

Evangelizing is the Church’s mission. It is not the mission of only a few but it is mine, yours, and **our mission** . . . Who is the real driving force of evangelization in our life and in the Church? “It is the Holy Spirit who today, just as at the beginning of the Church, acts in every evangelizer who allows himself to be possessed and led by him. The Holy Spirit places on his lips the words which he could not find by himself, and at the same time the Holy Spirit predisposes the soul of the hearer to be open and receptive to the Good News and to the Kingdom being proclaimed” (Pope Paul VI, *Evangelium nuntiandi*, no. 75).

Take a few moments and read over the next four sentences. **Choose one** to focus upon right now.

Think back on a recent **encounter** with the Risen Lord in your own life.
 Reflect upon a time that you **accompanied** someone on their journey of faith.
 Pray over the strengths and weaknesses of the **community of faith** in which you worship.
 Recall when you felt called to be **sent** as a “missionary disciple”
 and to help spread the Good News of Jesus Christ.

(This reflection could lead to sharing with the person beside you.)

Let us pray to the Father, through Jesus, the Son, and in the Holy Spirit of truth:

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| 1. As faithful followers of Christ, we desire: | ALL: to live in union with Christ our Lord. |
| 2. As ardent disciples of Jesus, we hope: | ALL: to seek what He seeks and love what He loves. |
| 3. As children of God, we pray: | ALL: to remain close to the heart of Jesus as He remains close to his Father’s heart. |
| 4. With Mary, Star of the New Evangelization, | ALL: we contemplate the mystery of God in our world, in human history and in our daily lives. |

And now let us pray in the words of Christ: ALL: “*Our Father . . .*”

Lord, You Give the Great Commission

Text: Jeffery Rowthorn

(Tune: “Abbot Leigh,” or “Alleluia, Sing to Jesus,” or “God of Day and God of Darkness”)

Lord, you give the great commission: “Heal the sick and preach the word.”
 Lest the church neglect its mission and the gospel go unheard,
 Help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity:
 With the Spirit’s gifts empow’r us for the work of ministry.

Lord, you call us to your service: “In my name baptize and teach.”
 That the world may trust your promise, life abundant meant for each,
 Give us all new fervor, draw us closer in community:
 With the Spirit’s gifts empow’r us for the work of ministry.



Let us share with one another a sign of Christ’s peace.