

# Proclaim Christ and Make Disciples through the Sacramental Life of the Church.

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### The Church is "permanently in a state of mission"



Archbishop Jerome E. Listecki

By now many of you know my 3 priorities for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, but just in case, here they are again – Catholic Identity, Evangelization, and Stewardship.

Our fundamental identity is Catholic. It is the perfect and fullest expression of who we are. Evangelization is what we do. We proclaim the Good News of Jesus and his Church to a lost and wounded world. And Stewardship is how we do it. In thanksgiving and sacrifice, we place our God-given resources at the service of living as Catholic evangelists at home, work, and in society.

These are my 3 priorities as your Archbishop, not because they are of my own making, but because they are the priorities of Jesus and the Church that he founded. By advancing these priorities, we stand on the shoulders of the many prophets, saints, and martyrs that have gone before us, and assure the continuing growth of the Catholic Church in our own day and in the life of future generations.

Indeed these three are the timeless and true priorities of the Church that Jesus founded, but we must be careful not to view them as abstract concepts relevant only to our institutional history, or assume they are primarily the work of those in formal Church leadership roles. The priorities of Catholic Identity, Evangelization, and

Stewardship are to be embodied deeply and personally by each one of us.

To put it another way, we can assert that Catholic Identity, Evangelization, and Stewardship are not simply "labels," but actually an active and integrated personal "lifestyle." Ultimately they should define our identity and motivate our lives. They are the recipe for lives of holiness. They are the hallmarks of that lifestyle to which all of us are called by Jesus – a lifestyle of "intentional discipleship."

And how do we grow into this calling and lifestyle of intentional discipleship? As has always been the case, this can only happen in and through the Church whose primary mission is to "make disciples." The Church invites us to encounter Jesus and grow as disciples through her rich sacramental life. As a "school of discipleship," she then sends out intentional disciples to proclaim Christ and make new disciples.

As Pope Francis and his predecessors remind us, the Church is "permanently in a state of mission," calling and forming intentional disciples who are sent to go and make new disciples (Joy of the Gospel, #25). This is the Church fulfilling her missionary identity – calling, forming, and sending Catholics who evangelize through their Godgiven gifts.

## ARCHDIOCESE of MILWAUKEE 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.





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# Growing as a Catholic Intentional Disciple: A Roadmap for the Journey

Echoing the teaching of Jesus and his Church, Archbishop Listecki calls us to lives of intentional discipleship. But what is that exactly? Put simply, it is the call to be 24/7 Catholics who share the Good News of Jesus through our God-

given gifts.

But Intentional discipleship doesn't just happen. It's a lifetime journey of conversion and commitment. There are many twists and trials along the way. Luckily, Jesus and his Church give us a simple five-part roadmap for finding our way.

## The Departure Point: *Meet Jesus*

Our first step is to encounter Jesus personally and see how he is the

answer to all of our needs. This is meeting Jesus and discovering that he, and he alone, is the Lord and Savior of our lives. This encounter reorders our priorities and changes the trajectory of our lives. We hear and decide to follow his call.

#### The Journey Point: Know Jesus

Next we walk with Jesus in his Church to get to know him. We stay close to him and let him teach us the words and ways of his Father's Kingdom. Desiring to know him more and more, we intentionally seek out encounters with Jesus through prayer, scripture, Mass, Reconciliation, service and community.

#### The Surrender Point: Become Jesus

Now the big change happens! We go from knowing Jesus to surrendering our lives to him. We begin to die and he rises in us. Our lives become his life and our goals become his mission. We move into deep union with him and let him use us for

his purpose and will. Through the Spirit, we become Jesus.

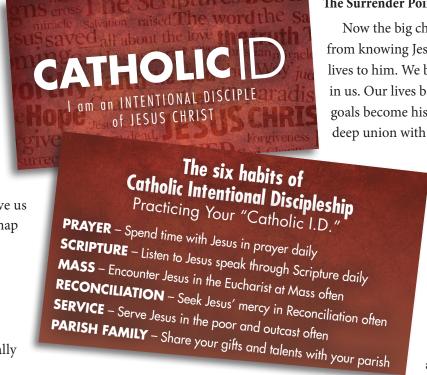
### The Mission Point: Give Jesus

As mature intentional disciples, we now let Jesus send us to proclaim his Name and his Good News to the people in our lives.

We are evangelizers who give him away. We reach and call people to meet, know, become, and give Jesus. The cycle of discipleship repeats and expands.

#### The Destination Point: See Jesus

What directs, sustains, and completes our journey is the Beatific Vision – seeing Jesus face-to-face. Gazing eternally upon the Trinity in heaven is our ultimate destination.





Evangelization resources such as the Catholic ID pass-along cards are available free of charge for Catholic parishes, schools and organizations in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. Simply visit www.archmil.org/iEvangelizeMKE to place your order.

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#### **Synod Implementation Teams**

Leaders on a Mission, for a Church on a Mission

Following the Synod, which was held almost two years ago on Pentecost weekend (June 6-8, 2014), Archbishop Jerome Listecki appointed the Archdiocesan Synod Implementation Commission (ASIC) to advise him and guide the Synod implementation process.

Since then "Pastoral Priority Teams" have been formed to develop implementation strategies in the five main areas that came out of the Synod:

- Mission and Leadership
- Evangelization and the Sunday Mass
- Multigenerational Catholic Identity Formation
- Stewardship, Outreach and Evangelization
- Social Justice Issues

These teams have begun to plan initiatives that address the main Synod priorities. The initial focus has been on Evangelization and the Sunday Mass – the area that received the most number of votes at the Synod. The other teams are developing plans that will be introduced in the future.

A list of the pastoral priority team members can be found by on the archdiocesan website. Visit www.archmil.org and search "**Synod Implementation Teams**."

# Prayer for the Mission of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee

Almighty and ever living God, we praise you and we bless you, for you are great indeed!

Grant, we pray,

as on that first Pentecost, that tongues of fire may descend upon us, and that the driving wind of your Holy Spirit may blow boldly into our hearts.

Loving God, we ask you,
make us effective and holy witnesses
of the death and resurrection
of your Son, Jesus Christ,
increase our faith
through the sacramental life of the Church,
grant us courage to follow you
as faithful disciples.

Embolden us, O God, so that we may go forth to proclaim your Gospel and renew the face of the earth.

In this Archdiocese of Milwaukee,
we humbly pray for strength and fortitude
to follow your great commission:
to go and make disciples of all people,
living our faith through word and deed.

Through the intercession of St. John the
Evangelist, patron of the archdiocese,
and Mary, Mother of the Church,
we ask all this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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#### La Iglesia vive "permanentemente en un estado de misión"



Arzobispo Jerome E. Listecki

Me parece que ya muchos de ustedes conocen mis tres prioridades para la Arquidiócesis de Milwaukee, pero por si acaso, aquí están de nuevo – la

Identidad Católica, la Evangelización, y la Corresponsabilidad.

Nuestra identidad fundamental es católica. La Identidad Católica es la expresión perfecta y plena de quienes somos. La evangelización es lo que hacemos. Proclamamos la Buena Nueva de Jesús y su Iglesia a un mundo perdido y herido. Y la corresponsabilidad es cómo lo hacemos. En agradecimiento y sacrificio, colocamos nuestros recursos otorgados por Dios al servicio de vivir como evangelizadores católicos en el hogar, el trabajo y en la sociedad.

Estas son mis tres prioridades como su Arzobispo, no porque son de mi propia creación, sino porque son las prioridades de Jesús y la Iglesia que él fundó. Al avanzar estas prioridades, nos apoyamos en los hombros de muchos profetas, santos y mártires que nos han precedido, y aseguramos el continuo crecimiento de la Iglesia Católica en nuestro día y en la vida de las generaciones futuras.

De hecho son las tres prioridades eternas y verdaderas de la Iglesia que Jesús fundó, pero hay que

## DECLARACIÓN DE LA MISIÓN DE LA ARQUIDIÓCESIS DE MILWAUKEE

Proclamar el Evangelio de la muerte salvadora y resurrección de Jesucristo a través del llamamiento, formación y envío de discípulos para ir y hacer nuevos discípulos. Como pueblo, estamos llamados a encontrarnos con Jesús y crecer como discípulos a través de la vida sacramental de la Iglesia.



tener cuidado de no verlas como conceptos abstractos relevantes sólo para nuestra historia institucional, o asumir que son principalmente el trabajo de quienes tienen roles de liderazgo formal de la Iglesia. Las prioridades de la identidad católica, la evangelización y la corresponsabilidad deben ser encarnadas profundamente y personalmente por cada uno de nosotros.

Para explicarlo de otro modo, podemos afirmar que la identidad católica, la evangelización y la corresponsabilidad no son simplemente "marcas", pero en realidad un "estilo de vida" personal activo e integrado. Al fin de cuentas, deben definir nuestra identidad y motivar nuestras vidas. Las tres prioridades son la receta para una vida de santidad. Ellas son las marcas del estilo de vida a la que todos nosotros somos llamados por Jesús - un estilo de vida de "discipulado intencional".

¿Y cómo podemos crecer en este llamado y estilo de vida de discipulado intencional? Como siempre ha sido el caso, esto sólo puede suceder a través de la Iglesia, cuya misión principal es de "hacer discípulos". La Iglesia nos invita a encontrar a Jesús y crecer como discípulos a través de rica su vida sacramental. Como una "escuela de discipulado," ella entonces envía discípulos intencionales para proclamar a Cristo y hacer nuevos discípulos.

Como nos recuerdan el Papa Francisco y sus predecesores, la Iglesia vive "permanentemente en un estado de misión", llamando y formando discípulos intencionales que son enviados a ir y hacer nuevos discípulos (La Alegría del Evangelio, # 25). Esta es la Iglesia cumpliendo con su identidad misionera llamando, formando, y enviando a católicos que evangelizan a través de sus dones otorgados por Dios.