

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

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To: All Pastors, Administrators and Priest Moderators
All Directors of Faith Formation

From: Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano

Re: **Faith Formation Evangelization Summit: Thursday, May 1, 2025**

Date: Monday, February 10, 2025

I recently invited all Catholic school principals and support staff to meet with their local pastors to craft a local strategic plan for the evangelization of the parents whose children attend their schools. This represents the next step in the work of the "One", inviting every parent into a life-long living relationship with the Lord Jesus, motivating them to deepen their knowledge of the faith, their personal prayer life, their commitment to live Christian virtue as a witness to their children and to attend Sunday Mass with their family.

As is being done for parents whose children attend Catholic schools, the same must now begin for the parents whose children and young people attend parish faith formation programs. My recent meetings with Confirmation parents have confirmed my desire to begin this evangelical outreach now.

Given the fact that each parish community is different, what I am proposing is that an evangelization strategy be created for each parish, under the guidance and leadership of the local pastor, to address the spiritual and pastoral needs of the parents whose children attend faith formation of any kind.

To begin this process, I ask that you attend an Evangelization Summit to be held on:

Date: Thursday, May 1, 2025
Time: 12 Noon to 3:00 PM
Location: Queen of All Saints Hall, 238 Jewett Avenue, Bridgeport

We will begin our gathering with lunch, followed by a brief presentation that will offer concrete suggestions regarding how to begin drafting such an evangelical outreach plan. The group will next be divided into deanery groups, joining Directors of Faith Formation and pastors of each deanery, to discuss the local challenges they face and how they can collaborate. Time permitting, each pastor will also have time to discuss next steps with his Director of Faith Formation.

The goal is to have a concrete, reasonable and achievable strategic plan to evangelize our parents ready for implementation at the start of the 2025-26 pastoral year.

While I recognize that there is much going on, this initiative is of the highest importance, given our collective determination to grow our Church, serve our parents, and invite them to attend Mass each Sunday with their children.

You will receive a separate email asking for an RSVP in the coming weeks.

I ask that you make every effort to attend this crucially important meeting.