski93@gmail.com if you are interested in joining or looking for more information.

Please remember these parishioners and friends of the Cathedral Parish in your prayers/ Ora por los enfermos:

Luisa and Rossana Sciarretta, Scott Possiel, Anthony Pelle, Jr., Baby Ava Hope, David Blue, Jeannette Argir, Judy Day, Wally Dalton, Baby Benjamin Summers, Eileen Maher, Carmine Meadows, April De Matto, Jim Mace Thompson, Levi Oattes, Rose McKenna, Sue Del Biondo, Paul Fischer, Valente family, Marlene Cinclair, Gloria Quici, Frank Munafò, Matthew Munafò, Rosemary Hennelly, and those in nursing homes or hospitals and all the sick.

To add or remove parishioners, friends or family members to the prayer list, please send an email to: sr.mrparadis@archphila.org, or call Sister Mary Raphael, Parish Outreach Coordinator, at the Cathedral Parish Office, 215-561-1313 Monday through Thursday. Por favor envíe un email o llame a la oficina parroquial para añadir o remover los nombres de la lista de personas que estén enfermas.

La Misión de la Catedral Basílica de los Santos Pedro y Pablo

La Parroquia Catedral sirve a todos los que vienen a la Catedral Basílica, la Iglesia Madre de la Arquidiócesis de Filadelfia, como una vibrante comunidad católica romana en el centro de la ciudad. Profesamos nuestra fe católica, servimos a los demás y damos la bienvenida a todos, fundamentado en la Palabra de Dios y en la celebración de los sacramentos de Jesucristo, Nuestro Señor y Salvador.

Adoptado por el Consejo Pastoral Parroquial, Octubre 13, 2020

EDUCACION RELIGIOSA EN LA CATEDRAL

¡Nos complace decir que ofreceremos clases de preparación sacramental para los niños que necesitan Primera Penitencia / Primera Comunión (grados 1-3) y Confirmación (grados 7-8)! ¡Estas clases serán impartidas por nuestros propios catequistas voluntarios, impartidas aquí en la Catedral, y ofrecidas tanto en inglés como en español! No habrá matrícula para las clases; los únicos costos son los libros / materiales. Para las clases en español, envíe un correo electrónico a Arturo Ceves a aceves28@gmail.com, o hable con él después de la misa dominical en español a las 12:30 PM en la Capilla.

REFLEXIÓN DEL RECTOR

Estimados feligreses,

¡Hoy es el décimo octavo domingo del tiempo ordinario! En el Santo Evangelio para este domingo (ver Juan 6: 24-35), Jesús continúa enseñándonos acerca de su gran regalo para nosotros, la Sagrada Eucaristía.

“Yo soy el pan de la vida;
el que viene a mí no tendrá hambre,
y el que cree en mí nunca tendrá sed”.

Todos hemos escuchado esta asombrosa enseñanza del Señor una y otra vez. Lo escuchamos en las oraciones de la Iglesia y a menudo cantamos estas mismas palabras durante la recepción de la Sagrada Comunión durante la Misa. Escuchar al mismo Jesús anunciarnos esta enseñanza en el Evangelio de hoy nos detiene a considerar verdaderamente el significado de sus palabras. Jesús establece una conexión personal entre él y el Pan de vida. Jesús es el Pan de vida. El Pan de vida es Jesús. Sabemos quién es Jesús. Él es Dios, el Hijo de Dios, nuestro Salvador y Redentor. El Pan de vida es una frase polivalente, llena de múltiples niveles de significado. El Pan de vida presenta todas las formas en que Dios alimentó a su pueblo a lo largo del Antiguo Testamento, especialmente con el maná en el desierto. Además, presenta las muchas formas en que Jesús alimentó a quienes lo siguieron en el Nuevo Testamento, esperando la mayor alimentación de todas las que tendrá lugar en la Última Cena, este es mi Cuerpo. El pan aquí también incluye todo lo que solo Jesús puede proporcionarnos para que tengamos su vida dentro de nosotros y en el cielo, su Palabra salvadora y su gracia. Jesús es este Pan. Este Pan es Jesús. Cuando tengamos una comprensión más completa de la declaración del Señor, también podremos comprender cómo con este Pan nunca tendremos hambre ni sed. Sí, es el alimento que perdura y nunca perece. Mientras escuchamos a Jesús enseñarnos sobre la Sagrada Eucaristía estos domingos de verano, que seamos renovados en nuestra fe y amor por la Misa y la recepción de la Sagrada Comunión.

Este lunes 2 de agosto de 2021 se cumple el tercer aniversario del traslado de los Restos Sagrados de Santa Katharine Drexel a nuestra Basílica Catedral. Conmemoraremos este evento en las misas de las 7:15AM y las 12:05PM del lunes con una misa dedicada a Santa Katharine Drexel. La presencia de la tumba de esta santa de Filadelfia en la Basílica continúa trayendo muchas bendiciones a muchos. Acudamos aún más a Santa Katharine Drexel pidiéndole su ayuda celestial para que podamos llevar una vida cristiana fiel y audaz, para que las obras del Evangelio se arraiguen más profundamente en todas las partes de la Arquidiócesis y para poner fin a todas las formas de discriminación y racismo entre nosotros. Santa Katharine Drexel, ¡rueda por nosotros!

Nos estamos preparando para que más de 20 posibles catecúmenos y candidatos formen parte de nuestro ministerio de Iniciación Cristiana para adultos. Estas son realmente buenas noticias y una señal de que el Señor está obrando entre nosotros atrayendo a la gente hacia él. Con tantos catecúmenos y candidatos potenciales, necesitamos padrinos/madrinas parroquiales adicionales. Si esto le interesa o desea obtener más información sobre un padrino/madrina parroquial, comuníquese conmigo.

Una vez más, consulte en otra parte de esta edición del Boletín Parroquial la información sobre la preparación para los sacramentos — Confirmación, Penitencia y Reconciliación, y Primera Comunión — para niños en edad escolar. No se demore en ponerse en contacto con la Oficina Parroquial para inscribirse en este programa de preparación.

El próximo domingo, la segunda colecta estará dirigida a los pobres y necesitados del barrio de la Parroquia Catedral. Puede enviar sus ofrendas dominicales a la Oficina Parroquial de la Catedral o hacer uso de las muchas formas de donar electrónicamente. Consulte <http://cathedralphila.org/donate/>. Muchas gracias por su bondad y generosidad con la Parroquia Catedral.

Dios le bendiga, Padre Dennis Gill, Rector



MISA
¡OREMOS POR CUBA!

TODOS ESTÁN INVITADOS

Celebrante & homilista:
Arzobispo Nelson J. Pérez

Concelebrante:
Obispo Edward M. Deliman

Domingo 8 de agosto
6:30 PM

Iglesia Santos Inocentes
1. Street & East Hunting Park Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19124

“Se reconoce y agradece el desecho y la valentía del pueblo cubano a alzar la voz públicamente sin miedo a la represión y revelando una solidaridad auténtica con el pueblo.” Obispos cubanamericanos



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT THE CATHEDRAL

We are happy to say that we will offer Sacramental Preparation classes for children needing First Penance/First Holy Communion (grades 1-3) and Confirmation grades 7-8! These classes will be taught by our own volunteer catechists, given here at the Cathedral, and **offered in BOTH English and Spanish!** There will be no tuition for the classes; the only costs be for books/materials.

We are currently in the planning phase for classes but a schedule will be available by the beginning of August.

If your child/children are eligible for First Holy Communion or Confirmation and either are **not** in religious education, are in religious education at another parish, attending a Catholic school in the Archdiocese or a home-based program, they may attend our program.

If you are interested, please send an email to: sr.mrparadis@archphila.org; or leave a message for Sister Mary Raphael, Parish Outreach Coordinator, at 215-561-1313, press 2 then 7. Feel free to leave a message or send an email; be sure to leave your telephone number.

For classes in Spanish, please email Arturo Ceves at aceves28@gmail.com, or talk with him after the Spanish Sunday Mass at 12:30 PM in the Chapel.



HOSPICE SUNDAY NEXT SUNDAY

Please remember to bring your food donations for **St. John's Hospice**. Please bring all items to Mass and leave them in the Sacristy. Your recent donations were very much appreciated.

Thank you for your continued generosity,

Readings for Mass for this Week

Please see the website of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops: usccb.org/bible/readings



DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH?

The Cathedral Parish offers year round opportunities for people seeking more information about the Catholic Faith, the Sacraments and living the Christian Life. These opportunities are for adults who would like to inquire about following Jesus and becoming a member of the Catholic Church, or who are already baptized Christians and would like to become Catholic, or who are already baptized Catholics and would like to receive Confirmation and Holy Communion. There are many people like yourself inquiring, and we are ready to answer your questions. Please contact Fr. Dennis Gill at: fr.dgill@archphila.org



STATEMENT OF ARCHBISHOP NELSON J. PÉREZ REGARDING REINSTATING THE OBLIGATION TO ATTEND SUNDAY MASS

Archbishop Nelson J. Pérez' announces the restoration of our obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation **beginning Sunday, August 15, 2021.**

Let us continue to give thanks and praise to God for the great gift of His Son given to us in the Holy Eucharist!

To read Archbishop's letter [CLICK HERE](#), or go to: <http://cathedralphila.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/NJP-Statement-Obligation-to-Attend-Sunday->

ANNOUNCEMENT - AUGUST 7-8

@ Cathedral Basilica Saints Peter & Paul

Fr. Phelim Jordan will be with us on the weekend of **August 7-8** to speak about the many ministries of his religious community the Divine Word Missionaries. They are an international religious community of missionary priests and Brothers serving in 84 countries helping to build chapels, celebrate the sacraments, and spread the Word of God in remote mission communities. To meet some of the people they help, please read the [stories](#) at missionimpact.svdmissions.org/mission-update. Over 6,000 active missionaries travel to the far corners of the world building hospitals to care for the sick, educating the poor, teaching the hungry to farm, and providing life's necessities like drinkable water, food, and shelter. These priests and Brothers help people neglected and forgotten by society to build a better future and foster vibrant Catholic communities of service and faith around the world. This Mission Appeal is part of the Mission Coop Program of our Diocese. Please be generous in the second collection to help support the missionary work of the Divine Word Missionaries. Their missionaries serve in some of the most difficult areas of the world.

<https://missionimpact.svdmissions.org/mission-update>

TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS TO CONTINUE IN ARCHDIOCESE, FOR NOW

Archbishop Nelson J. Pérez issued the following statement **July 19** regarding the apostolic letter "Traditionis Custodes" released July 16 by Pope Francis.

See Catholic News Service's [feature article](#) on the letter, the full text of which can be found [here](#).



The Divine Mercy Chaplet

We will pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet **each Friday at 3:00 P.M.** Join us wherever you are.

Join Via Zoom Meeting: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87567068541?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87567068541?pwd=Wmo1V01XWEIQLzRuZ0JnOWU2T3Rsdz09)
[pwd=Wmo1V01XWEIQLzRuZ0JnOWU2T3Rsdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87567068541?pwd=Wmo1V01XWEIQLzRuZ0JnOWU2T3Rsdz09)

Meeting ID: 875 6706 8541 Passcode: Mercy



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EVANGELIZATION NEWSLETTER

Office for New Evangelization

[CLICK HERE.](https://phillyevang.flocknote.com/note/12362880)

<https://phillyevang.flocknote.com/note/12362880>

HOPE IN CHRIST

Spiritual Support for Addiction

Seeking spiritual support in the journey towards recovery? Many parishes around the Archdiocese are extending God's merciful and loving hand to those who have an addiction as well as their families and loved ones. The Hope in Christ: Spiritual Support for Addiction webpage provides a central location for resources, ongoing support, events, and testimonies that are happening throughout the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Visit archphila.org/hope for new postings for Catholic resources available to you or a loved one.

Join us in a Mass for those suffering from addiction.
All are invited.

Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul
18th Street and Benjamin Franklin Parkway
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103

Saturday, August 14, 2021
12:05 PM

Celebrant
Reverend Gerald Dennis Gill
Rector and Pastor

Addiction has touched far too many families
and taken far too many of our loved ones.
Join us that we may draw strength from one another
in the power of our faith.

Parking lot open, rear of cathedral.

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

- Philipians 4:13

Saint Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle; be our protection
against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him,
we humbly pray, and do thou, O prince of the heavenly host, by the
power of God, thrust into Hell, Satan and all the other evil spirits, who
prowl throughout the world, seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

- Pope Leo XIII

EVANGELIZATION 101

Being "Good at" Relationship

The mission to spread the Gospel belongs to every Catholic by Baptism. None of us are exempt from the mandate of the Lord to "go, make disciples of all nations" (Mt 28:19). But how do we do it? For our answer, we look to Jesus Christ Himself and the way in which He led and nurtured His own disciples. This happened primarily by way of relationship. Jesus entered into and built over time a relationship of trust, intimacy and friendship with his disciples. And through this relationship He communicated His own life and salvation to them.

When we think of evangelization, many people picture a man standing on a street corner with a bullhorn proclaiming a message to passers-by. But this isn't the heart of evangelization. Evangelization is fundamentally a work that proceeds in and through relationship. God Himself demonstrates this as He constantly seeks personal intimacy with each one of us, walking with us, communicating Himself to us, speaking to us, directing our lives. So, too, the disciples of Jesus Christ who are called to make other disciples do this primarily by entering into relationship with others, building trust, friendship, intimacy, and waiting for those opportunities when a person is ready to hear about Jesus and His great love for them.

This basic truth about evangelization - that it proceeds by way of relationship - illumines a fundamental obligation for all of the baptized. We must become good at relationship. Being "good at" relationship means that we are growing ever more deeply in the virtues that make relationship and friendship possible.

First, we must have room in our hearts for other people. That is, we must become more and more liberated from our own ego and self-interest, from our tendency to use other people to get our own needs met. In its place, we must have enough freedom of heart to focus on and genuinely desire the good of the other person for his or her own sake. This is the very definition of love. Without it, our attempts to evangelize are simply a "noisy going, a clanging cymbal" (1 Cor 13:1).

Second, disciple-makers must know how to listen. It is far more important to have a genuine desire in our hearts to know the other person, understand where they are "at" and what they are seeking, than it is to have all the right answers about our Faith. The best way to become a good listener is to practice regular periods of prolonged silence – first in prayer and then when we are around others. Silence is our way of creating space for the other – first for God and then for the other person. Silence makes us capable of listening. The experience of being listened to and understood opens people's hearts to the possibility of God.

Third, those who wish to evangelize must be capable of intimacy. The ability to be vulnerable and to share one's heart humbly as an offering is a necessary part of all true relationship. Humble self-disclosure is the only way by which the Gospel can reach another person's heart. This means that those who wish to make disciples must embark on a journey of working through their own intimacy issues – fear, mistrust, withdrawal, arrogance, neediness, self-righteousness, the need to control, and so on. The best way to make this journey – and thus prepare for the mission of evangelization - is to enter into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, who will lead us on a journey of intimacy with Himself. Relationship with Him becomes a kind of school in which we learn how to be in relationship with others.

So where do we begin? Perhaps with a simple prayer like this one prayed from the heart:

Lord Jesus, I want to help the people in my life come to know You. I recognize that I can only help others come to know You through my own relationship with You. Jesus, I invite you anew: come into my life. Grant me the grace of friendship and intimacy with You. Give me courage to surrender myself to You, especially those parts of my heart that don't yet belong to You. Show me, Jesus, the people in my life that You want me to befriend and build relationship with. Teach me, Jesus, how to be good at relationship: how to love, how to listen, and how to humbly share my Faith. Thank you for the privilege of participating in Your great mission to save the world. Through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I make this prayer. Amen.

~Meghan Cokeley, Office for the New Evangelization, Archdiocese of Philadelphia