

# UNIT THREE: Leadership and Mission

Robert Falzon



LEADERSHIP & MISSION IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

I am assuming that we all take as pre-requisite for Mission; That a Leader will everyday: – pray/read the scriptures and be in relationship with Jesus.

Below are 5 points on Leadership for Mission.

## 1. “Let it Be done” --- Just do it!!

Great Leadership does things. They take ACTION >>> ACTS. It’s a call to do something.

## 2. Quo Vadis—Which Way – WHY?

Great leadership is clear about the WHY—PURPOSE > If we lose our Why we lose our Way. Our Why is our Mission --why we exist, our purpose -- that is to reach those in the pews with a fresh heart and enthusiasm for the Gospel. To reach those who only attend occasionally, with a cogent, clear and convincing message that draws them to come back more often. To reach those who never come and won’t come until we do something differently. The Why is the action of reaching people with the Joyful Brilliance of the Gospels Good News that God is Love. God is merciful, and God is Father.

## 3. Preaching + Proclamation and Communication:

Every moment of church renewal in history has begun with a new voice speaking into the chaos and emptiness: just like at creation Gen 1/2. God spoke, and it was -- Preceding the great eras of renewal and refreshment in the life of the church and its action for the world there has always been a New Proclamation and a New Pentecost Burst of Preaching and Communicating. All the great times of change were marked by a renewal in the power of preaching.

## 4. Responsibility:

Great leaders are Responsible--- Response - Able St JP11 said that the Laity are to be Collaborators with ordained ministry. A Big step forward. Pope Benedict then went on to say –The Laity are Co- Responsible with ordained ministry in the tasks of the church. A Giant step!

## 5. Let those who have eyes see. Vision and Imagination

Leadership needs to find a way to do church that works. This requires VISION. Be Imaginative, Creative, Innovative. What If we could reach those who come to mass on the weekend, what if we were able to craft a believing community that was; Welcoming, Worshiping, Captivating with great homilies and great liturgy. What If: young couples began to return, crying children once again appeared, and the pagans came? What If? If we Think the same things --do the same things—we will get the same results. Don’t be infected by the inevitable by go after the possible. Jesus said nothing is Impossible. Let’s go after the impossible.

We need Leadership who are looking for what isn’t yet. The Vision is what we See, and the Mission is what we do!

## **UNIT THREE: Leadership and Mission Handout**



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### **EVANGELII NUNTIANDI**

**Pope Paul the VI 1975**

Tenth anniversary of the closing of the Second Vatican Council

The Church striving to proclaim the Gospel to all people,"[3] has had the single aim of fulfilling her duty of being the messenger of the Good News of Jesus Christ - the Good News proclaimed through two fundamental commands: "Put on the new self"[4] and "Be reconciled to God." [5]

“We wish to confirm once more that the task of evangelizing all people constitutes the essential mission of the Church. It is a task and mission which the vast and profound changes of present-day society make all the more urgent. Evangelizing is in fact the grace and vocation proper to the Church, her deepest identity. She exists in order to evangelize, that is to say, in order to preach and teach, to be the channel of the gift of grace, to reconcile sinners with God, and to perpetuate Christ’s sacrifice in the Mass, which is the memorial of His death and glorious resurrection.” — [14]

### **REDEMPTORIS MISSIO**

**St John Paul II IOANNES PAULUS PP. II 1990**

On the permanent validity of the Church's missionary mandate

“I sense that the moment has come to commit all the Church’s energies to a new evangelization...No believer in Christ, no institution of the Church can avoid this supreme duty: to proclaim Christ to all peoples.”

### **EVANGELII GAUDIUM**

**Pope FRANCIS 2013**

Whenever we make the effort to return to the source and to recover the original freshness of the Gospel, new avenues arise, new paths of creativity open up, with different forms of expression, more eloquent signs and words with new meaning for today’s world. Every form of authentic evangelization is always “new”. [11]