Fishing with Nets
Fishing with Poles
Putting the New Evangelization into Practice

The Breathing Prayer
Breathe in God’s Love...
Breathe out...

Understanding the New Evangelization

• New Evangelization vs. Old Evangelization?
• When did the New Evangelization begin?
• How did it get its name?
• When did it begin to take root?
• Who made it spring to life?
“The Joy of the Gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus. Those who accept his offer of salvation are set free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness and loneliness. With Christ joy is constantly born anew...I wish to encourage the Christian faithful to embark upon a new chapter of evangelization marked by this joy.”

Pope Francis, Joy of the Gospel, 1.

Let’s talk about fishing...

“Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men...”
What you need to know about fishing…

- Knowing what you’re fishing for.
- Knowing where those fish swim.
- Knowing what equipment to use.

Who are you trying to reach?

- Inactive Catholics
- Alienated Catholics
- Unchurched Catholics

Before we look at how we’re going to reach these folks,

there is an important question that you have to answer…
Do you really want them?

Warning
Don’t go fishing if you don’t plan to keep the fish...

Do you really want these people?
How will you reach them?

- Fishing with Nets
- or
- Fishing with Poles

It’s time for your questions, comments, concerns...

The Art of Attraction

“Goodness always tends to spread. Every authentic experience of truth and goodness seeks by its very nature to grow within us... As it expands, goodness takes root and develops. If we wish to lead a dignified and fulfilling life, we have to reach out to others and seek their good.” (Joy of the Gospel, 9)
Fishing with Nets

- The Over-stressed
- The Drifters
- The Angry
- The Hurt
- The Spiritual Seekers
- The People on the Edge

Fishing with Nets

- Special programs and events
- Radio and Television
- Newspaper articles & advertising
- Posters, Fliers, Palm Cards
- Direct Mail
- Printed Invitations
- Telephone information lines
- Door-to-door visits
- Technology & social media

Using Modern Technology

Let us boldly become citizens of the digital world. The Church needs to be concerned for, and present in, the world of communication, in order to dialogue with people today and to help them encounter Christ.” Pope Francis
The Pluses and Pitfalls of Fishing with Nets

- Reach many people
- Handle many issues
- Generate awareness
- Some are challenging
- Some are difficult
- Generate expenses

Fishing with Poles

- Targeted door-to-door visits
- Targeted mailings
- Special programs for specific groups
- Companion ministries
- Teaching people in the pews to fish

Teaching people to fish

- Inviting
- Welcoming
- Expressing concern
- Listening
- Sharing
- Praying with people
- Answering questions
- Making referrals
Six Signs
1. Asking Questions
2. Remembering
3. Reading
4. Comments on events
5. Dealing with Life events
6. Feeling God’s presence

The Pluses and Pitfalls of Fishing with Poles
- Focused effort
- Lose big picture
- Meets the needs of some people
- Others fall through the cracks
- Training
- Maintaining

The Parable of the Fishless Fisherman
- “One thing they didn’t do, however; they didn’t fish...”
“Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch...” (Lk. 5:4)

It’s time for more questions, comments, concerns...