# evangelization doing what Jesus does

Happy New Year of Evangelization!

We are standing on the threshold of 2017, so it's time to make our New Year's resolutions. Along with the usual promises to lose weight and exercise more, what if we made some specific evangelization resolutions? What if we took some concrete action to follow and fulfill the mission Jesus gave us to be disciples who go and make new disciples?

Here are Nine Evangelization Resolutions to consider for the New Year:

## Make a Personal Discipleship Plan

Disciples are made not born! That's why Jesus apprenticed His disciples for three years, and why he sent them on mission to go and "make" disciples of all nations (Mt. 28:16-20). So we, too, need training to become disciples. The best way to do that is to make a personal Discipleship Plan with Jesus as our personal trainer. To pull together your Discipleship Plan around the six habits of Catholic Intentional discipleship, go Here.

#### **Get Equipped for Mission**

Pope Francis calls us to be, not just disciples, but missionary disciples! So for disciples who want to go deeper into formation for mission, we are offering the "Institute for Missionary Discipleship." The next sessions take place on Saturday, February 11, 2017. For information and to sign up go to: <a href="http://www.johnpaul2center.org/missionarydiscipleshipinstitute.htm">http://www.johnpaul2center.org/missionarydiscipleshipinstitute.htm</a>. (Note: The registration deadline for new participants is Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>.)

## Take the 1% Discipleship Challenge

This new resource introduces people to the life and promises of Jesus, engages them in reading the Scriptures, teaches them how to pray, and promotes a daily prayer habit. All of that in one attractively designed easy to use free resource! To view the 1% Challenge card, find multiple ways to use it, and order copies for your parish, go to <a href="www.johnpaul2center.org/onepercentchallenge">www.johnpaul2center.org/onepercentchallenge</a>. (The "1% Challenge" is developed by The Evangelical Catholic in collaboration with the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. The 1% Challenge trademark is a trademark owned by The Evangelical Catholic.)

# Read the Entire Bible and/or Catholic Catechism in 2017

Read this helpful blog post by Brandon Vogt to choose the best bible and most effective plan for reading the entire Bible in one year. You can find resources for reading the entire Catechism of the Catholic Church in one year as well. Go to: <a href="http://brandonvogt.com/how-to-easily-read-the-whole-bible/">http://brandonvogt.com/how-to-easily-read-the-whole-bible/</a>

#### **Draw Closer to Christ through Mary this Year**

This new app from "Our Sunday Visitor" is designed to accompany you on a year-long spiritual journey to draw closer to Christ with the help of our Blessed Mother. The app includes Prayers of the Rosary,

Daily Marian Reflections, the Undoer of Knots Novena, the Works of Mercy, and Catholic Prayers. For more information on this free app, go to: <a href="https://www.osv.com/yom">https://www.osv.com/yom</a>

# **Know and Follow Jesus More Completely**

New books by two of the preeminent Catholic evangelists are being published in 2017. Resolve to read "Jesus – The Story You Thought You Knew," by Deacon Keith Strohm (<a href="https://www.amazon.com/Jesus-Story-You-Thought-Knew/dp/168192076X">https://www.amazon.com/Jesus-Story-You-Thought-Knew/dp/168192076X</a>) and "Fruitful Discipleship – Living the Mission of Jesus in the Church and World," by Sherry Weddell (<a href="https://siena.org/bookstore">https://siena.org/bookstore</a>).

#### Anchor Every Day in the Gospel and the Church

Get a daily email that contains a link to that day's Gospel passage and is followed by a short reflection on the passage from Bishop Robert Barron. It's short, simple, but extremely powerful. It's like getting a mini-homily each morning from Bishop Barron! Sign up FREE at <a href="DailyCatholicGospel.com">DailyCatholicGospel.com</a>.

#### **Draw Your Child Back to the Church**

If you are a parent whose child has left the Catholic faith, you need an evangelization game plan to draw her/him back. And that's exactly what you will get in the excellent book, "Return: How to Draw Your Child Back to the Church," by Brandon Vogt. You can get the book and many helpful resources by going here: <a href="https://helpthemreturn.com/game-plan">https://helpthemreturn.com/game-plan</a>.

## God bless!

Rich Harter, M.T.S.

Director of the John Paul II Center for the New Evangelization

Archdiocese of Milwaukee

414-758-2215 or harterr@archmil.org