MISSION
To form missionary disciples

VISION
To Hear Jesus’ call to be His Disciple
To Give our entire life over to Jesus as His Disciple
To Go and make disciples of Jesus

WHAT IS AN EVANGELIZING PARISH?
Forms a committed team of disciple leaders dedicated to the mission of evangelization
Applies a disciple-making pathway to individuals and all aspects of parish life
Raises up new disciples of Jesus in the Church and sends them as missionaries into the world.

SEEING PARISH LIFE IN A NEW WAY
A. Introduce an experience of the kerygma to the parish leadership and other key individuals
B. Bring an understanding of the central role of the kerygma in the life of the whole parish
C. Form parish leadership team to bring this vision to the whole parish

DISCIPLESHIP FORMATION
A. Why evangelize?
B. What is a missionary disciple?
C. How do we make disciples as individuals and as a parish?

DOING PARISH IN A NEW WAY
A. Plan disciple-making pathway experiences
B. Build a system to raise up and form new leaders
C. Apply the disciple-making process to every aspect of parish life
A missionary disciple of Jesus lives the following practices and accompanies others in doing likewise...

- Has a personal relationship with Jesus in His Church.
- Repents from sin and seeks ongoing conversion to Jesus.
- Prays in intimate conversation with Jesus.
- Studies and lives the Bible.
- Participates fully in the Sunday Eucharist and the Sacraments.
- Engages in the life of the Christian community.
- Knows and practices basic Catholic teachings.
- Acknowledges and shares his or her charisms and gifts.
- Discerns and lives his or her personal vocation.
- Tells his or her faith story with clarity.
- Shares Jesus with confidence.
- Works for the transformation of the world.

In his Pastoral Letter, “For Greater Things You Were Born,” Archbishop Gomez recommends to the Church that we engage in spiritual practices that can “help us to grow in our relationship with Jesus and deepen our sense of connection to his plan for our lives” (30). How much truer is this recommendation when we speak of developing a community of saints?

Individuals and the faith community need spiritual practices they can do together as a community, that will foster the spiritual, pastoral, and missionary conversion within ministry.

These spiritual practices lead us to a way of life that can be lived by any baptized person who seeks to infuse into ministry the transformative power and light of the Gospel.

**The first spiritual practice is:** To communicate consistently, a simple and clear vision of missionary discipleship.

**The second spiritual practice is:** To form individuals and the faith community in a clear understanding of the process of becoming a missionary disciple.

**The third spiritual practice is:** To establish in every faith community a communal missionary discipleship making process.

**The fourth spiritual practice is:** To connect with and accompany individuals daily, especially those experiencing transition, so they can encounter Jesus and grow in the midst of His Church.

**The fifth spiritual practice is:** To accompany individuals through vocational discernment to raise up leaders in all aspects of the Church’s life and the secular world.

**The sixth spiritual practice is:** To send individuals out into the periphery to build trusting relationships and foster curiosity about Jesus.
## Five Thresholds of Conversion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Initial Trust</th>
<th>Spiritual Curiosity</th>
<th>Spiritual Openness</th>
<th>Spiritual Seeking</th>
<th>Intentional Discipleship</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Able to trust</strong></td>
<td>or has a positive association with:</td>
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<td><strong>Jesus Christ</strong></td>
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<td><strong>The Church</strong></td>
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<td><strong>A Christian believer</strong> or something identifiable Christian</td>
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<td><strong>Trust not the same as active faith</strong></td>
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- **Spiritual Curiosity**
  - Intrigued by or desiring to know more about:
    - Jesus
    - His life
  - Curiosity can range from mere awareness to quite intense

- **Spiritual Openness**
  - Acknowledges to self or to God - open to the possibility of personal and spiritual change
  - One of the most difficult transitions for a postmodern nonbeliever

- **Spiritual Seeking**
  - Moves from essentially passive to actively seeking to know God, who is calling him or her
  - “Dating with a purpose” but not yet marriage

- **Intentional Discipleship**
  - Decision to “drop one’s net”
  - Conscious commitment to follow Jesus in the midst of his Church as an obedient disciple

- **Reorder one’s life accordingly**

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Information for Table from - *Forming Intentional Disciples* by Sherry A. Weddell
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<td>Proclamation of the kerygma</td>
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<td>Hospitality &amp; healing</td>
<td>Encounter with Christ</td>
<td>Mystagogical or post-baptismal catechesis</td>
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<td>Welcoming environment: truth, goodness, beauty</td>
<td>Responding to the proclamation of the kerygma</td>
<td>Permanent or continuing catechesis</td>
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<td>Creating a space for dialogue and non-judgmental listening</td>
<td>Developing Liturgical / Sacramental interior disposition</td>
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<td>Helping others connect their desires with a personal God</td>
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<td>Fostering curiosity about Jesus</td>
<td>Personal faith</td>
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<td>Witness</td>
<td>Trust and belief God has liberated us through the Cross and resurrection of Jesus</td>
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<td>Hunger for God</td>
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<td>“Follow Me”</td>
<td>“Remain in me”</td>
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