



Diocese of Covington Evangelization Weekend

Introduction and Implementation Plans

WHAT Is Evangelization Weekend?

An opportunity to...

- ✝ Share the Gospel message with those who are not members of the Catholic Church
- ✝ Share information about RCIA with the parish and community, and Invite those who are not Catholic to “come and see”
- ✝ Encourage Catholics to evangelize their non-Catholic friends and family and extend an invitation to them to inquire about the Church

WHAT Evangelization Weekend IS NOT

- ✝ A recruiting tool to increase the numbers for your RCIA
- ✝ A “catch-all” opportunity to all of your evangelization in one weekend

WHEN Is Evangelization Weekend?

- ✝ Evangelization Weekend should take place, if possible, during the Easter Season
- ✝ Each year the Office of Catechesis and Formation, in cooperation with the bishop, will select a suitable date for Evangelization Weekend across the Diocese of Covington

WHEN Is Evangelization Weekend?

2019 Evangelization Weekend
Weekend of May 18-19, 2019
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Preparing for Evangelization Weekend

Get the Word Out

- ✝ Promotion by the Diocesan Office of Catechesis and Formation
- ✝ Promotion in the Parish

See details in Resource Packet

What Happens on the Evangelization Weekend?

Homily Addresses our Call to Evangelize

- ✝ Pastor or Presider should incorporate the theme of Evangelization & RCIA into the homily
- ✝ Message should be welcoming and inviting to non-Catholics in the congregation & challenge Catholics to be Apostles and invite others to the Church

What Happens on the Evangelization Weekend?

Witness Talks at Mass

- ✝ Preferably by Neophytes who have entered the Church in the past 1-2 years
 - ✝ If no Neophytes available or willing to speak:
 - Former sponsors or current RCIA Team Members
 - RCIA Director / Coordinator may
 - Read a witness submitted by a Neophyte
 - Give their own talk about coming to Christ in His Church
- See Resource Packet for outline for preparing a witness talk*

What Happens on the Evangelization Weekend?

Information Table in Church Vestibule or Gathering Space

- ✝ A person with a welcoming presence to greet visitors and answer questions
- ✝ Information about the Catholic Church for inquirers and about RCIA (general and parish-specific) for inquirers, potential sponsors, and potential team members
- ✝ Sign-in sheet so someone can follow up with those who stop by after Mass

See Resource Packet for detailed ideas for the information table

After the Evangelization Weekend

RCIA Information Session / Open House

- ✝ Takes place within the week following Evangelization Weekend
- ✝ 1-2 Hour time frame
- ✝ Weekday evening or the next Sunday after Mass
- ✝ Parishioners should be encouraged to invite AND accompany someone they know

See Resource Packet for detailed ideas for the information session / open house

After the Evangelization Weekend

Follow Up As Soon As Possible

- ✝ Contact anyone who signed your “sign-in” sheet
- ✝ Follow up with parishioners who accompanied an inquirer to the open house; ask them to follow up with the inquirer

After the Evangelization Weekend

Be Prepared to Work with Inquirers NOW

- ✦ Not necessarily organized, weekly meetings or Catechesis; Ideas include:
 - ✦ Mass Companions
 - ✦ Pre-Catechumenate activities *(see RCIA Manual)*
 - ✦ Identify & train sponsors
 - ✦ Prepare for Rite of Acceptance and Welcome when ready



**Questions?
Ideas to Share?**



Diocesan RCIA workshop: Implementing RCIA in the Parish

June 10-11 9:00 – 2:00 at St. Pius X