



CHURCH OF THE Holy Cross

631 SOUTH STATE STREET
DOVER, DE 19901

WWW.HOLYCROSSNET.ORG
MARCH 7, 2010

Mass Schedule

Weekdays:

6:30 & 8:00 AM

Saturday:

8:00 AM and 5:00 & 7:00 PM

1st Saturday 5:00 PM – Children’s Mass

1st & 5th Saturday 7:00 PM - Gospel Mass

Sunday:

7:30, 9:15, & 11:00 AM and 1:00 & 6:00 PM

9:15 – Children’s Liturgy of the Word

1:00 – Spanish Mass

6:00 – Youth Mass

3rd Sunday 3:00 PM – Latin Mass

Holy Days:

Times will be announced.

Hospital Visitation

If a member of the family is in the hospital and would like to be visited, please call the Parish office.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:00-4:45 & 6:30-6:55 PM

Thursday before First Friday: 8:30 – 9:00 AM

First Friday: 8:00 PM - October through June

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Call the Parish Office to register and to arrange for parents’ pre-Baptismal instruction. Baptisms are not celebrated during Lenten Season.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Arrangements for Marriage must be made one year in advance by contacting a Parish priest to set the wedding date and to plan for pre-Cana instruction.

Holy Orders and Religious Life

If you believe you have, or someone you know has, a vocation to the priesthood or religious life, please contact Fr. Cocucci (302) 573-3113.

Third Sunday of Lent

Repentance is changing one’s mind, letting go of the narrowness of our own perception of how life should be and embracing the expansiveness of God’s plan for salvation. Repentance, in terms of changing one’s mind, is really the same as conversion. The dying to self of repentance and coming to new life through God’s gracious mercy characterize our Christian living, and make real and concrete our baptismal commitment. If we wish to bear fruit we must die to ourselves. Here is an interesting paradox: if we don’t bear fruit, we die, but we must die to bear fruit. The choice before us is about dying a: meaningless dying (selfishness) or fruitful dying (to self for the sake of others).

The gospel parable says for “three years” the owner of the fig tree had been waiting for good fruit. God waits more than three years for us to bear fruit—god waits each and every day of our lives for us to bear fruit. The good news is that God never gives up on us. God continually cultivates and fertilizes—especially by the ongoing proclamation of God’s word and the invitation to god’s table. All we need to do is respond by dying to self. God does bring forth new life in us. Living Liturgy 2010

STAFF CONTACTS

674-5787

PARISH OFFICES

Msgr. Daniel McGlynn, Pastor 12
Fr. Carlos Ochoa, Associate 14
Fr. John Gabage, Associate 15
Mr. Bob McMullen, Deacon 10
Mr. Pete Nellius, Deacon 36
Mr. Phil Belt, Deacon 10
Mr. Vince Pisano, Deacon 10
Mrs. Diane Belt, Asst. to the Pastor 13
Ms. Elaine Cramer, Tech. Coord. 16
Mrs. Arline Dosman, Hispanic Min. 18
Mrs. Diane Dellinger, Min. of Caring 17
Mr. Ken Trojan, Business Manager 19
Mr. Jim Callaway, Facilities Manager 13

EXT.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Mrs. Denise Jacono, Principal 34
Mrs. Haydee Rosario, Asst. Principal 24
Mrs. Michelle Mick, Office Manager 11

EXT.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Mrs. Carmella Jones, Little Church thru Gr. 6 22
Mrs. Tracie Reinhart, Jr. High thru Life Teen 23
Mrs. Marcia Messina, Office Manager 21

EXT.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Mr. Michael Perza, Director 698-9302

“THE CROSS...TO RECONCILE All with God!”

Ephesians 2:16

Third Week of Lent—The Vineyard Third Stop on our Lenten Pilgrimage

Using the beauty of the vineyard Jesus shared a profound paradox in the parable of the fig tree in the vineyard. If we wish to bear fruit we must die to ourselves. The choice before us every Lent is about dying: fruitful dying to self for the sake of others. The challenge is to live each day in such a way that we will have no fear before God who is ever patient, ever helping, is to die to self, to bear life giving fruit for others. This is how Jesus bore fruit and how we will as well.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

My DEAR PARISHIONERS,



On this Third Sunday of Lent, our Lenten pilgrimage takes us to the Vineyard. The vineyard was a favorite image of Jesus as he taught us about life, fruitfulness, and relationships: unless the seed dies . . . , I am the vine you are the branches . . . , by your fruits they shall know you In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks of the fig tree that couldn't produce fruit. He speaks of the individual care and patience God has toward it, giving it one more chance to be fully what it is called to be.

God extends this same individual care and patience to each of us. This season of Lent is God's gift to us so that we might become more and more the people he calls each of us to be. How caring and patient are we with ourselves? With members of our family? With members of our parish? With those with whom we work or minister?

On the Third Sunday of Lent, the Church throughout the world enters an intense, three-week period of scrutiny for the elect, i.e., those who are preparing for the Easter sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. With our elect, we will celebrate the three scrutiny rites at the 11:00 AM Masses the next three weekends.

The scrutiny rites uncover whatever keeps us from Christ and reveal the saving power and presence of God through Jesus Christ to all the faithful as well as the elect.

Hopefully, the celebration of the scrutinizes and the witness of those in our midst who seek to enter the Catholic Church through our RCIA process will lead us to identify and let go of all that may keep us from Christ and lead us to a deeper understanding of and appreciation for our Baptismal status as adopted daughters and sons of God.

Msgr. Dan

FROM THE PARISH OFFICE

CONGRATULATIONS MONSIGNOR DAN!!

WE ARE BLESSED
AND SO HAPPY
TO HAVE YOU AS OUR PASTOR

May God CONTINUE to bless you
AND THE WONDERFUL WORK YOU DO IN HIS NAME.

TABERNACLE SANCTUARY LAMPS

The lamp in the Church is sponsored this week in memory of Michael DeNigris.

The lamp in the Adoration Chapel is sponsored this week for the Living Intention of Patrick and Sarah.



LENTE OPPORTUNITIES

Start with a great fish dinner at 4:30 to 7 pm in the cafeteria, Fr. Richard Smith will talk at 6 pm in the Auditorium, Station at 7 pm in the Church.

FOOD FESTIVAL MEETING

March 11 at 6:30 pm in the Early Learning Center— all are invited to learn about this year's plans and to help.

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

Thanks to Edén Hill Surgical Group,
General, Vascular & Thoracic Surgery
for advertising in our bulletin.

If you would like to advertise in the bulletin, please contact Diocesan Publications by calling (800) 233-8200 and ask for the Sales Department.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

CCD INFORMATION

ABIDING IN JESUS

In the Gathering Space are displayed pictures of the children who will be celebrating First Communion this spring. It has become a tradition at Holy Cross to have parishioners pray for the individual children at Mass and sign their names by their picture. Please take the time to pray for our children who will be coming to the Table of the Lord for the first time this spring. Pray in your heart and then sign your name by their picture on the frame. On First Communion Day the children will take their picture frame home with all the many signatures as a remembrance of their parish's prayers and support.

FIRST COMMUNION PARENT MEETING

There will be a meeting for parents only of children in Grade 2/Level 2 CCD and Holy Cross Elementary School who are preparing for the Sacrament of First Communion here at Holy Cross this spring. It will take place on Tuesday, March 9 at 12 noon and 6:30 pm on the second floor of the Early Learning Center. Please plan to attend one of these important meetings. You will sign up for the First Communion celebration that your child will attend.

YOUTH NEWS

- March 27, Take Up Your Cross Pilgrimage- Join hundreds of teens as we commemorate Jesus' walk into Jerusalem. We will travel to several churches throughout Wilmington stopping for lunch, adoration, Mass, dinner and a concert. Don't miss this awesome event. This event is open to teens in grade 6th-12th as well as young adults. Registration form are located on the parish website or by calling Tracie Reinhart at 674-5784 ext 23. Cost is \$30.00 and includes bus, dinner, and concert. Deadline for registration is March 10.
- Are you interested in becoming a lector for the 6pm Youth Mass. If so contact Tracie Reinhart at 674-5784 ext 23. We are also in need of singers and a drummer.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

OPERATION "T.H.E.R.E."

(THE HAITI EARTHQUAKE RELIEF EFFORT)

Any items brought this weekend for Operation T.H.E.R.E can be left in the boxes in the Gathering Space today, March 7. We appreciate your generosity to this needy cause.

SAMARITANS

The food pantry is in need of many hams. If you can donate one, please place it in the freezer on the side porch of the Rectory. Thank you for your generosity.

PRISON MINISTRY

Our Prison Ministry is in need of the following items to help service the men who have been released and are returning to society. Thank you in advance for any items that you can donate:: Shaving cream, razors, cologne/aftershave, deodorant

Donated Items can be left in the Samaritan box in the Gathering Space. Please be sure to mark the items for the Prison Ministry. Your help truly helps these individuals as they begin their lives again.

PARISH/FAMILY LIFE

Book of Kells

All are invited to a presentation on the "Book of Kells" on March 8 at 7 pm in the Early Learning Center, when Col. Dick Noble, USAF (Ret.) will give a narrated slide show presentation of the pages in this beautifully ornate and illuminated manuscript. He will have with him, in addition to the slide show, a facsimile of the original now at Trinity College, in Dublin, Ireland. The original, under glass, displays only two pages per visit, while the facsimile may be viewed entirely. Col. Noble was here at Holy Cross in 2008 and it was standing room only for his presentation. Co. Noble also teaches about Irish history. He is a very interesting lecturer. We really hope you will join us to share in this unique example of our Christian Heritage. RSVP 736-2725 Aggie & Joe Danner.

AUTOMATED OFFERTORY GIVING

Recently, we have introduced a new and exciting way for you to support our parish offertory and second collections: **Faith Direct**. With **Faith Direct**, you can make regular automatic contributions to Holy Cross using your credit/debit card or bank account, the same process that you may use to pay utility bills or make car payments.

Making your donations automatically means relief from the hassle of locating your offertory envelopes as you run out the door on Sunday morning, and guarantees that the church will receive your gifts even if you are unable to attend Mass. There is no fee to you, the parishioner, associated with the use of the **Faith Direct** program. Automatic contributions greatly benefit Holy Cross by providing a predictable cash flow as well as decreasing the time and money the church expends dealing with the envelope system. **Faith Direct** will provide you with personalized offertory cards that you may place in the basket, and a year end tax statement.

We find **Faith Direct** a "win-win" for both parishioners and our parish. Please enroll in this program by picking up an enrollment form from the church office, or by visiting www.faithdirect.net to enroll securely on line. Our parish code is DE251.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Parish Office for more information.

IMPORTANT NOTICE CONCERNING DIOCESAN BANKRUPTCY AVISO IMPOTRANTE ACERCA DE LA BANCA ROTA DE LA DIOCESIS

In re: Catholic Diocese of Wilmington, Inc.;
Case No. 09-13560

YOU MAY HAVE A CLAIM AGAINST
THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF WILMINGTON, INC.

On October 18, 2009, the Catholic Diocese of Wilmington, Inc. (the "Debtor") filed for protection under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code") in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the "Bankruptcy Court").

THE LAST DAY TO FILE AN ABUSE CLAIM
AGAINST THE DEBTOR IS APRIL 15, 2010
AT 4:00 P.M. (PREVAILING EASTERN TIME).
IF YOU WERE ABUSED BY ANY MEMBER OF THE CLERGY
OR ANY OTHER PERSON CONNECTED WITH THE
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF WILMINGTON, INC. YOU MUST
FILE A CLAIM BY APRIL 15, 2010 AT 4:00 P.M. (PREVAILING
EASTERN TIME).

For more information, including a complete list of all parishes and schools within the geographic territory of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Wilmington, or to receive a proof of claim form and associated documents, please (1) visit the Debtor's website at <http://www.cdow.org>; (2) visit the Claims Agent's designated website at <http://www.cdowreorganization.com>; (3) call the Claims Agent at (800) 761-6220, (4) write to The Garden City Group, Inc., Attn: CDOW Bankruptcy Administration, P.O. Box 9561, Dublin, Ohio 43017-4861; or (5) call the official committee of unsecured creditors appointed in this case at (888) 570-6269.

Holy Cross School

Bling & Blue Jean Gala

Mark your calendars now for the Holy Cross School Inaugural Bling & Blue Jean Gala—A Celebration of the Past, Present & Future, to be held from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. on Friday, April 23, 2010, at Holy Cross School. The event will be held in the Gymnasium. Event proceeds will benefit the modernization of the school's science lab facilities and enhancement of the science curriculum for all grade levels.

Entertainment from Delaware's own Love Seed Mama Jump, savory hors d'oeuvres from Dover's finest restaurants and unique libations, created especially for the evening at the open bar, will make the event memorable.

Tickets for the Gala cost \$65 in advance and \$75 at the door. If you would like more information or to purchase tickets, please call the school office at 674-5787 extension 32.

CYM Sports

Spring Volleyball

We are in need of interested persons to organize our Spring Co-ed Volleyball Program for grades 3 through high school. If you are interested, please contact Jim Clougherty by calling 284-3683.

Asunto: Catholic Diocese of Wilmington, Inc.;
(Diócesis Católica de Wilmington, Inc.)

Caso No. 09-13560

ES POSIBLE QUE UD TENGA DERECHO A INICIAR UNA
DEMANDA EN CONTRA DE LA DIÓCESIS CATÓLICA DE
WILMINGTON (CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF WILMINGTON,
INC.)

El 18 de octubre del 2009, la Diócesis Católica de Wilmington, (Catholic Diocese of Wilmington, Inc.) (el "Deudor") presentó una petición de protección conforme al capítulo 11 del título 11 del Código de los Estados Unidos (el "Código de Quiebras") en el Tribunal de Quiebras de los Estados Unidos (United States Bankruptcy Court) del Distrito de Delaware (el "Tribunal de Quiebras").

EL ÚLTIMO DÍA PARA PRESENTAR UNA DEMANDA POR
ABUSO EN CONTRA DEL DEUDOR ES EL 15 DE ABRIL DEL
2010

A LAS 4:00 DE LA TARDE (HORARIO IMPERANTE DEL ESTE).
SI UD FUE ABUSADO POR CUALQUIER MIEMBRO DEL
CLERO O POR CUALQUIERA OTRA PERSONA
CONECTADA CON LA DIÓCESIS CATÓLICA DE
WILMINGTON, DEBE PRESENTAR UNA DEMANDA PARA EL
15 DE ABRIL DEL 2010 A LAS 4:00 DE LA TARDE (HORARIO
IMPERANTE DEL ESTE).

Para recibir información adicional, incluyendo una lista completa de todas las parroquias y escuelas dentro del territorio geográfico de la Diócesis Católica Romana de Wilmington, o para recibir un formulario de prueba de demanda y documentos asociados, por favor (1) visite el sitio web del Deudor en: <http://www.cdow.org>; (2) visite el sitio web designado al Agente de Demandas en: <http://www.cdowreorganization.com>; (3) llame al Agente de Demandas al: (800) 761-6220, (4) escriba a: The Garden City Group, Inc., Attn: CDOW Bankruptcy Administration, P.O. Box 9561, Dublin, Ohio 43017-4861; o (5) llame al comité oficial de acreedores sin garantía, nombrado en este caso al: (888) 570-6269. DB02:9189554.1 068902.1001

COMMUNITY NEWS

- St. Thomas More Prep will have Team Trivia Saturday March 20, 2010 from 6:30pm -11:00 pm. Teams of 8 players compete in 10 rounds of trivia. This is for both trivia nuts and novices with prizes and fun for all! Bring your food/snacks for the evening. The cost is \$15.00 per person or \$120.00 per team. Proceeds go to St. Thomas More. Beer and wine are available. You must be 21 or older to play. Please call the school office at 302 697 8100 extension 1 with your team registration by March 18. The registration form is available on the school web page at WWW.saintmore.org
- The Heavenwards Book Club is now reading the classic, Mere Christianity, by C. S. Lewis. We will meet to discuss it Thursday, March 18th at 7:00 PM, in the St. Luke's room of the ELC. We hope you can join us! For more information, you can contact Lisa Smith by calling 653-1350, or e-mail heavenwardsbookclub@gmail.com.
- Fired Oysters, Chicken and Dumpling Dinner at Immaculate Conception in Marydel, MD on Saturday, March 13 3 to 7 pm, or until sold out. Take outs available.

MASS INTENTIONS

We invite the family members of those for whom each Mass is being offered to bring the offertory gifts to the altar. Please make yourselves known to the ushers before Mass.

Monday, March 8 2010

6:30 am John McGlynn
8:00 am Eleanor Macciantonio
12:10 pm Thomas Smudd

Tuesday, March 9, 2010

6:30 am Mildred and Leo Scanlon
8:00 am Don Banschbach
12:10 pm Hank Bierbaum

Wednesday, March 10, 2010

6:30 am Robert E. DelCollo
8:00 am Edward Rezac
12:10 pm Deceased Members of the Perchin Family

Thursday, March 11, 2010

6:30 am Richard H. Fox
8:00 am Margaret Weis
12:10 pm Angelina McNamee

Friday, March 12, 2010

6:30 am Helen Bajor
8:00 am Daniel Withrow
12:10 pm Peg Weis

Saturday, March 13, 2010

8:00 am Christopher Lavelle
5:00 pm Michael Dawson
7:00 pm For the People

Sunday, March 14, 2010

7:30 am Hans Crews
9:15 am Edward Carroll
11:00 am Maria Giovanna Rinaldi
1:00 pm Esther Rodas
6:00 pm Peg Weis

LITURGY

Readings for Next Sunday

MARCH 14, 2010 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

FIRST READING: JOSHUA 5:9-12

The Israelites finally reach the promised land of Canaan where they settle. There they celebrate Passover. God stops providing manna once the Israelites grow their own produce.

SECOND READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17-21

Those who live in Christ live in a new creation where God has reconciled himself to his people through Christ. We are Christ's ambassadors and we are to encourage others to be reconciled through him.

Gospel: LUKE 15: 1-3, 11-32

Jesus sits with tax collectors and sinners. The Pharisees watch and complain, so Jesus tells the parable of the prodigal son to all his listeners.

COMMUNITY FUN NIGHT AT BOB EVANS

DON'T FORGET TO STOP BY BOB EVANS FOR COMMUNITY FUN NIGHT SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 11, FROM 8 AM TO 8 PM. Holy Cross will EARN 15% OF SALES WHEN YOU PRESENT THE COUPON INSERTED IN THIS WEEK'S BULLETIN

Ministry Schedule

WEEKEND OF MARCH 13/14, 2010

Day	Mass	MINISTERS of Holy COMMUNION	LECTORS	ALTAR SERVERS
Saturday	5:00 PM	M. Casey K. Coiyle T. Dupuis F. Ernst V. Ernst B. Gerrity M. Hitch P. Mabrey D. MacLeish S. McMullen T. Staniszewski	D. Dixon M. Finch	M. Ryan A. Ryan S. Jackewicz
	7:00 PM	J. Hunter A. Hunter R. Coppadge C. Helwig J. Killman	J. Benzin P. Lints	A. Cummings C. Cummings R. Gannon
Sunday	7:30 AM	W. Farley E. Henderson C. Jensen A. Mackey J. Miracle N. Noble P. Quinn	D. Quinn F. Spartz	P. Matsko M. Gallo E. Boyles
	9:15 AM	A. Hlafka C. Jones K. Kelly M. MacLeish M. Malloy V. McKoy V. Pepper J. Reynolds A. Siegel M. Sossich M. Wessel	D. Harvey C. MacPherson	P. Torres L. Borer G. Borer
	11:00 AM	S. Winfrey L. Pitts C. Pitts L. Delgado S. Eberhardt J. Goldhammer D. Gorgoretti P. Hermance P. Keller P. McCall B. Maugle	B. Hartnett W. Hermance	A. Anderson C. Nwogbaga I. Nwogbaga
	6:00 PM	J. Benford-Pyles M. Cimo R. Comollo T. Daddio D. Darling L. Darling L. Delgado J. Echeverri J. Echeverri S. Fowler M. Frebert	Teens Assigned from Youth Group	A. Robinson A. Rossi A. Stang

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION:

God is looking for you to spend an hour with Him

Monday: 2 am, 3 am

Tuesday: 1 am, 3 am, 4 am

Wed: 3 am, 4 am

Saturday: 4 am, 11 pm

Contact JoAnn Pate by calling 674-4496 if you could spare even one hour to spend with Jesus.



MAKING THE NEW EVANGELIZATION MORE THAN A NICE IDEA

SAN ANTONIO ARCHBISHOP CALLS OUT TO LAITY
 SAN ANTONIO, Texas, FEB. 15, 2010 (Zenit.org).- For the new evangelization to become a reality, laypeople have to step up.

This is the affirmation made by Archbishop José Gomez of San Antonio in a pastoral letter released today, the fifth anniversary of his installation as archbishop.

"The proclamation of Christ is not an option or an obligation reserved for bishops, priests, deacons and religious. It is the duty of every believer," the archbishop wrote. He asserted evangelization begins "in the heart that has been evangelized, the heart that has heard the Good News and been converted."

"We cannot be silent about what we have seen and heard and felt," the 58-year-old archbishop declared. "We cannot help but to proclaim and testify to the great difference that Jesus Christ has made in our lives."

Evangelization is a duty, the Texas prelate affirmed, but it is a "duty of delight, a duty we carry out with joy and thanksgiving."

"We want the world, beginning with those nearest to us, to share in what we have been given -- the free gift of God's grace and the joy that comes with knowing the truth that sets us free," he said.

The duty to proclaim Christ falls upon every member of the Church, he recalled. But, he said, today's pastoral letter is addressed particularly to the laity.

"I want to speak especially to you who live out your faith in the midst of the world and all its secular affairs," he wrote. "As the Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches, lay people are given the 'duty ... to work so that the divine message of salvation may be known and accepted by all men throughout the earth. This duty is all the more pressing when it is only through them that men can hear the Gospel and know Christ.'"

Archbishop Gomez noted how laypeople have been fundamental for the process of evangelization since the very beginning of the Church. "The primary apostolate of lay people, since the early Church, has always been to spread and defend the faith among their families and neighbors and to bring the teachings of Christ to bear on the issues facing their communities," he said.

And lay believers have a "priestly soul," with a primary mission in the world, "not inside the sanctuary of the church or inside a Church office."

"Your first duty," he stated, "remains to heed the commission every one of us receives at the end of every Mass -- to go out into the world to love and serve our Lord.

"Nourished by the gift of his Body and Blood, you are called to bear witness to this gift by making your lives a form of worship to God. Your evangelization must always be profoundly ecclesial

and intensely Eucharistic. You are calling people to Christ and to his Church -- and to the heart of the Church, which is the Eucharist."

Archbishop Gomez urged the faithful to have a renewed awareness of their priestly souls and to "seek to serve God and your brothers and sisters every day, through all that you do and say, through the way that you live your life."

"People respond more to example than to 'teaching,'" he acknowledged. "Testify to your faith through your daily habits and actions. You will find that your witness to the Christian life will be attractive to others and will afford you regular chances to talk about the 'source' of your happiness in Jesus Christ and your Catholic faith." The San Antonio archbishop said that he is particularly concerned about two groups in the Church: Hispanics and fallen-away Catholics.

"Our Hispanic brothers and sisters are in danger of drifting from the Catholic faith to other religions or to no religion at all," the Mexico native cautioned.

"There are many complicated reasons for this situation," the prelate proposed. "It is very difficult under any circumstances to begin a new life in a foreign country. It is even harder for Hispanics, who often come here in poverty and under great personal stress and facing other pressures. More often than not, they experience discrimination and misunderstanding as they try to assimilate into American society. It is not easy for them to 'fit in' to our parishes, and their lack of faith formation can make it difficult for them to distinguish between the Catholic Church and other ecclesial communities that aggressively try to reach out to them.

"To my mind, however, the deepest problem we face is the 'secularization' that I talked about earlier. The tendency under secularism is to reduce religious identity to a kind of 'cultural Catholicism.'"

And for those who have left the Catholic Church, Archbishop Gomez recommended an active approach.

"Let us talk to our brothers and sisters about what is keeping them from the Church," he said. "Let us talk to them of Christ's living presence in his Church and in his sacraments. The happiness we all seek is found only in communion with Christ in his Church. Let us then issue a compassionate call for our lapsed Catholic brethren to return to the sacrament of penance and reconciliation and welcome them back to the Eucharistic table."

The prelate asserted that lay evangelizers must "be convinced of the truth that the Apostles knew, that everyone in some way is searching for Christ."

"People used to seek out the Apostles and say to them: 'We wish to see Jesus,'" he reflected. "The men and women of today still want to see Jesus. You are the disciples they will come to with their questions and doubts, interests and needs. You are the ones who must lead them to our Lord."