

A Convocation Reflection

[On this past November 30th and December 1st almost 800 parishioners from the dioceses of Fargo and Crookston attended a Convocation of Lay Leaders centered on the theme of re-igniting the fires of faith in the lives of our parishes and culture. St. Leo's and St. Thomas parishes had 9 parishioners attend this event. This week Alecia Killoran offers this reflection about the Convocation.]

Fellow believers,

I am writing to you today in hopes that my love for God may be shared with you. I attended the Convocation of Parish leaders this past November and was very blessed to witness some of the most amazing lessons about evangelization and how it lives within us. The most profound message we heard was the importance of sharing God's love through prayer, befriending and accompanying.

I often times find it difficult in the culture we live in today to talk about God and his greatness as there are many negative personas of his Church and the Catholic faith that I so desperately do not want to be consumed by. My human-like characteristics, such as, anxiousness and arrogance can make this transformation rather difficult. What I have learned is that it is not about telling people what to believe, but about listening to what they believe, why they believe it and where they may have misconceptions, and then to share about what I believe.

Evangelization is about the timing of certain conversations and the only way to fully be prepared for the moment when God is going to work through us is to pray ourselves. If we are not open to his message it is going to be difficult for someone else to be open to the message, that he would like us to share with them. In this New Year, I pray you find time to pray, time to reflect and time to be thankful for what the Lord has given to you.

The more intentional we can be as a community of Christ the closer we will become to the Lord. I thank you for this opportunity to evangelize and my hopes are God has been shared with you this Sunday!

All God's Love,
Alecia