

# Saints Peter & Paul Catholic Church

129 Elmore St., Oak Hill, West Virginia 25901



## **PASTORAL STAFF:**

**Pastor:** Rev. Jojan Joseph  
304-281-0086 or [jjoseph@dwc.org](mailto:jjoseph@dwc.org)

**Deacon:** Rick Allen  
304-541-6077 or [rallen@dwc.org](mailto:rallen@dwc.org)

**Parish Bookkeeper:** Ms. Amy Inghram  
Monday & Thursday: 10:00am—6:00p.m

**Pastoral Secretary:** Ms. Cindy Everly  
Tue, Wed & Fri: 9:00am —3:00pm

**Parish Custodian:** Mrs. Kathy Ryder

**Music Director:** Ms. Caitlin Watkins  
[caitlinwatkins2002@gmail.com](mailto:caitlinwatkins2002@gmail.com)

**Parish Office:** 304-465-5445

**Parish Email:** [ssppoffice@stspccatholic.org](mailto:ssppoffice@stspccatholic.org)

**Director of Religious Education:** Dr. Ricky White  
[Rickyd.white@gmail.com](mailto:Rickyd.white@gmail.com); 1-405-812-5448

**Ladies Guild:** Mrs. Susan Woods  
[susanwoodsrx@gmail.com](mailto:susanwoodsrx@gmail.com)

**Knights of Columbus/Food Pantry:**  
Mr. Anthony Gerard / [agerard1956@gmail.com](mailto:agerard1956@gmail.com)

**PARISH WEBSITE & Facebook Page:**  
<http://www.stspccatholic.org>  
(FB) [SSPPCatholicChurchOakHill,WV](https://www.facebook.com/SSPPCatholicChurchOakHill,WV)

**Parish Mailing Address:**  
129 Elmore St., Oak Hill, WV 25901

## **SCHOOL STAFF:**

**School Principal:** Mrs. Natasha Mucho-Seay  
[nmucho@ssppccatholic.org](mailto:nmucho@ssppccatholic.org)

**School Secretary:** Mrs. Kristy Humphrey  
[secty@ssppccatholic.org](mailto:secty@ssppccatholic.org)

**School Office:** 304-465-5045

**Parish/School Fax:** 304 465-8726

## **SCHOOL WEBSITE**

<http://www.ssppccatholic.org>

**School Mailing Address:**  
123 Elmore St., Oak Hill, WV 25901



**23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**September 8, 2024**

## **Sacraments**

### **Baptism**

Contact Parish office or Fr. Jojan to schedule the Baptism and make arrangements for the required parent preparation session.

### **First Holy Communion**

First Eucharist is celebrated in April/May for children who are enrolled in second grade at either Saints Peter & Paul Catholic School, or the Faith Formation Program of our Parish.

### **Confession**

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available every Saturday from 4:15pm to 5:15pm, and before or after weekday Masses.

### **Confirmation**

Celebrated for students in 9th grade who have been prepared during their 8th grade year. Catholic adults who have not been confirmed should contact the Parish Office to be included in the celebration.

**Marriage** Contact Parish office or Fr. Jojan Joseph **6 months in advance** of the marriage date.

### **Anointing of the Sick & Visiting of the Sick/Homebound**

Please notify Fr. Jojan Joseph at 304-281-0086

**WELCOME TO SSPP PARISH!**

NEW MEMBERS - Catholics over the age of 18 (unless they are in school) are invited to become registered members of our parish! This is a great way to practice the Catholic Faith. Registration forms are available on the bulletin boards in the back of the Church.

**This Week's Liturgy Schedule**

**Sat. Sept. 7 Vigil**  
 5:30p.m. †Orville Richard Gamby  
 req. by Brad DeFlumeri & Rachel Roush

**Sun. Sept. 8 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 8:00a.m. For Our Parish Family  
 10:30a.m. †Terri Lyn Harvey  
 req. by Art & Mary Gonzales

**Mon. Sept. 9 No Mass**

**Tue. Sept. 10 †Hoanh-Kiew-Sen**  
 5:30p.m. req. by James & Hue Jones

**Wed. Sept. 11 School Mass**  
 8:30a.m. †Susan Sullivan req. by Cliff Sullivan

**Thu. Sept. 12**  
 5:30p.m. Health of Father Chapin  
 req. by Leon Jarosz

**6:00p.m. Benediction and Adoration**

**Fri. Sept. 13**  
 8:30a.m. Health of Puff Demasi  
 req. by Dena Turner

**Sat. Sept. 14 Vigil**  
 5:30p.m. †John Alexander  
 req. by Debbie Persinger

**Sun. Sept. 15 Catechetical Sunday**  
 8:00a.m. †James & Martha Sheehan  
 req. by Ron Sheehan  
 10:30a.m. For Our Parish Family

Finance Council meeting will be on Wednesday,  
 September 18, 6:00p.m.



Randal Rosiek and Sierra Ramsey are forming a family through the sacrament of marriage on Saturday, September 14, 2024. Let us pray for the engaged couple.

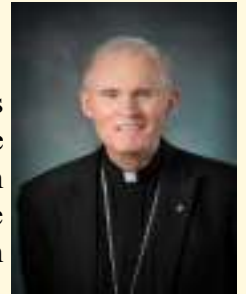
**Do you want to become Catholic?**

**Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)**

OCIA classes are on Tuesdays at 6:00p.m. Our first session is on Tuesday, September 10th at 6:00p.m. in the parish office building immediately following the 5:30pm Mass.  
 Coordinator: Deacon Rick Allen

**Mark your Calendar**

All those involved in various ministries of our Parish and School are invited together with their family members for an appreciation dinner on Sunday, October 20, at 6:00pm. The Ladies Guild will be organizing the dinner. More details to follow.



Welcome Bishop Brennan to Saints Peter & Paul Parish and School. We look forward to your visit on Wednesday, September 18th and the celebration of the 8:30a.m. Mass with the school children and congregation.

All are invited.

~Rev. Jojan Joseph

**Liturgical Ministry Schedule for Sept. 14/Sept. 15**

<b>Altar Servers</b>	<b>Lectors</b>	<b>Hospitality Ministers</b>	<b>Extraordinary E.M.</b>
<b>Saturday 14, 5:30p.m.</b> Magnolia Campbell Trace Rosiek	Scott Vargo	Rebecca Stinnett Curtis Richards Brenda Vargo	Tom Gerencer Paula Lagos
<b>Sunday 15, 8:00a.m.</b> Blake & Brandt Kemlock	Bill Klenk	Debbie Garvin Anthony Gerard Andy Wickline	Debbie Hatcher Aaron Kemlock
<b>Sunday 15, 10:30a.m.</b> Adriana Ibarra Natalia Ibarra	Robert Littreal	Judy Conner Eddie Chornobay Jose Ibarra	Kathy Alexander Keylie Alexander

**If you are unable to serve, please find a substitute**

## Faith Formation

**Faith Formation** classes will be resuming on Sunday, September 15 at 9:15a.m. - 10:15a.m. Those who were enrolled last year are promoted to the next level of Faith Formation class.

If your child is ready to begin his/her Faith Formation from grade K - 8, please sign them up.

**First Holy Communion:** All those children enrolled in **second grade** are eligible. If any child did not receive First Holy Communion when they were in 2nd grade they may also enroll. They will have separate, special preparation. **Those who are enrolling for First Holy Communion are requested to fill out the form before September 15th.**

**Confirmation** classes are for all students in 8th grade and above. This year, depending on the number of enrollment, we will have preparation. **The last day of signup for Confirmation class is September 15th.**

**The Faith Formation Forms** are in the back of the church. Please fill out all forms in their entirety and submit **before September 15th.** Submit to the Parish office, or drop into the collection basket.

Catechism teachers (K - 8) meeting will be on Sunday, September 8, after 10:30 Mass. We will gather in the Parish school immediately following Mass.

*Director of Religious Education: Dr. Ricky White*

## Catechetical Sunday September 15

This year, the theme for Catechetical Sunday is **“Lord, when did we see you hungry”** Matthew 25:37.

The theme for 2024 is intended to reflect the call to be missionary disciples and to bring others to Christ.

This day is to recognize and honor those who serve as catechists, teachers and leaders in faith formation.

There will be a special blessing for all our catechists and teachers at our 10:30am Mass.

## Last Week's Attendance & Giving

Aug 31/Sep 1, 2024

Attendance: 231

### Regular Collection Combined Masses

Weekly Offering	\$ 3,512.00
Online	\$ 385.00
School	\$ 25.00
School Maintenance	\$ 145.00
Parish Maintenance	\$ 80.00
Votives	\$ 30.00
Second Collection -	
Catholic University	\$ 25.00
Mass Intentions	\$ 10.00
Food Pantry	\$ 40.00
Give Love Live Love	\$ 0.00

Thank you for your generous support

## Adult Bible Study

Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 9:15a.m. - 10:15a.m.

## SAFE ENVIRONMENT

**September Bulletin** is now available.

A folder containing these and prior bulletins is located in the back of the church as well as in the parish office.

For those who do not have internet access please take one and check back for next months edition.

Those with VIRTUS accounts can log on at any point this month and read the bulletin online.

Anyone wishing to read these important bulletins are welcome and encouraged to take as well.

SSPP Prayer Chain Contact: If anyone is sick, hospitalized or just needs prayers, please call or text Paula Lagos @ 304-731-8889 (cell) or 304-574-3310.



The Knights of Columbus Football Frenzy Fundraiser has begun. Tickets are \$10 each and will be available in the back of the church or see any Knight. For questions contact Anthony Gerard at 304-673-1054

<div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>\$10 BUY 2 GET 1 FREE!</b> REDEEMABLE ONLINE</p> <p><b>4 SIMPLE STEPS</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Go to <a href="http://www.footballsweps.com/FREE">www.footballsweps.com/FREE</a></li> <li>2. Create Account or log in</li> <li>3. Enter your two access codes</li> <li>4. Receive your free ticket by email. Ticket linked to your online account.</li> </ol> <p><small>Offer valid thru 10/30/24 while supplies last. Go to <a href="http://greenbeesavingsclub.com">greenbeesavingsclub.com</a> to take advantage of <a href="http://footballsweps.com">footballsweps.com</a> certificate offer! Registration required. Membership valid until 12/31/24. Offer subject to change. By purchasing this membership card, you are automatically entered into the Football Frenzy Sweepstakes.</small></p> </div>	<div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>\$7,000</b> TOTAL CASH PRIZES</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%; font-size: small;"> <tr><td>HIGHEST .....</td><td>\$ 200</td></tr> <tr><td>2ND HIGHEST .....</td><td>\$ 100</td></tr> <tr><td>3RD HIGHEST .....</td><td>\$ 70</td></tr> <tr><td>4TH HIGHEST .....</td><td>\$ 60</td></tr> <tr><td>5TH HIGHEST .....</td><td>\$ 50</td></tr> <tr><td>6TH HIGHEST .....</td><td>\$ 40</td></tr> <tr><td>7TH HIGHEST .....</td><td>\$ 30</td></tr> <tr><td>LOWEST .....</td><td>\$ 100</td></tr> <tr><td>2ND LOWEST .....</td><td>\$ 50</td></tr> </table> <p><small>TOTAL WEEKLY PRIZES: \$700 CASH PRIZES FOR HIGH AND LOW 4 TEAM TOTALS</small></p> </div>	HIGHEST .....	\$ 200	2ND HIGHEST .....	\$ 100	3RD HIGHEST .....	\$ 70	4TH HIGHEST .....	\$ 60	5TH HIGHEST .....	\$ 50	6TH HIGHEST .....	\$ 40	7TH HIGHEST .....	\$ 30	LOWEST .....	\$ 100	2ND LOWEST .....	\$ 50	<div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>WEST VIRGINIA STATE COUNCIL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS</b></p> <p>All proceeds go to Catholic Education in West Virginia. NO PROCEEDS GO TO THE NFL</p> <p>IF YOUR FOUR TEAMS SCORE THE MOST OR LEAST NUMBER OF POINTS IN ANY WEEK YOU WIN A CASH PRIZE! YOU ARE ELIGIBLE TO WIN EVERY WEEK FROM NOVEMBER 03 TO JANUARY 05, 2025.</p> </div>	<div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>2024 FOOTBALL FRENZY® FUNDRAISER</b></p> <p><b>90</b> OVERALL CHANCES TO WIN!</p> </div>																																										
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To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact WV Child Protective Services at 800.352.6513. In addition to civil authorities, to report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact the Diocese at 888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880. Please visit [www.dwc.org](http://www.dwc.org) under "Accountability" for additional information and reporting methods. Saints Peter & Paul Church has named Cindy Everly the Coordinator for our church's Safe Environment team.

**Eucharistic Revival**



**Father in heaven, you have made us for yourself;  
our hearts are restless until they rest in you.  
Fulfill this longing through Jesus, the Bread of Life,  
whose sacramental Body we receive in the Eucharist,  
so that we may witness to him who alone satisfies the hungers of the human family.  
By the power of your Spirit**



**lead us to the heavenly table where we may feast on the vision of your glory for ever and ever, Amen.**

**School News**

Congratulations to Allison Light, Madeline Herrera, Nick Ruskin, Maryanne Pritt, and Emme Campbell for serving their very first Mass as Altar Servers. A big THANKS to Maddox Gerencer and CJ Wickline for supporting them and leading them. Another big THANKS to Andre Re for taking time to train all of our servers.  
Natasha Mucho-Seay, Principal



**Knights News** Grand Knight: Dr. Ricky White  
1-405-812-5448 [Rickyd.white@gmail.com](mailto:Rickyd.white@gmail.com)

**Cemetery:** All Knights and volunteers will meet at the cemetery to finish clean up on September 28th at 9:00 a.m. bring your tools with you.

There are several Knights that we would like to have come back into our council. All they need to do is pay this years dues of \$25 and we can update them as paid in full. See Anthony Gerard for form to fill out.

**Food & Hygiene Pantry:**

Our food pantry assisted 16 people with food bags and had 85 people receive items from the blessing box in August. We are looking for hotel/trial size toiletries for the Blessing Box. Please consider bringing back and donating your unused items when vacationing. Items are available for everyone. Hours are 9:00am - 3:00pm. Contact Anthony Gerard at 304-673-1054.

**Healing Mass on Friday, October 11, at 6:30pm.**

Inviting, the homebound and those who are in need of healing for a Healing Mass. This service offers prayer and anointing for people seeking physical, mental and spiritual healing. The Mass is open to people of all ages and with any type of illness including cancer, heart conditions and frailty. Celebrant will anoint each participant individually.

**Marriage Anniversary Mass on Friday, October 4 at 6:30pm.**

Rev. Jojan Joseph invites you to honor your marriage by attending the Marriage Anniversary Mass. All couples, regardless of their marriage anniversary milestone are invited to attend. Please register by completing the RSVP found below in the bulletin. Please respond by September 29 by dropping your RSVP into the collection basket or dropping off at the parish office.



We, \_\_\_\_\_ are attending the Marriage Anniversary Mass.

We are celebrating our \_\_\_\_\_ years of togetherness. There will be \_\_\_\_\_ family members attending from our family.



**Relevant Radio** was honored to be part of this once-in-a-lifetime experience. You can access all their video recordings and podcast coverage at [RelevantRadio.com/NEC](http://RelevantRadio.com/NEC).

## WV CATHOLIC RADIO BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOU

Berkeley Springs - Hancock, MD	FM	96.3
Berkeley Springs	FM	107.9
Clarksburg-Bridgeport	FM	97.5
Dunbar - Charleston	AM	1450
Eastern Panhandle - coming soon	FM	88.5
Grafton - Clarksburg	AM	1190
Montgomery - Beckley	FM	89.7
Purgitsville	FM	98.7
St. Marys - Parkersburg	FM	105.3
Star City - Morgantown	FM	89.7
Summersville	FM	91.3
Wheeling - Martins Ferry, OH	FM	90.7
Weirton - Steubenville	FM	97.9

-Listen on LoL Stream at [www.rdo.to/WLOL](http://www.rdo.to/WLOL)-

### Saints Peter & Paul Parish Oak Hill, WV First Saturday Rosary

All are welcome to join Saints Peter & Paul parishioners at 4:45p.m. every first Saturday, to recite The Holy Rosary. This is an opportunity for you to participate in the mysteries of the Rosary as we get to know Jesus better through the eyes of His Most Blessed Mother.



In order to register, an engaged couple must be referred by their pastor, associate pastor or deacon who is assisting them in preparation for their marriage.

Register online at  
Wheeling-  
Charleston Retreats  
or Go to [https://  
dwc.org](https://dwc.org)

### UPCOMING DATES

Nov. 16-17, 2024  
at St. John XXIII Pastoral  
Center



## “TEACH US TO PRAY”

### Living the Year of Prayer in Preparation for Jubilee 2025

#### THE JUBILEE PRAYER

Father in heaven,  
may the *faith* you have given us  
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,  
and the flame of *charity* enkindled  
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,  
reawaken in us the blessed *hope*  
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us  
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.  
May those seeds transform from within both humanity  
and the whole cosmos  
in the sure expectation  
of a new heaven and a new earth,  
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,  
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee  
reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*,  
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread  
the joy and peace of our Redeemer  
throughout the earth.  
To you our God, eternally blessed,  
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen

*Franciscus*

# WRITE TO LET YOUR SEMINARIANS KNOW YOU'RE PRAYING FOR THEM

**Mount St. Mary's Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Road, Emmitsburg, MD 21727**



<b>Dominic Re</b> Birthday: February 10	<b>Bryan Tedeschi</b> Birthday: October 17	<b>Travis Moger</b> Birthday: June 25	<b>Michael Aiello</b> Birthday: September 16	<b>Nathan Schmidt</b> Birthday: January 20	<b>Christian Davis</b> Birthday: October 4	<b>Andrew Dean</b> Birthday: November 14
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**The Pontifical College Josephinum 7625 N High Street, Columbus, OH 43235**



<b>Timothy Kawash</b> Birthday: July 22	<b>Peter Russman</b> Birthday: April 16	<b>David Hensler</b> Birthday: July 29	<b>Donvito Cortese</b> Birthday: August 30	<b>Reece Lopatka</b> Birthday: June 5	<b>Sebastian Lasko</b> Birthday: September 18
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**Pope St. John Paul II College Seminary 145 Taylor Street NE, Washington, DC 20017**



**Joe Derico**  
Birthday:  
February 16



**Chris Nelson**  
Birthday:  
December 4

**Pontifical North  
American College  
00120 Vatican  
City State  
Europe**



**Michael J. Tupta**  
Birthday:  
April 24

**Pope St. John XXIII  
National Seminary  
558 South Avenue  
Weston, MA 02493**



**Clifton Mastran**  
Birthday:  
May 1



**DIocese of WHEELING-CHARLESTON**



NATIONAL  
**Eucharistic  
Revival Year of Mission**

**Walk** +++  
**with One**  
+++

## Year of Mission = YOUR Year of Mission, WV

**You. Yes, you!**

### Will YOU Answer the Call?

The National Eucharistic Revival is to energize each one of us!

#### **Be an Instrument of the Good Shepherd**

Jesus showed us just how deeply he cherishes every soul when he shared the parable of the Good Shepherd, who left the ninety-nine to seek out the one lost sheep. During this Year of Mission, he is inviting each of us to be his hands and feet in a special way, reaching out to those who are lost or have wandered away from his Church and accompanying them on their journey home. We call this initiative Walk with One.

#### **Let's go, WV! The Year of Mission is really YOUR Year of Mission!**

This isn't just a communal call—it's a personal one.

**YOU** are invited to be God's instrument in the life of one other person.

Here's how you can respond:

#### **1. Identify** Someone in a Spirit of Humility

Spend a little time in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to show you whom he wants you to accompany. It may be someone you already know needs your support, or the answer might surprise you!

#### **2. Intercede** for That Person

Lift them up in your prayers, asking God to prepare their heart for whatever he has in store. Stay attuned to the voice of the Holy Spirit and ask him to guide you in being a vessel of his grace.

#### **3. Connect** in Eucharistic Friendship

Just as Jesus tenderly carries the lost sheep back to the fold, we are called to build relationships rooted in compassion. Listen to their story. Share your own. This is not a one-time conversation. Walk alongside them, offering the support they need.

#### **4. Invite** That Person to Take a Concrete Step

Whether it's inviting them to join you for Mass, a

small group, or a service opportunity, the Holy Spirit will lead you in guiding the person he wants to call home to Christ and his Church.

#### **Revival Walk with One**

If every active Catholic brings just one person into an encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist, it will be a remarkable revival for our time! Not only will this journey change the person you are walking with, it will change your life as well.

Take a moment right now to quiet your heart and listen for Jesus. If you feel a nudge to commit to Walk with One, click below to let us know! We promise to support you with prayers, resources, and encouragement every step of the way.

#### **GET STARTED**

Keep following our diocesan social media, read your FaithInWV e-bulletin, and watch for the Catholic Spirit. In other words- let's all take ownership of our faith and lifelong growth to be closer to God!

**START HERE:** [WWW.DWC.ORG](http://WWW.DWC.ORG) and click our National Eucharistic Revival button.

#### **Make it a great Year of Mission WV!**



# Walk With One



## Eucharistic Examen

This Eucharistic Examen is designed to be used as part of your "Walk with One" journey (see [www.eucharisticrevival.org/walk-with-one](http://www.eucharisticrevival.org/walk-with-one) for more info). Throughout each stage of the journey, pray this examen to help you discern the path the Lord is calling you to follow in accompanying another person towards Jesus.

### Take

Opening Prayer: Ask God to help you be aware of his presence, to truly encounter him, and to open your heart to the person whom Jesus is bringing to mind.

Choose a Scripture passage in which Jesus calls a person by name, and sit with it. For example:

- Mt 4:18–22
- Mt 9:9–13
- Mt 14:22–33
- Mk 1:16–20
- Mk 2:13–17
- Lk 5:1–11
- Lk 5:27–32
- Lk 10:38–42
- Lk 13:10–17
- Lk 19:1–10
- Jn 1:35–42 and 43–51
- Jn 11:1–44 (esp. 43)
- Jn 15:1–17
- Jn 20:11–18
- Jn 21:15–19

### Bless

Reflect on some aspect of the Paschal Mystery: Jesus' Passion and Death, Resurrection, or Ascension.

Ask Jesus to shower his love upon the person for whom you are interceding, and pray for the courage to accompany the person in a spirit of self-giving and openness.

### Break

Considering your daily and weekly routines, ask the Lord to show you how to break out of your comfort zone to make space to connect with the person for whom you have been interceding.

Invite the Holy Spirit to identify the next best concrete step, and pray in thanksgiving for the opportunity to build a new friendship.

### Give

Ask the Holy Spirit to help you practice the art of listening and discern a concrete invitation you can give to your friend to draw closer to Jesus. Make a resolution about how and when you will extend this invitation.

Closing Prayer: Ask Jesus to help you keep your resolution as you journey on mission with him, making a gift of yourself for the life of the world.

*"You go to the celebration of Mass, receive communion, adore the Lord and then what do you do after? You go out and evangelize. Jesus asks this of us. The Eucharist, then impels us to strong and committed love of neighbor... especially those who are poor, suffering, weary or who may have gone astray in life." POPE FRANCIS to the Organizing Committee of the National Eucharistic Congress, 6/19/23*





# Walk With One

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In the Scriptures, we hear over and over how Jesus invited people one by one to follow him. He also invites us to follow him more deeply and, just like him, to “walk with one” person to a new or renewed experience of God’s love.

Evangelization, or “bringing the Good News,” typically happens in one-on-one moments that are not planned or scripted. This can happen at the grocery store, the bus stop, or a sporting event. As Pope Francis has noted, “Anyone who has truly experienced God’s saving love does not need much time or lengthy training to go out and proclaim that love” (*Evangelii Gaudium*, no. 120).

You might be asking yourself: Where do I start with inviting someone to take a step closer to Jesus? How might I invite them forward in their faith? Here’s a simple four-stage process of accompaniment that focuses on a “heart-to-heart” approach:

- 1. Identify someone in a spirit of humility**
- 2. Intercede for that person in communion with the Holy Spirit**
- 3. Connect in Eucharistic friendship**
- 4. Invite that person on a path most suitable for him or her**

Throughout each stage of your “Walk with One” journey, we encourage you to pray the Eucharistic Examen to help you discern the path the Lord is calling you to follow (you can find this examen at [www.eucharisticrevival.org/walk-with-one](http://www.eucharisticrevival.org/walk-with-one)). The bottom line is this: If you can open your heart to speak about how Jesus has touched your life, your heart will touch the heart of whomever the Holy Spirit leads you to accompany.

***By virtue of our Baptismal calling,  
the Lord is sending each of us to give  
witness to his saving love.***

## STEP 1

### Identify someone in a spirit of humility:

Prayerfully begin to discern whom God is calling you to accompany.

Before you begin the process of inviting someone into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church, spend time in prayer, inviting the Holy Spirit to guide you in this process. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you the person that he wants you to accompany. Consider going to Eucharistic adoration or committing to a period of silent prayer in a church to allow the Holy Spirit to speak to you.



## STEP 2

### Intercede for that person in communion with the Holy Spirit:

Pray for the grace to be able to accompany the person whom the Lord has laid on your heart.

Now that the Lord has identified a person whom you know, commit to pray for them for a specific period of time, asking God to open the opportunity for a conversation. Pray for any struggles the person might be facing with brokenness or sin, and for any obstacles that might impede this person from drawing closer to Jesus and exploring the Catholic faith more deeply. Consider offering a holy hour or a novena of prayer for that person.





### STEP 3

## Connect in Eucharistic friendship:

Look for ways to accompany the person you have prayed for, to build a deeper relationship, and to practice the art of empathetic listening.

Eucharistic friendship builds upon the dynamic that Jesus revealed in his relationships with the disciples and, above all, at the Last Supper—he takes bread, blesses it, breaks it, and gives it. It is important to take or receive what the other person has to share, to bless or lift it up in prayer, to let the Holy Spirit help break open an area for potential growth, and then to give of yourself in response. It is also important to recognize that this may not be a “one and done” conversation but is more likely to be a series of conversations and invitations, developing a real friendship with that person. Find an appropriate time to begin growing in your friendship, perhaps over coffee or lunch. Listen deeply for promptings from the Holy Spirit as you get to know your friend’s joys and struggles. Share with them some of your own.

Listen respectfully when the conversation turns to spiritual matters, including their relationship with God and questions or concerns about the Church, and reserve judgment about their opinions. Some people might be ready to discuss the spiritual life after only a conversation or two, while for others it might take more time.

#### **STEP 4**

### **Invite that person on a path most suitable for him or her:**

Follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit to invite him or her to a concrete next step in fostering a personal relationship with Jesus and the Church.

It is important to remember that it may not be easy to invite a person to come to Mass, particularly someone who has been away for some time or someone who has had no religious formation. It may be better to begin with an invitation to a parish small group experience, a service opportunity, or a social event. For those who need healing or an experience of God's merciful love, an invitation to accompany them to the Sacrament of Reconciliation could be appropriate.

If you discern that inviting the person to Mass is the best next step, encourage them to come with you and your family or with a group of friends. Your invitation could be as simple as: "Our family/my friends and I always look forward to celebrating Sunday Mass. It is a source of strength and hope for us, and it reaffirms our trust in Jesus. My family/friends and I would love for you to come with us. We are going to the 10:30 am Mass at St. John Parish on Sunday, and you are welcome to come with us to Mass and to lunch afterwards. If you need a ride, let me know!"

If the person shuts down the conversation, do not take it personally. Maybe they are not yet ready. Follow up with a statement that keeps the door open. "I understand. Thank you for talking with me about this. If you ever want to talk about your faith, I am always here for you." No matter what the outcome is, keep persevering in your friendship and ask the Lord to continue to guide you. After every encounter, thank God for the conversations that you have been having and remember to keep this person in your prayers.

