


# A New Mission for a Missionary People

As Catholics, we are a “people on the move.” As “missionary disciples,” Pope Francis would say we are challenged to bring Christ and his Good News to the needs and wounds at home, in the workplace and in our community. We are called to meet Jesus and grow in our relationship with him in the Church, so that Christ can then send us out to introduce him to others.

Mission is our fundamental “Catholic identity” and we can trace that identity directly back to Jesus. Giving the Church her marching orders, he commissioned his disciples by saying, “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you (Matthew 28: 16-20).

Mission is who we are and what we do! With that in mind, Archbishop ListECKI used his recent Synodal Declaration to challenge us with a compelling new Archdiocesan Mission Statement. Firmly rooted in the marching orders of Jesus, this mission statement contains two parts:



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MISSION STATEMENT

To proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ through his saving death and resurrection by calling, forming and sending disciples to go and make new disciples. As a people, we are called to encounter Jesus and grow as disciples through the sacramental life of the Church.

## Mission: Part One – Direction

The first part of the mission statement tells us where we are going and what we need to do along the way. Put simply, every one of us is sent into daily life to proclaim Jesus and make disciples. Our lives changed by him, we are called to share Christ and invite others to meet him personally, too.

## Mission: Part Two – Empowerment

Since we can only give away what we have, Catholics are encouraged to encounter Jesus deeply and often in prayer, Scripture, service and the sacraments in order to grow as intentional disciples. These encounters with Jesus provide the “engine” for our mission as Christians.

