

Evangelization Documents

- (Evangelii Nuntiandi) [On Evangelization in the Modern World - Pope Paul VI](#) (December 8, 1975)

In this apostolic exhortation, Pope Paul VI states that evangelizing all peoples constitutes the essential mission of the church...(it) is in fact the grace and vocation proper to the Church, her deepest identity...She exists in order to evangelize. (#14) Many consider this document to be the magna carta for evangelization in our day. It expresses an authentic, comprehensive vision of Catholic evangelization.

- (Redemptoris Missio) [The Mission of the Redeemer - On the Permanent Validity of the Church's Missionary Mandate](#) (December 7, 1990)

This encyclical represents Pope John Paul II's own appropriation of *On Evangelization in the Modern World* with its preference for the word missionary and its emphasis on the importance of restoring mission ad gentes (to the nations). Pope John Paul strongly asserts the centrality of mission to the life of the Church both at the communal and individual level. Mission needs to be restored to its central place in the life of the Church.

- [Go and Make Disciples: A National Plan and Strategy for Catholic Evangelization in the United States](#) (November 18, 1992)

The first part of the document is a summary vision statement of Catholic evangelization. The bishops add an emphasis on the importance of believing in one's own faith experience, developing one's faith story, and sharing that story with others. They fashion three comprehensive goals, which embody the entire vision of Catholic evangelization. Suggested objectives are given for each of the three goals to assist in their implementation.

- (Ecclesia in America) [The Church in America - Pope John Paul II On the Encounter with the Living Jesus Christ: The way to conversion, communion and solidarity in America](#) (January 22, 1999)

This apostolic constitution confirms the centrality of the new evangelization in the overall agenda of the Church as she moves into the new millennium. The document represents a major restatement of the evangelizing mission in the church in America and contains several practical formulations that will be very helpful in carrying it out.

- [Toward a Pastoral Approach to Culture, Pontifical Council for Culture](#) (May 23, 1999)

The Pontifical Council for Culture shares some convictions and practical suggestions to help parishes face the challenges "of our times (which) are both momentous and fascinating" (RM, #38) This document offers some new guidelines for the conversation between faith and culture, and offers some concrete proposals as to how to inject the lifeblood of the Gospel into cultures to renew from within.