Moving From Multitude to Community
From Anonymity to Communion

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There is no community without communion...

Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle, *Easter People*
Two elements of Church – unification of the new people and the convergence of the people in Jesus.

Pope Benedict XVI, Called to Communion
BUILDING FAITH COMMUNITIES

Foundation

Vision

Mission

Formation

Isaiah 43:1-12, Matthew 22:34-40
How is communion manifested in your communities?

+ Communion is the ground we stand on and that to which we offer our lives.

+ Community is the illumination of Communion.

+ Communion is the equalizer of the diversity among the multitude in the Church.

+ Community is charity lived out with one heart and one mind.
The Eucharist is the Sacrament of Unity

Timothy Radcliffe OP, “Why Go to Church?”
Ten Essential and Practical Guides to Community Building

1. Define a Vision - Keep It Focused

2. Commit to Relationship Building – *Unus Christianus, Nullus Christianus*

3. Develop a Sustainable Ministry - Circular model of leadership
MODELS OF FAITH COMMUNITIES

Same Mission, Different Organization
4. Treat Individual or Group Meetings as Sacred

   There is the One in the other.

5. Create a process and necessary programs – It is a Journey!
   People Formation vs Event Organizing

6. Think Common Ground, Common Good
   Work Must Strive to be Unifying
7. Form Servant-Leaders

Serve by leading, lead by serving

creative
joyful
prudent
honest
loving
just
humble
8. Actions must be winnable and personally transformative …*fun and inspiring too!*


*Go to Mass*

and participate actively with full consciousness
10. Shift your perspective

*God is God, you are you.*

*God is in charge, it is not about you!*

(If it seems like nothing is happening,
God is doing something)
BUILDING FROM THE GROUND UP
For the most precious gift that the Church can offer the modern world – confused and restless as it is – is to form Christians sure about their faith.

Pope John Paul II

Any Church community, if it thinks it can comfortably go its own way without creative concern and effective cooperation in helping the poor to live with dignity and reaching out to everyone, will also risk breaking down, however much it may talk about social issues or criticize governments. It will easily drift into a spiritual worldliness camouflaged by religious practices, unproductive meetings and empty talk.

*Evangelii Gaudium* #207
WHO IS MY COMMUNITY, MY NEIGHBOR?

The Greatest Commandment.

“Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

“You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.”

Parable of the Good Samaritan

…..But because he wished to justify himself, he said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”
The parish is not an outdated institution; precisely because it possesses great flexibility, it can assume quite different contours depending on the openness and missionary creativity of the pastor and the community. Evangelii Gaudium #28

- It must be in contact with the homes and lives of its people, and not a useless structure out of touch with people or a self-absorbed cluster made up of the chosen few.
- In all its activities the parish encourages and trains its members to be evangelists.
- It is a community of communities, a sanctuary where the thirsty come to drink in the midst of their journey, and a center of constant missionary outreach.
SOCIAL JUSTICE: AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE EVANGELIZING MISSION OF THE PARISH

- The missionary mandate of charity encompasses all dimensions of existence, all individuals, all areas of community life, and all peoples. Nothing human can be alien to it.

- It is no longer possible to claim that religion should be restricted to the private sphere and that it exists only to prepare souls for heaven.

- Christian conversion demands reviewing especially those areas and aspects of life “related to the social order and the common good.” St. John Paul II
Each individual Christian and every community is called to be an instrument of God for the liberation and promotion of the poor, and for enabling them to be fully a part of society. This demands that we be docile and attentive to the cry of the poor and to come to their aid. Evangelii Gaudium #187
Everything is connected. Concern for the environment thus needs to be joined to a sincere love for our fellow human beings and an unwavering commitment to resolving the problems of society.

*Laudato Si* #91
MOVING FROM MULTITUDE TO COMMUNITY
FROM ANONYMITY TO COMMUNION

Where are you now?

Where do you want to go?

How are you going to get there?
LET RISE THE SPIRIT OF HOPE