

# WHY CATHOLIC?

An important question  
and a valuable answer...

“Our **Why Catholic?** process fosters a personal identity as Catholics grounded in solid teaching. The conversion experience of meeting Christ in and through His church is basic to the structured small groups that form the core of the **Why Catholic?** process. Learning and belonging are required first steps if we are to witness Christ in our lives.”

*Most Rev. Joseph E. Kurtz  
Archbishop of Louisville (KY)*

“I am very grateful for all that RENEW did to bring **Why Catholic?/Por qué ser católico?** alive in our diocese. This program and process really helped all of our people to understand better why they are Catholics and to live their faith in a more dynamic manner.”

*Most Rev. Michael D. Pfeifer, OMI  
Bishop of San Angelo (TX)*

“**Why Catholic?** not only strengthens our Catholic faith, it also gives us the opportunity to learn the language of faith as we share faith with one another.”

*Mary Ann McLaughlin  
Director, Office of Worship and Spiritual Life  
Archdiocese of Boston (MA)*

“The **Why Catholic?** process makes pastors' continuing faith-education responsibility easy to do.”

*Msgr. Kurt Kemo  
Vicar General  
Diocese of Steubenville (OH)*

In order to bring to all people the Good News of Jesus, as required by a New Evangelization, all the parishes and their small communities should be living cells, places to promote the personal and communitarian encounter with Christ, experience the richness of liturgy, to give initial and permanent Christian formation, and to educate all the faithful in fraternity and charity especially towards the poor.

*The Synod for the New Evangelization  
for the Transmission of the Christian Faith:  
Proposition 26*

Small communities are powerful vehicles for adult faith formation, providing opportunities for learning, prayer, mutual support, and the shared experience of Christian living and service to Church and society.

*Our Hearts Were Burning Within Us, 106*

Please contact us to bring  
**Why Catholic? to your  
diocese or parish:**



1232 George Street  
Plainfield, NJ 07062-1717  
Phone: 908-769-5400, x107  
Fax: 908-769-5660  
[www.WhyCatholic.org](http://www.WhyCatholic.org)



**RENEW International** fosters spiritual renewal in the Catholic tradition by empowering individuals and communities to encounter God in everyday life, deepen and share faith, and connect faith with action.

VERSION JUNE 2014



**Are Catholics  
ready and able to  
“go and make disciples”?**

**Answer “YES!” with**



a concrete process for  
the New Evangelization  
and Adult Faith Formation

# WHY CATHOLIC?



STRENGTHENING FAITH ... MAKING DISCIPLES



How can we encourage Catholics to openly talk about their faith?

How should people respond when others question their Catholic beliefs?

How can parents pass along to their families a full appreciation of the rich gifts of Catholicism?

Many Catholics, young and old, face opportunities every day to share their faith with others but lack the basic knowledge and confidence to do so.

How can you address this issue? By implementing *Why Catholic?* a thoughtfully designed and proven process from RENEW International.

*Why Catholic?* has a rich scriptural and catechetical approach that gives a solid foundation for every Catholic to be an evangelizer.



## Evangelization through Small Communities

Small communities provide an ideal, supportive environment for evangelization and adult faith formation. Knowledge and confidence grow, and people are enabled to share

- How we pray
- What we believe
- How we worship
- How we live

## Practical Evangelization Workshops

*Tools for Evangelization* and small community leader trainings offer proven approaches for creating evangelizing parishes.

## Faith Formation Plus Evangelization Outreach

All elements of *Why Catholic?* work together to provide your community with

- Opportunities to express their faith
- Resources for forming deeper faith
- Approaches for reaching out to others
- Tips on what to say and whom to reach

## Enriching Faith Experiences

Inspire your community to proclaim and live faith in daily life with Spirit-filled faith enrichment events. Participants will leave motivated with the desire to reach out to others in faith.

## Solid Resources

Participant materials, drawn from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* and sacred Scripture, offer a rich experience and sound teachings, and carry an Imprimatur.

## Strong Pastoral Support

RENEW International's staff works with pastoral leadership and parishioners to ensure a successful effort with strong participation.

## Available in multiple languages

RENEW provides a full array of workshops, resources, and materials in English and Spanish. Participant materials are also available in French, Portuguese, Vietnamese, Chinese, Haitian Creole, and large-print in English and Spanish for low-vision participants.

Evangelization is to be a natural and normal part of Catholic life. Catholics need the tools and support to carry out this ministry today.

Adapted from *Go and Make Disciples*, 64