

Evangelization Committee of the Charlotte/Greece/Hilton Parishes

September 10, 2026

Notes

Present: **Holy Cross:** Ed DiPonzio, **Our Mother of Sorrows:** Santa McKenna, **St. Charles Borromeo:** Rose Marie Lombard, Shawn Rooney, **St. John the Evangelist:** Marianne Katz, John Lacek, **St. Lawrence:** Karen Bunker, **St. Leo the Great:** Joan Rohr, **St. Mark's:** Carolyn DelVecchio, Jeff Rice, **Facilitator/link to the Steering Committee:** Karen Rinefierd

Excused **Holy Cross:** John Owens

Purpose of this group: to share parish evangelization best practices, to design and implement shared evangelization projects

Target audiences:

1. Members of our parishes—helping them deepen their relationship with God.
2. Members of our parishes—helping them talk to others about their faith without judging or criticizing.
3. Members of our parishes who pulled back during Covid and those no longer participating.

Introductions and Welcome to Shawn Rooney (new member from St. Charles Borromeo)

Opening prayer: “Where did you see God today?” followed by intercessory prayers and the Our Father

2026-2027 parish bible studies for the ROC Catholics Northwest website

- Karen B. has reached out to some of the contacts from last year and has information already for St. Charles and St. Lawrence. Since she will be going on vacation soon, she asked others on the committee to try to find information for their parish. Karen R. said that she would work on finalizing this while Karen B. is away.

Update on planning for the 2027 Lenten retreat: Karen R.

- A list of potential local speakers (from within our diocese or neighboring ones) was developed. Then the six pastoral leaders prioritized their preferences. The top two are now being contacted to see if they are interested and available on the tentative dates, Sunday, March 14 and Monday, March 15. We are hoping to lead into the diocesan Day of Penance and Mercy but that has not yet been set.
- The pastoral leaders have suggested some national speakers for 2028 or 2029 but none have yet been contacted. Carolyn suggested adding Matthew Kelly to that list.
- This year’s retreat committee was very effective. Once the 2027 retreat is set, Karen will reach out to its members to see if they would like to serve in 2027.

Continued Work on Pilgrims of Hope initiative

Draft schedule: the draft prepared by Jeff and Carolyn looks fine. Action: Karen R. will send it to the leaders for their approval and to get it onto their parish calendars. She will draft an intro to the

Pilgrims of Hope and run it by evangelization team members for their revisions before it goes to the leaders.

General comments:

- Jeff noted that the men's club at St. Mark's said that they will be at the Adoration set for their parish.
- Shawn wondered if there should be an alternative if parishioners cannot attend a regular Adoration time at any of the parishes and suggested that we could suggest attending a Mass at that parish as an alternative. The committee agreed. We will include a list of all Masses plus the full regular Adoration schedule for each parish in the accompanying materials.
- Joan reported that St. Leo's would like to offer a story hour for children where they introduce the book for children explaining Adoration. This would happen prior to the Easter season. We would advertise the story hour on the ROC Catholics Northwest website. Action: Joan will speak with Kristine Burgio and firm this up.
- We would like a dedicated space at each church during the Easter season where parishioners could find Pilgrims of Hope materials (including prayer suggestions) and stickers for their passports.
- Action: before the October meeting, look for sample prayers and reflections that we could include in a resource for people during Adoration. These will likely be different at each church.

Continued work on the passport

- Carolyn shared many of her ideas and possible graphics for the passport.
- Agreement to try a 11x17 format to be folded to something resembling passport size. There would be a section for each of the 7 parishes with a current photo of the church and a place to put a sticker when that church is visited.
- Suggestions: keep the map of the parishes, add church addresses, and add the ROC Catholics Northwest logo.
- Action: Carolyn will prepare a sample passport before the October meeting.

Other:

- We want to get details and materials finalized by the end of this year since Jeff will be away three months after that.

Tabled until the next meeting:

- Additional membership on this Evangelization Committee from St. Lawrence and St. Leo
- The Dynamic Catholics Christmas book program
- Parish updates on any new evangelization programs, initiatives, or plans

Future meetings:

- Thursday, October 29, 5:30 pm, in Deacon Hall at St. Lawrence
- Thursday, November 19, 5:30 pm, place TBD

Closing prayer: Hail Mary