

St. Louis Church

Inviting the Flock Home

Possible Types of Gatherings

“This question of "how to evangelize" is permanently relevant, because the methods of evangelizing vary according to the different circumstances of time, place and culture, and because they thereby present a certain challenge to our capacity for discovery and adaptation” (Pope St. Paul VI, EN, 40)

On us particularly, the pastors of the Church, rests the responsibility for reshaping with boldness and wisdom, ***but in complete fidelity to the content of evangelization***, the means that are most suitable and effective for communicating the Gospel message to the men and women of our times” (Pope St. Paul VI, EN, 40, emphasis added).

What are the modern formats that we might use to offer our faith to our target audiences? As you read them, I invite you to reflect on what method might be appropriate for each target audience.

- 1) Coffee Hour where we put the content in their hands by inviting them to ask questions and we provide answers
- 2) Tour of the Church (help them understand what they see and/or in church)
- 3) Presentations on various faith topics
 - a) In-person presentations – not sure “presentation” is helpful as a first step. They don’t need a lecture. They need to feel welcome.
 - b) Webinars – This could be the content as in-person presentations but with the convenience of viewing from their own home or as a recorded video to watch as their schedule allows.
- 4) Podcasts – While a podcast can be of any length, for busy people on the go, short videos can be viewed on the go.
- 5) Blog articles
- 6) Parish app
- 7) Website
- 8) Social Media
 - a) Facebook/Instagram
 - i) We miss you!
 - ii) Invitation/make them feel welcome
 - iii) Witness/testimonial material – parishioners – “Why I come to Mass”
 - b) Instagram
 - i) Quotes from Bible or spiritual reading IF MADE INTO A GRAPHIC