I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: preach the word, be urgent in season and out of season, convince, rebuke, and exhort, be unfailing in patience and in teaching.

2 Timothy 4:1-2



# **Common Objections**

# "Isn't this kind of public evangelization for priests and other religious?"

No, it's for all of us. The Catechism says, "Lay people also fulfill their prophetic mission by evangelization, 'that is, the proclamation of Christ by word and the testimony of life.' For lay people, 'this evangelization ... acquires a specific property and peculiar efficacy because it is accomplished in the ordinary circumstances of the world" (CCC 905).

#### "I don't have the charism of evangelization"

Baptism & Confirmation gives us all the grace we need in order to begin to share our faith with others. Check out what the Catechism says about the sacrament of Confirmation: "Confirmation gives us a special strength of the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the faith by word and action as true witnesses of Christ, to confess the name of Christ boldly, and never to be ashamed of the Cross" (CCC 1303).

"I don't know my faith well enough to share it with others" You don't need to be a master theologian or an expert apologist to be an evangelist. All you need is a love for the Lord, and to know the basics of our faith. We can teach you everything you need to know in order to start evangelizing. Plus we have pamphlets to give away—they do a great job of explaining our Catholic faith!

#### "I don't want to judge or condemn people"

We don't want you to do that either. We have non-confrontational one-on-one conversations with people we meet out on the street. We break the ice with people by offering them a free sacramental, and then employ our four-step evangelization method: *Listen, Befriend, Proclaim, & Invite*.

#### "It's too intimidating"

We understand, it can be scary at first. But remember what Jesus said: "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me" (Matthew 16:24). Love isn't easy; it requires sacrifice. Jesus went to the cross for us—the least we can do is go out to the streets for Him. The good thing is that the more you evangelize, the easier it becomes. And for your efforts, God will bless you and others through you!

#### **Endorsements**

"I am very happy to have the occasion to express my deepest esteem for St. Paul Street Evangelization. I give my whole-hearted support to the work and I pray for it daily that it will continue and grow for the sake of the salvation of many souls." - His Eminence Raymond Leo Cardinal Burke

"Street evangelism is as old as the gospel itself. The Apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ were the first street preachers announcing the good news of salvation and the Church in the streets of the Roman Empire. The faithful Catholics who make up St. Paul Street Evangelization live up to their name. Support them, follow them, join them!"

- Steve Ray

Thank you for prayerfully considering joining an evangelization team. God Bless you and your loved ones!

Bible verses are from the Revised Standard Version-Catholic Edition (RSVCE)





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# Join My Team!



"Announcing the Gospel is the first and greatest act of charity."

– St. Arnold Janssen



Jesus sent his disciples out two by two and said, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few" (Luke 10)

"The Catholic Church exists to evangelize" (Evangelii Nuntiandi)

"The disciple of Christ must not only keep the faith and live on it, but also profess it, confidently bear witness to it, and spread it. Service of and witness to the faith are necessary for salvation" (CCC 1816)



#### Invitation

Dear Faithful Catholic, you've likely been given this pamphlet by a St. Paul Street Evangelization (SPSE) team leader who is interested in having you join their team. Thank you for being a great witness of our Catholic faith!

In a recent study, Christians of different denominations were asked how important evangelization was to their faith. 60% of Mainline Protestants and 85% of Evangelical Christians answered 'very important', but only 3% of Catholics said that evangelization was 'very important'. This is a tragedy! How is it that we, who have the fullness of the Christian faith, are the least likely to share it?

The fact of the matter is that all Catholics, by virtue of their baptism, are called to evangelize. At SPSE, we believe that our lack of holiness and evangelization has largely contributed to the decimation of our Church:

- 41% of those raised Catholic leave the Church permanently
- 69% of Catholics do not believe in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist
- For every 1 person that joins the Church, 6 people leave

And not only is our Church being devastated, the world is too. Did you know that no grace comes into the world from Jesus Christ except by means of the Catholic Church? This is because

the Lord chooses to associate His body, the Church, with all of His redeeming work. We shouldn't be surprised then, by all the chaos and lack of love we see in the world today.

## **The Big Problem**

All the problems we face in the world today (abortion, war, violence, sexual immorality, etc) are symptoms of a bigger problem. The BIG problem is that we live in a world where people have either turned their back on Jesus Christ or have never been introduced to Him. It is important to realize the effect Original Sin had on the human race. We all come into the world with a darkened understanding of reality, and we're drawn to sin. Without the grace of God we're selfish, prideful, greedy, and lustful. We gossip, we're quick to judge, slow to forgive, and we don't love our neighbor like we should.

#### The Solution

Jesus is the only one who can save us from sin and death. But people have to know about Him in order to be saved by Him. Consider the words of St. Paul:

For, "everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved." But how are men to call upon him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without a preacher? And how can men preach unless they are sent? So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes by the preaching of Christ. (Romans 10:13-15, 17)

This is why every Catholic must evangelize. In fact, our own salvation depends on it. This makes perfect sense if you think about it. How can we go to a place of perfect love if we don't love our neighbor enough to tell them about the only person that can save them? This is why you should consider joining St. Paul Street Evangelization.

Jesus said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age."

Matthew 28:18-20

# **About St. Paul Street Evangelization**

**S**t. Paul Street Evangelization (SPSE) is a grassroots, non-profit organization, dedicated to responding to the mandate of Jesus to preach the Gospel to all nations

by taking the Catholic Faith to the streets. Our mission is to work with God for the salvation of souls through the proclamation of the Gospel in the public square. In order to accomplish this we train, equip, and mobilize Catholic disciples for the urgent work of evangelization.

#### **Our Method**

Armed with sacramentals and pamphlets, SPSE teams take to the streets, going wherever there's plenty of foot traffic such as street corners, farmers markets, and festivals. Our teams begin in prayer, and unlike some other forms of street evangelization, we employ a non-confrontational approach: Listen, Befriend, Proclaim, & Invite.

#### **Joining a Team**

There are many ways to get involved with a St. Paul Street Evangelization team. Roles include:

- Evangelist: Someone who evangelizes on team outings
- Station Leader: Someone willing to bring and set up supplies on an outing, especially when the team leader is unavailable
- Webpage Manager: Someone willing to manage team members, schedule outings, and share stories on the team's webpage
- Prayer Warrior: Someone who prays for the team and those they evangelize
- Spiritual Advisor: Someone who provides spiritual guidance for the team; if this person is a priest they can also hear confessions on an outing



### **Training**

We offer multiple evangelization training opportunities:

- Attend an in-person Basic Evangelization Training
- Attend a live Virtual Street Evangelization Workshop
- Complete our six-course Introduction to Evangelization video series, and other courses, in our online school