



## School of Evangelization

ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

310 PROSPECT PARK WEST ♦ BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11215  
TELEPHONE 718.281.9544 ♦ FAX 718.788.4877

### ***THE JOY OF ENCOUNTERING CHRIST-THE FAMILY'S HOPE 2015-2018***

**An Evangelization and Renewal Springboard for Parishes, Families, and Individuals in the Diocese of Brooklyn**

#### **Year One Annual Report Summary**

Just over a year has passed since Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio wrote:

*...the Diocesan School of Evangelization created this process to serve as a "springboard", that is to say a collection of events, resources, and practical ideas to assist parishes, families, and individuals in their effort to know Christ and His Church more fully and love Christ and His Church more deeply.*

We are asked in the Diocesan Plan to work as individuals, parishes, and the Diocese as a whole to achieve the following goals:

1. Offer multiple opportunities for people to encounter Christ
2. Increase Mass attendance: full, active, conscious participation
3. Increase daily prayer opportunities
4. Attract and support inactive Catholics
5. Enhance participation in parish life/religious education at all levels of faith formation
6. Invite and welcome seekers

The following highlights were some of the accomplishments of all of us working in collaboration with the Diocesan School of Evangelization to assist in achieving the six goals of the Plan:

- Participated in The Eighth World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia
  - Five busses of teens and adults traveled from Brooklyn and Queens
  - First Annual Diocesan Family Day celebrated at Xaverian High School in Brooklyn
  - Family Parish Celebrations held throughout the Diocese
- Held a productive Marriage Convocation for marriage and family life parish leaders
- Joined in events surrounding the Apostolic Visit to the United States by Pope Francis
- Provided formation and professional development for over sixty parish Evangelization Teams under the guidance of Paulist Evangelization Ministries and Fr. Frank DeSiano, CSP
- Introduced the *Living the Eucharist Initiative* for Lent of 2016, 2017, and 2018
- Introduced RENEW International's ARISE/LEVANTATE/LEVE KANPE for 2016, 2017, and 2018
  - As of January 20, 2016, over 130 parishes have sent representatives to English/Spanish/Haitian Information Sessions. Additional sessions will be held in January and February.
- Organized the Special Needs Conference, Encountering Christ Conference, Evangelization Congress, and other School of Evangelization events that exceeded attendance expectations
- Supported over 5,000 catechists and catechetical leaders who participated in some form of faith formation, using the locally offered and online *Living and Leading by Faith/My Catholic Faith Delivered/Catholic Distance University* courses and seminars
- Organized spiritual and catechetical opportunities for Youth and Young Adults:
  - *Diocesan Youth Day* with over 1,000 participants
  - *Steubenville NYC* with over 1,800 participants from throughout the country
  - Young Adult Gathering at Saint John's University
- Offered formation opportunities for lay pastoral leaders through the *Lay Ministry Program*, *Foundations for Ministry Program* and the *M.A. Scholarship Program in Theology* as well as collaborated with other diocesan offices in the creation of new formation opportunities coordinated by the Pastoral Institute
- Saw over 200 students/families participate in the Annual Children's Eucharistic Holy Hour
- Witnessed over 1190 people participate in the Rite of Election at the start of Lent 2015

Please continue to go to [www.meetmein.church](http://www.meetmein.church) to register for events and courses/seminars offered by the Diocesan School of Evangelization. Be sure to share your joyful encounters!