WHAT IS EVANGELIZATION?

Proclamation of Gospel
Joy
Mercy

Apostolicam Actuositatem

The apostolate of the Church therefore, and of each of its members, aims primarily at announcing to the world by word and action the message of Christ and communicating to it the grace of Christ (n6).
**Lumen Gentium**

So too the laity become powerful heralds of the faith in things to be hoped for (cf. Heb 11:1) if they join unhesitating profession of the faith to the life of faith. This evangelization, that is, the proclamation of Christ by word and the testimony of life, acquires a specific property and peculiar efficacy because it is accomplished in the ordinary circumstances of the world (n35).

**Evangelii Nuntiandi**

Evangelizing is in fact the grace and vocation proper to the Church, here deepest identity. She exists in order to evangelize, that is to say, in order to preach and to teach, to be the channel of the gift of grace, to reconcile sinners with God, and to perpetuate Christ's sacrifice in the Mass, which is the memorial of His death and glorious resurrection (n14).

**St. John Paul II, Pope**

In summary, the new evangelization is primarily the *clear and unequivocal proclamation of the person of Jesus Christ*, that is, the preaching of his name, his teaching, his life, his promises and the Kingdom which he has gained for us by his Paschal Mystery (*Ecclesia in America*, n66).
Pope Benedict XVI

Consequently, the new evangelization is not a matter of redoing something which has been inadequately done or has not achieved its purpose, as if the new activity were an implicit judgment on the failure of the first evangelization. Nor is the new evangelization taking up the first evangelization again, or simply repeating the past. Instead, it is the courage to forge new paths in responding to the changing circumstances and conditions facing the Church in her call to proclaim and live the Gospel today (Ch. 1, n. 5), (Hater, 25).

Evangelii Gaudium & Pope Francis

• With Christ joy is constantly born anew. In this exhortation I wish to encourage the Christian faithful to embark upon a new chapter of evangelization marked by this joy, while pointing out new paths for the Church's journey in years to come (n1).

• An evangelizer must never look like someone who has just come back from a funeral! Let us recover and deeper our enthusiasm (n10).

• The Church must be a place of mercy freely given, where everyone can feel welcomed, loved, forgiven and encouraged to live the good life of the Gospel (n14).

5 Stages of Evangelization

- Pre-evangelization
- Missionary Preaching
- Initiatary Catechesis
- Mystagogical Catechesis
- Permanent or Continuing Catechesis
7 Practical Steps for Evangelization (USCCB)

- Foster Conversion to and belief in Jesus Christ
- Encourage Knowledge of Scripture & Tradition
- Renew every parish, especially through RCIA
- Liturgical Renewal
- Appreciate Evangelical & Social Justice aspects of Eucharist
- Foster a Spirit of Prayer
- Foster a Spirit of Welcome