



Wavering Souls: The Challenge of Young Black Adults in Today's Catholic Church

Cultivating The Evangelizing Spirit

My Story

Who I am & Who's I am.



How Have You Reached and Sustained Your Current Level of Faith?



Cultivating the Evangelizing Spirit

- What Are the Current Tools, Methods and Best Practices You Use to Sustain You?
- How Do You Find Balance?
- What Makes You Feel Whole?



Cultivating the Evangelizing Spirit

- Define Evangelization
- Does Evangelization Look Different Today Than It Did One or Two Generations Ago ?
- Do We Evangelize to Parts of a Person and Not to the Whole Person?
- Can We the Future Church Bridge this Gap?



Cultivating the Evangelizing Spirit

- Evangelization is the essential mission of the Church
- Evangelization is a parish community event
- We are called to prepare for the eternal and look past the material
- Evangelization is an inward first and then outward event
- Conversion is continuous but there are many ways to conversion
- Let the Holy Spirit and Grace be the primary evangelizers

Go and Make Disciples

- Evangelization is not proselytizing
- Evangelization begins before any invitation occurs
- The Evangelization process is Witness Share Invite
- Evangelizing is sharing our most precious gift
- Evangelization is meeting the person where they are

Look to the data

- 42% of Catholics attend Mass at least weekly.
- 20% attend once or twice per month
- 20% attend once or twice per year.
- 18% of Catholics seldom or never attend Mass.
- 20% of Catholics regularly attend churches of other denominations.



Look to the data

- African Americans attending black parishes are more satisfied and have a higher Mass attendance than those who do not.
- 85.7% find it important to include African American religious expression into worship
- 52.8% of 18-29 year olds are engaged in their parish (48.2% of African Americans attend church once a week)
- African Americans are more likely than whites to participate in Bible Study and Catholic Devotions
- African Americans are more spiritually engaged in their Parish then emotionally or socially engaged.
- African Americans are more highly educated



Reason's for leaving the church

According to the 2012 NBCC survey...

- Sexual abuse scandal
- Dissatisfaction with the clergy
- Moving to a new community
- Gradually drifting away from the religion
- Lack of empowerment, respect, and inclusion



“Faith Comes From What is Heard”

Rm 10:17

- African Americans are being pushed out of the inner city. The new folks don't want to be involved in the same way, different culture. What Can We Do?
- How can we get people involved in the church (attend Mass) when they don't even want to be there?
- For this generation church is no longer the center of our lives like that of our parents and grandparents. How can the church meet us where we are?



“Faith Comes From What is Heard”

Rm 10:17

- Many archdiocese have eliminated their Office of Young Adult Ministries: Everyone's experience is varies. How can we unite Young Adult Black Catholics?
- The business of life makes it very it difficult to meditate and really discern what God is saying to me. How do you evangelize to your younger self?
- What haven't we covered that we should?

