

1. What is the name of one best practice for evangelization you currently implement at your parish?

Open Gym Wednesday evenings (8-10 pm) for local young men (18-30 yrs or so)

2. Please include below a description of your best practice. (Include any relevant details.)

They come and play basketball and I stop over about once a month to see how they are doing and offer a blessing (pre-Thanksgiving) or invite them to midnight mass (with refreshments after) and simply let them know that they are worthwhile.

3. How does this best practice contribute to your evangelization efforts?

There are lots of young folks in our area but very few are Catholic. Some are on the Softball teams that play here; others just come for the basketball. My experience with young men that age in the military gives me a “natural connectedness” with that age and gender parallel to the bond between soldiers of any rank and age. On this base, I simply try to build rapport so that should there ever be some thing any one of them wants to speak to a “clergyman” about, we have lowered the threshold for them to do this.

4. Your name. (first and last) Fr. Patrick Dolan

5. Name of parish. (please include city)

Blessed Teresa of Calcutta, Fairdale

7. Contact phone number.

502-363-9929

8. Contact email.

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