



New Evangelization Ministries

Training *Pastoral Teams* to lead their parishioners into a true relationship with Jesus Christ



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- Are your parishioners *joyfully participating* in Mass?
- Are parents *complaining* of all the regulations they must meet to Confirm their children?
- Do you notice that there is less participation in the Sacraments, parish activities and ministries – especially from younger parishioners?
- Does there seem to be a disconnect between parish life and life at home?

CATHOLICS ARE LOSING THEIR FAITH IN GOD



There is a trend occurring around the country, within Catholic Churches, where Catholics are losing their faith. Those going through traditional methods of religious education are not coming out with a strong belief in Jesus Christ or His Church. Studies show that parents no longer feel comfortable educating their children in the faith. The Fathers of Vatican II saw this trend coming and called for a New Evangelization. John Paul II drew attention to the fact that there are Baptized Catholics who live as if they do not know Christ.

THE GREAT ASSUMPTION WITHIN THE CHURCH

Everything we do within the doors of our churches assumes one critical point: Everyone who participates in the Church has experienced the conversion that occurs when one encounters Jesus in a personal relationship. However, if this initial conversion has not taken place, the catechesis (teachings and instruction) presented makes little sense, only becoming a burdensome list of obligations. John Paul II reminds us that all catechesis must be evangelistic in nature, constantly pointing people to life in Christ: *"Catechesis cannot be dissociated from the Church's pastoral and missionary activity as a whole,"* (*Catechesi Tradendae* 18). Once people come to know Jesus intimately, catechesis will foster growth in that relationship.

If the work of the Church does not penetrate the lives and hearts of individuals and bring Christ into their lived experience, then we are not fulfilling the mission Christ entrusted us with. We must learn how to give Christ away. This cannot be just the subject of books and programs but a shared experience of the life of Christ. We can learn how to lead others into the arms of Christ. Imagine the impact on your parish when your parishioners respond to God out of love instead of obligation!

New Evangelization Ministries' proprietary three-step process will enable Pastoral Teams to effectuate change

Step One – S.W.O.T Evaluation – This is a 3 to 4 day process in which Deacon Ralph visits a parish over the course of the weekend. He will do an evaluation of the parish's **Strengths, Weaknesses, Observations, and Threats** to their evangelization efforts. This evaluation will consist of personal interviews with the pastor, associate priests, parish staff, key laity leaders, and general members of the parish. In addition to the interviews, observations will be made of as many elements of parish life as possible. A parish self-evaluation would be filled out by parishioners prior to Deacon Poyo's arrival. This will enable him to focus in on areas of potential need. Within a week after the evaluation, Deacon Ralph will send the pastor a written report with his findings. Upon review and discussion with the pastor, they will determine when the next step will occur.

Step Two – Strategy P.E.P. Planning Sessions – At a later date, Deacon Poyo will gather with the entire pastoral team for a three-day retreat, allocating one day to personal staff development, one day to the development of a Pastoral Evangelization Plan, and one day to personal prayer, planning, and direction with Deacon Ralph. These days would generally happen on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday in order for Deacon Ralph to begin step 3 and work with the staff and their ministry heads over the weekend.

Step Three – Training Staff and their Ministry Heads - Saturday would be devoted to personal development of volunteers followed by Saturday Vigil Mass. On Sunday, ministry heads would develop an action plan from the strategies devised by the pastoral teams. A key element to this process with the lay leaders is nurturing their own relationship with Christ. Once committed to living in the life of Christ, lay leaders will be faithful to the mission of evangelization.

BE THE SPARK that ignites the conversion of your parish.

Contact Deacon Ralph Poyo to find out how New Evangelization Ministries can serve you and your community.

nem.rev.3.20@gmail.com or 919-332-7907

501c3 Non-Profit Ministry pending

Deacon Ralph Poyo

- B.A. in Scriptures (Taylor University)
- National speaker for youth conferences, retreats, parish missions and men's conferences



Called by God and uniquely prepared after 27 years of experience, Ralph Poyo has launched a ministry dedicated to training parish *Pastoral Teams* to employ the tools and implement the vision required to lead their baptized parishioners into a personal relationship with Christ. Ordained in 2004, Deacon Ralph is faithful to the Teaching Magisterium of the Catholic Church. In him you will find a heart for God that passionately seeks to share the fullness of the Catholic faith.