

## Charlotte/Greece/Hilton Parishes Evangelization Team

September 25, 2025

### Notes

Present: **Holy Cross/Mother of Sorrows:** John Owens, **St. Charles Borromeo:** Rose Marie Lombard, **St. John the Evangelist:** Marianne Katz, **St. Lawrence:** Karen Bunker, **St. Leo the Great:** Joan Rohr, **St. Mark:** Carolyn DelVecchio, **Facilitator/link to the Steering Committee:** Karen Rinefierd

**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.

**Opening prayer:** Luke 16:19-31, faithsharing, intercessory prayers, the Lord's Prayer

### **Grandparents' flyer and Grandparents Day**

- Members shared how the weekend was handled in their parish:
  - Holy Cross/Mother of Sorrows: The prayer was included in bulletins, and copies of the flyer were available in the back of the churches.
  - St. Charles Borromeo: The flyer was part of the bulletin, and grandparents were asked to stand for a blessing after Communion.
  - St. John the Evangelist: Parishioners stuffed bulletins with the flyer; Marianne put copies of the resource list on the two bulletin boards.
  - St. Lawrence: The flyer was part of the bulletin.
  - St. Leo the Great: The flyer was included on a flap in the bulletin, and grandparents were blessed at Masses.
  - St. Mark's: The effort was well-received.

### **Activities for 2025-2026 (based on brainstorming and prioritization)**

#### Advent and Lent flyers

- An email will be going out next week to those who have submitted information in the past for the Advent flyer.
- If there is room, include something like "What will your gift to Jesus be this Advent?"

#### Updating the Digital Library

- To be discussed at a future meeting

#### Promoting the Roc Catholics Northwest website

- The sense of the committee is that all the work going into collecting information and preparing resources is wasted if people do not use the website. It was telling that few of those gathered in June to discuss evangelization—people who are very involved in their parishes—had heard of the website or used it. We need to make people aware of its existence and what is available on it.
- **Action:** Karen R. will ask the web administrators for current statistics on the number of unique users. She will ask Brendan Parker to create a QR code taking people to the website. She will create an article for the 11/9 bulletins recommending that people use the list of "resources for sharing faith with children and teens" for gifts for Christmas and baptisms.

- Action: Each committee member will check their own parish's bulletin shell and website to see if the Roc Catholics Northwest website is included with a link to it.
- We need to create a marketing campaign--some ideas:
  - Create a postcard or at most a half sheet of paper with information about the website and what it includes on one side and parish-specific information on the other. These could be available at parish events as well as in parish and school offices.
  - Include a link/QR code in the Advent flyer if there is room.
  - One weekend have a "geek squad" available after Masses to help those not adept with computers learn how to access the website and what is on it.

#### Ask the pastoral leaders to agree to a 7-parish retreat/mission

- Karen B. brought information about St. Bernard's on the Road. There are many suggested topics with speakers from St. Bernard's, and the cost is minimal.
- Our parishes could offer a shared retreat in Lent, but other possible times were mentioned as well: after Easter, between Christmas and Lent (although there is a short time then this year and that is a time when many of the priests go away).
- Action: Karen B. and Rose Marie will create a proposal. Karen R. will send it to the pastoral leaders and Marianne will mention this at the Steering Committee meeting next week.

#### Outreach to parents after Baptisms, First Communions, Confirmations

- Deferred to a future meeting.

#### **Miscellaneous**

- John distributed copies of a flyer advertising a program being offered on October 16 at Holy Cross. The speakers will give an overview of caregiver services and supports.
- Karen B. has now got information on all the fall bible studies being offered in our parishes. She will send that to Karen R. for inclusion on the Roc Catholics Northwest website.
- Gathering people involved in social ministry for networking: All of the pastoral leaders agreed that this would be valuable. Committee members shared the name of the person from their parish that they thought was the appropriate person to invite. Action: Karen R. will send the suggested name to the pastoral leader to confirm that this is correct and then pass the names/contact information on to Patty Amico and Karen B.
- Joan distributed copies of the many handouts from the August gathering on evangelization sponsored by the diocesan Department of Evangelization and Catechesis. There are also some exercises which our committee may do at a future meeting. This meeting was primarily for catechetical leaders and youth ministers; we do not know if any of our parish staff attended.

**Closing prayer:** Hail Mary

**Next meeting:** Thursday, October 30, 5:30 pm in Deacon Hall at St. Lawrence