

**HOPE**  
IN THE FUTURE

# Mission & Evangelisation:

A Day of Study, Reflection, and Prayer  
with Fr Gerard Kelly  
& John Griffin

Stay with us, Lord, on our journey.

Come, now is the time  
to worship,  
Come, now is the time  
to give your heart  
Come, just as you are to worship,  
Come, just as you are before your God,  
Come!



One day every tongue  
will confess You are God;  
One day every knee will bow.  
Still the greatest treasure  
remains for those  
who gladly choose You now.



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*Antiphon: How great is your name, Lord, through all the earth!*

Women:           How great is your name, O Lord our God,  
                          through all the earth!

**Men:   Your majesty is praised above the heavens;  
          on the lips of children and of babes  
          you have found praise to foil your enemy,  
          to silence the foe and the rebel.**

Women:           When I see the heavens, the work of your hands,  
                          the moon and the stars which you arranged,  
                          what is man that you should keep him in mind,  
                          mortal man that you care for him?

**Men:   Yet you have made him little less than a god;  
          with glory and honour you crowned him,  
          gave him power over the works of your hand,  
          put all things under his feet.**

Women: All of them, sheep and cattle,  
yes, even the savage beasts,  
birds of the air, and fish  
that make their way through the waters.

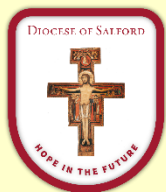
**Men: How great is your name, O Lord our God,  
through all the earth!**

Women: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit.

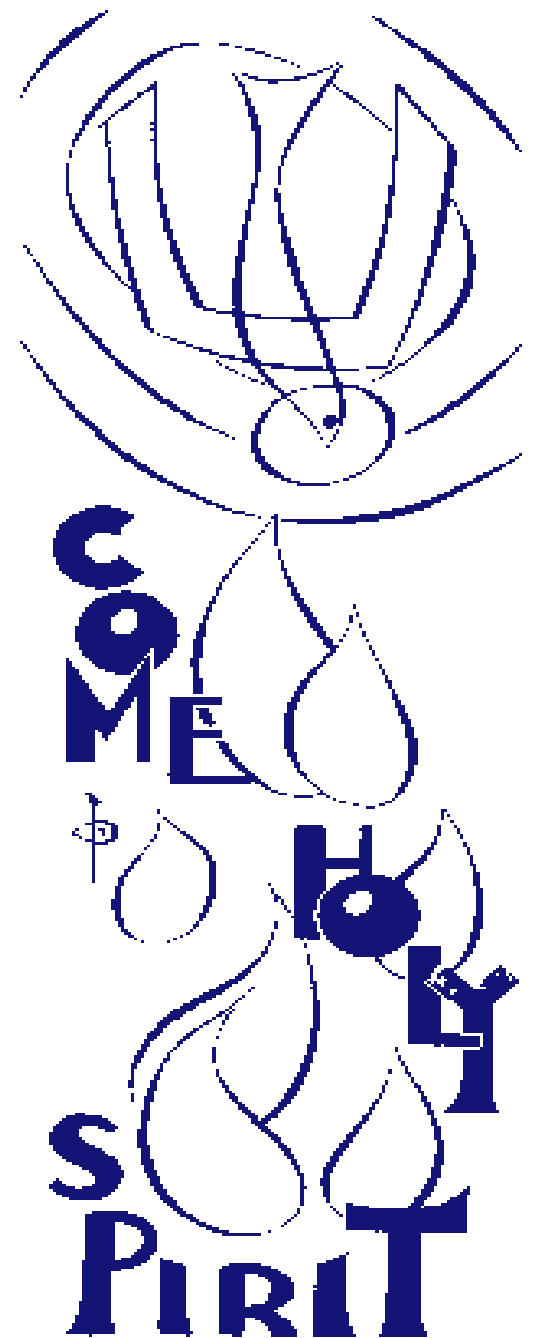
**Men: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. AMEN**

*Antiphon: How great is your name, Lord, through all the earth!*

Come, Lord Jesus,  
Come, Lord Jesus,  
Pour out your Spirit we pray;  
Come, Lord Jesus,  
Come, Lord Jesus,  
Pour out your Spirit on us today.



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# Hope in the Future Prayer

God, our loving Father, we thank you for blessing our parishes with all that we need to respond to our vocation to be missionary communities in our localities.

We thank you for all our parish members who, in response to your call, give of themselves so freely to enrich our parishes in the ways of love and service.

We ask you now to pour out afresh the gifts of your Spirit upon each one of us, that we may be inspired to serve you in new and creative ways—

as **missionary disciples** bringing your Light to the world.



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We ask your blessing upon us, as we journey together in hope, through Christ our Lord. AMEN.

# A Missionary Parish:

- We are a family (community)
- We are a people of prayer
- We are servants
- We are messengers

What **a treasure** there is in the guidelines offered to us by the **Second Vatican Council!** ...With the passing of the years, the Council documents have lost nothing of their **brilliance...**

they need to be read correctly, to be widely known and taken to heart as important and normative texts of the Magisterium, within the Church's Tradition...

**the great grace** bestowed on the Church in the twentieth century ...there we find a **sure compass** by which to take our bearings in the century now beginning.

Pope Saint John Paul II, *Novo Millennio Ineunte*, 57, (2001).  
(quoted by Benedict XVI in *Porta Fidei*, 2011)



# Aims of the Second Vatican Council

From the introduction to *Sacrosanctum Concilium* (para. 1)

This sacred Council has several aims in view:

- it desires to impart an ever increasing vigour to the Christian life of the faithful; **RENEWAL**
- to adapt more suitably to the needs of our own times those institutions which are subject to change; **AGGIORNAMENTO**
- to foster whatever can promote union among all who believe in Christ; **ECUMENISM**
- to strengthen whatever can help to call the whole of mankind into the household of the Church. **EVANGELISATION**

# *Evangelii Nuntiandi*

*(Ee-van-jelly-ee Nunce-iandi)*

... on this **tenth anniversary** of the closing of the Second Vatican Council, the objectives of which are definitively summed up in this single one: to make the Church of the twentieth century **ever better fitted for proclaiming the Gospel** to the people of the twentieth century.

Pope Paul VI, *Evangelii Nuntiandi*, 1975 ( 2).

“... the Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Nuntiandi* – for me the greatest pastoral document that has been written up to today.”

Pope Francis's Address on 50th Anniversary of  
Pope Paul VI's Election.

# *Evangelii Nuntiandi*

Pope Paul VI, 1975

“We wish to confirm once more that the task of evangelising all people constitutes the **essential mission** of the Church.” It is a task and mission which the vast and profound changes of present-day society make all the more urgent. Evangelising is in fact the grace and vocation proper to the Church, **her deepest identity**. She exists in order to evangelise,...*EN* 14

## Luke 4:16-30: The Manifesto of Christ

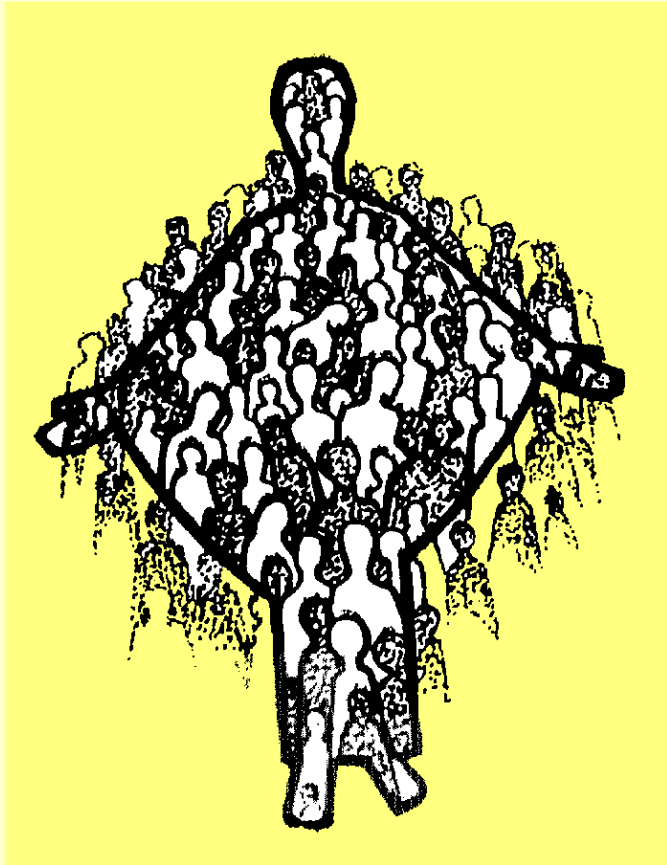
Jesus came to Nazara, where he had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written:

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me,  
for he has anointed me.

He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor,  
to proclaim liberty to captives  
and to the blind new sight,  
to set the downtrodden free,  
to proclaim the Lord's year of favour.

He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down.

c.f. Isaiah 61:1,2. (& 42:7 - First song of the suffering servant)



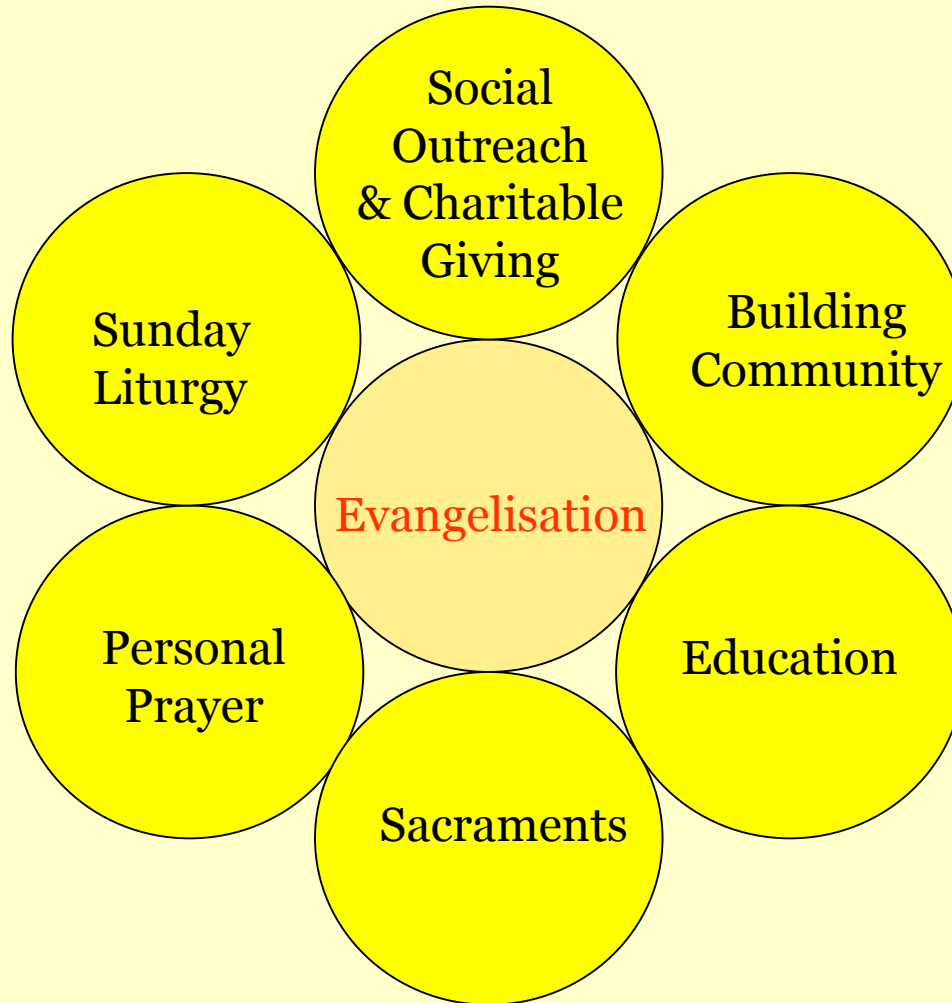
# The Church

WE must proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom of God: this is what WE were sent to do.

## **Pope Benedict XVI, April 2005, Inaugural Mass Homily**

“There is nothing more beautiful than to be surprised by the Gospel, by the **encounter with Christ**. There is nothing more beautiful than to **know Him** and **to speak to others** of our **friendship with Him**.”

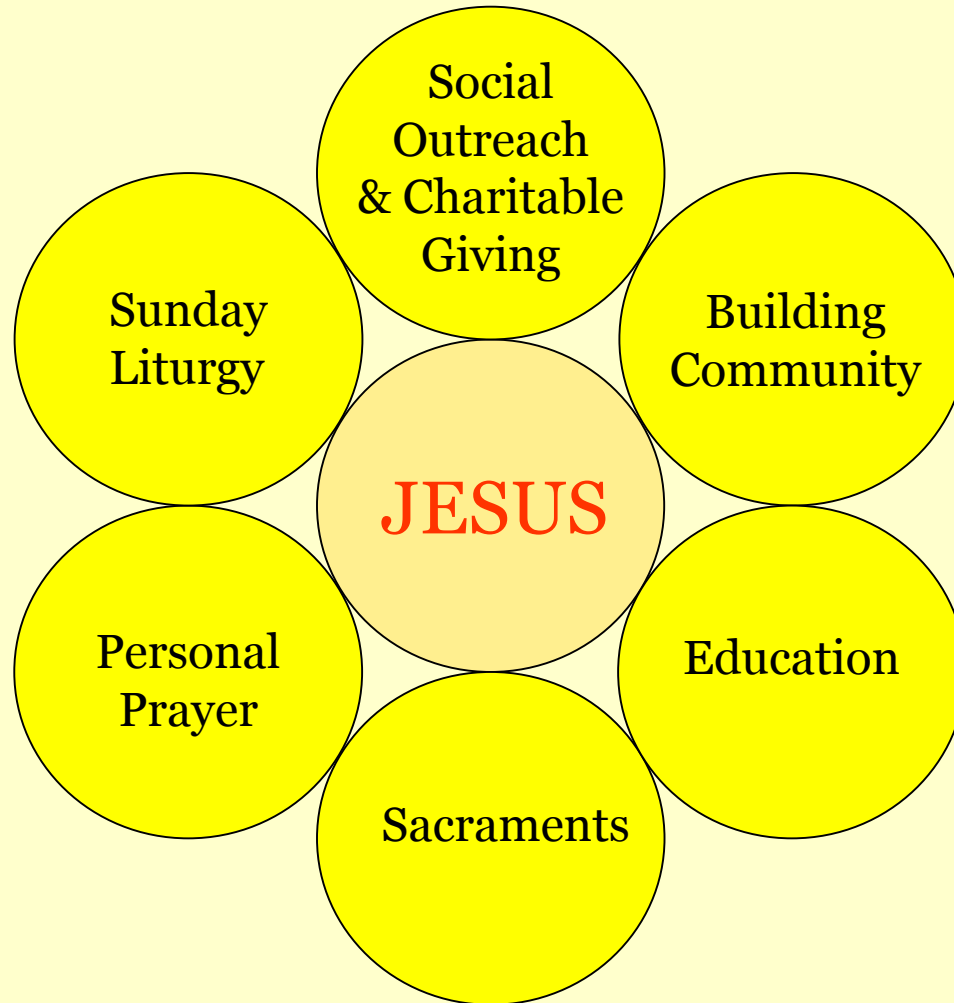
# The Evangelising Church



Evangelising is in fact the grace and vocation proper to the Church, her **deepest identity**. She exists in order to evangelise (*E.N.14*).

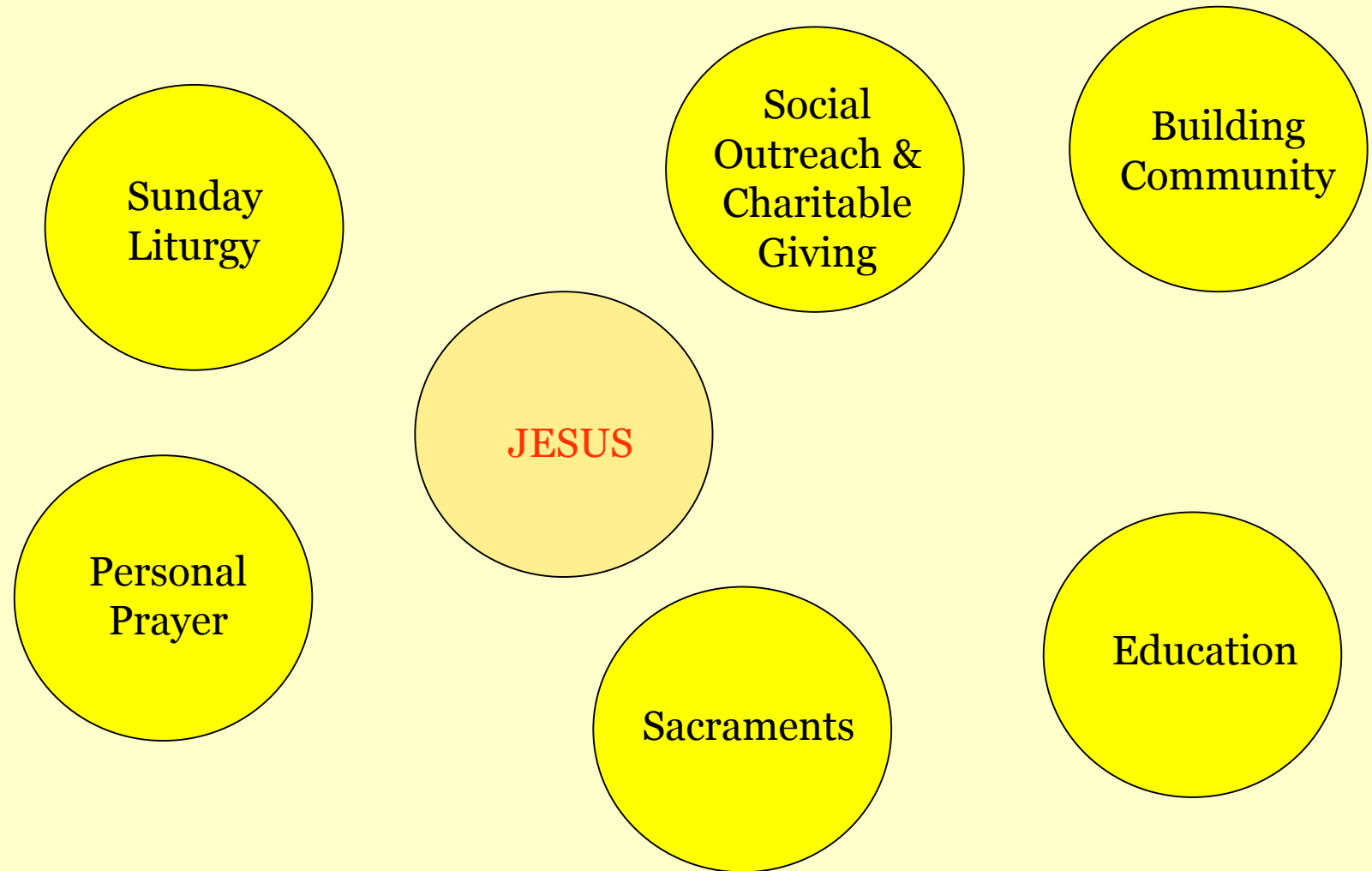


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# *Evangelii Gaudium, 2013*

## Pope Francis



1. THE **JOY** OF THE GOSPEL fills the **hearts** and **lives** of all who **encounter Jesus**.

Those who accept his offer of salvation are **set free** from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness and loneliness. With Christ, **joy** is **constantly** born anew.

In this Exhortation I wish to encourage the **Christian faithful** to embark upon a **new chapter of evangelisation** marked by this joy, while pointing out new paths for the Church's journey in years to come.

*Evangelii Gaudium,1*

What would I say has been an experience of the *Joy of the Gospel* in my life?

**Have I met Jesus in one of his disciples or in an experience of his Spirit in my life?**

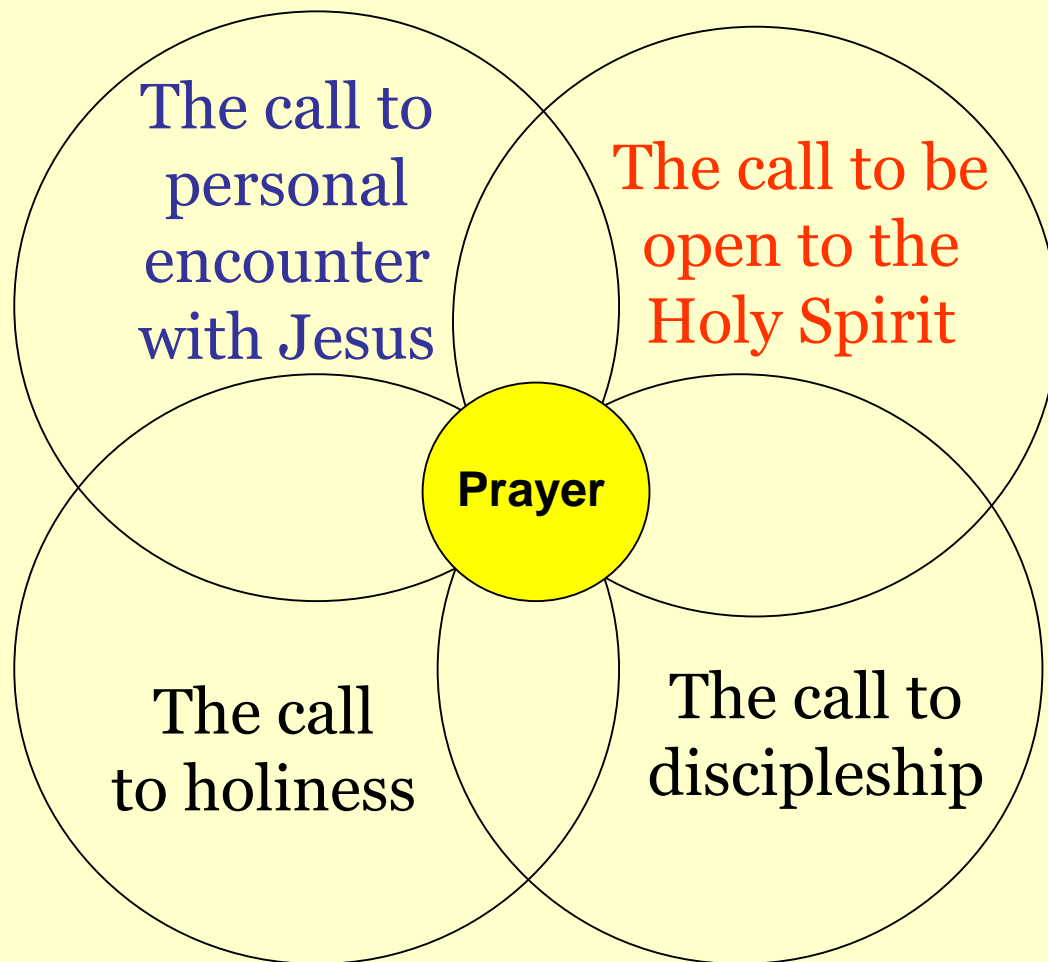
Am I experiencing the excitement of God doing a new thing in the Church in this diocese?

**To which place, event or meeting would you invite somebody in the hope that they would encounter Jesus?**

Do you sense that the Lord might be calling you to a new way of serving him?

## Matthew 28:16-20 (The Great Commission)

Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. **Go**, therefore, **make disciples** of all the nations; **baptise** them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and **teach** them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time."



The missionary must be a "contemplative in action." Unless the **missionary** is a **contemplative** he cannot proclaim Christ in a credible way. He is a witness to the experience of God, and must be able to say with the apostles: "that which we have looked upon...concerning the word of life,...we proclaim also to you" (1 Jn 1:1-3). *RM* 91



# Discipleship

*Discere* (latin): learn, study, acquire knowledge.

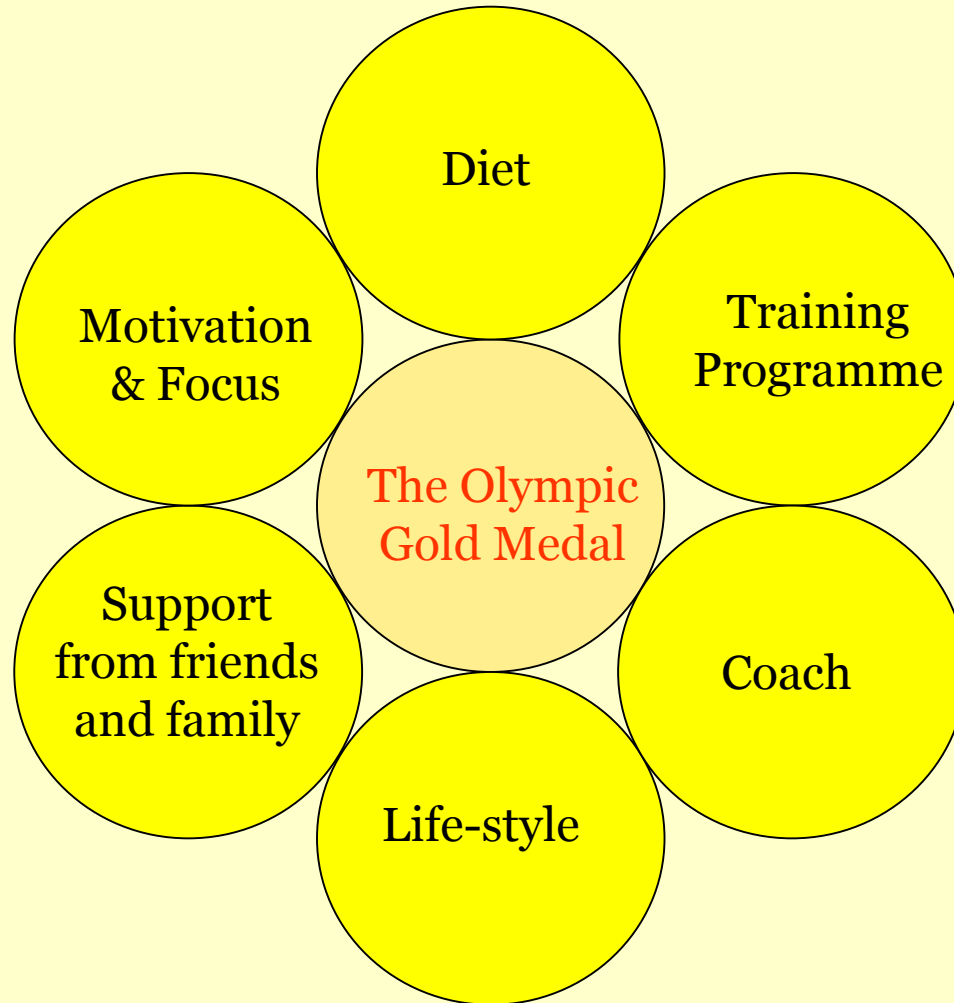
‘The **disciple** is not superior to his teacher, nor the slave to his master. It is enough for the **disciple** that he should **grow to be like** his teacher, and the slave like his master (Mt.10: 24-25).’

Discipline: focused, determined effort.

‘If anyone wants to be a **follower** of mine, let him **renounce himself** and take up his cross and **follow me** (Mt.16:24)’

He must grow greater,  
I must grow smaller (John 3:30)

# The Athlete



# The Parish Mission Team



264. The primary reason for evangelising is **the love of Jesus which we have received**, the **experience of salvation** which urges us to ever greater love of him.

## **John 20:19-23**

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.

**'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'**

After saying this he breathed on them and said,

**Receive the Holy Spirit.**

For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven;  
For those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

**As the FATHER sent me,**



**JESUS** (The Spirit of the Lord has been given to me)



**So am I sending you (CHURCH)**  
(The Spirit of the Lord has been given to us)

Evangelization will **never be possible without the action of the Holy Spirit** (*EN 75*).

Mission, then, is based **not on human abilities** but on the power of the risen Lord (*RM 23*).

Techniques of evangelization are good, but even the most advanced ones could not replace the gentle action of the Spirit. The most perfect preparation of the evangelizer has **no effect without the Holy Spirit** (*EN 75*).

It must be said that **the Holy Spirit is the principal agent of evangelization**: it is he who impels each individual to proclaim the Gospel, and it is he who in the depth of consciences causes the word of salvation to be accepted and understood (*EN 75*).

A person who is not convinced, enthusiastic, certain and **in love**, will convince nobody.

*EG. 266*

If we do not feel an **intense desire** to **share this love**, we need to **pray insistently** that he will once more touch our hearts. We need to implore his grace daily, asking him to **open our cold hearts** and shake up our lukewarm and superficial existence.

EG. 266



How I long to find the right words to stir up enthusiasm for **a new chapter of evangelisation** full of fervour, joy, generosity, courage, boundless love and attraction! Yet I realize that no words of encouragement will be enough **unless the fire of the Holy Spirit burns in our hearts.**

EG 261

## *Evangelii Gaudium, 2013*

3. I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a **renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ**, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them; I ask all of you to do this unfailingly each day.

And may the world of our time, which is searching, sometimes with anguish, sometimes with hope, be enabled to receive the Good News not from evangelisers who are dejected, discouraged, impatient or anxious, but from ministers of the Gospel whose lives glow with fervour, who have first received the joy of Christ, ... (*EN 80*)

**Go out...**

**to the whole  
world;**

**NEWS**



**proclaim the  
Good News**

**to all of  
creation.  
(Mk 16:16)**

*Jesus said, “...you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judea and Samaria, and the diocese of Salford and indeed to the ends of the world.”*  
*Acts 1:8.*

# The Parish Mission Team



How can we develop as a Parish Mission Team?