

Prayer, Care, Share

Becoming More Intentional in Mission & Action

Our individual relationships should reflect the interactions of Jesus. His model of sharing life and encouraging each person to grow closer to the heart of God serves as the example of authentic relational love. This highlights the priority we give to living out our personal apostolate of evangelization. We follow Jesus' example using the Crowds to Three model and practicing prayer, care, share in our relationships. Each of us, as a disciple of Christ, is called to His mission of making disciples.

UNDERSTANDING PRAYER, CARE, SHARE

PRAYER is the first action of evangelization. We root into and receive God's grace when we are connected to Him. Living in relationship with Christ empowers us to bring His love to those we encounter. Through prayer, we open ourselves to the Holy Spirit. This is not easy work! We live in a world of distractions and are offered many good things to do with our time. However, many of these good efforts do not grow our holiness. True holiness is rooted in prayerful abandonment to God's will. Our surrender to Christ allows us to reflect the holy joy of His Love to others. This surrender also encourages divine appointments -- occasions of encounter outside of our control, but fully within God's plan. It is imperative that we are intentionally creating time for prayer in our lives to grow closer to Christ and allow Him to work through us.

CARE is our lived out expression of God's love. It is an overflow of the internal abundance of grace received in our relationship with Christ through prayer and the sacraments. We follow Christ's example of receiving people with love and offering the support they need. Just as we have been received and supported in our spiritual journey, so we do the same for those Christ brings into our lives. Many times, our first action of care is to listen. We cannot know how best to receive and support others unless we know their heart and have gained their trust. Every person has a unique story, we must never accept a label in place of their story. For those who are married and/or have children, these immediate relationships of care take priority. Likewise, priests have a responsibility to nurture the relationships of their flock (parishioners/ brothers) with Jesus.

SHARE is our opportunity to respond in offering our story with others. Sharing our unique journey into deep relationship with Christ and His Church serves as a witness of love. We validate the deepest identity of another as a Child of God when we speak to their heart in love. We trust the primary work of conversion to the Holy Spirit, our human power cannot fully convert the heart to Christ. We cannot be interested in winning the argument or convincing the mind, but focus on serving the heart in genuine friendship. As we share, we will see the opportunity for deeper relationship and feel the call to individual accompaniment. This is the deepest investment of time and energy, and is the specific relationship lived out with your 3. Sharing within accompaniment is very personal and self-reflective. As you accompany individuals, you will have the opportunity to share the Gospel message of Christ's love (Kerygma). Increased awareness of Christ's invitation to respond to that love encourages others to genuinely open their heart. This vulnerability can be very scary and new; your presence in their life offers a strong support and model of lived relationship with God.

