

GUIDELINES FOR DEVOTING PRAYER AND PRACTICE TO EVANGELISM

Evangelism is one of the primary focuses for the Order. It is an area where a chapter, a diocese, and/or the Province can identify opportunities for Daughters to pray and prepare as part of their commitment to evangelism in their vows. Often, the prayer and service vows seem easier to fulfill. The expectation of stepping out and talking about our relationship in Christ to strangers, groups, and sometimes the most difficult audiences of our family and friends seems more difficult than what we believe we are capable of doing. Praying and practicing our story within a comfortable setting can make a significant positive impact on each Daughter's approach to this commitment. Just as Quiet Days are used to invite us to "come to Him," devoting time to praying about evangelism and the practice of telling our story can prepare and invite us to "make disciples of all nations."

We can engage with each other in prayer and practice. Devoting this time as a way to strengthen our resolve to "go out to others to spread the Kingdom." Daughters who provide time and space for such an experience for themselves and others are providing a way to make his love a gift to others. It takes away some of the perceived and/or real barriers that each of us have with our call to evangelism. A time devoted specifically for prayer and practice can be set up under many formats. It can be an hour or two set aside at a chapter meeting, a four hour block of time at a chapter retreat or diocesan assembly, or it can be a weekend retreat with the entire program devoted solely to Evangelism. It can be whatever format the leader and/or the program committee decides. Just like a quiet day, it will evoke different emotions and meanings in each person who attends. Some The suggested formats are:

This time (hour, day, weekend) is devoted to Evangelism

Begin with Prayer focused on Evangelism

Read Evangelically Focused Passages from Scripture

The Power of Story (also The Power of Metaphors/Poems/Songs/Singing)

Someone Tells Their Story- Their Testimony

Practice Exercise on the Art of Telling Your Story to Others Through Dialogue by Creating Small Groups or Pairs to Start the Conversation about Your Life in Christ. (Suggested Script/s)

End with Eucharist

(This can certainly be a very creative and prayerfully enriching process for both the program planners and the participants.)