

Modern Evangelizing

The Catholic Church has been evangelizing for over two thousand years in many different ways, some of which are through letters, preaching, and even using miracles.

Technology is changing and advancing rapidly, and new ways to evangelize in this modern age are emerging. Some new ways to evangelize are through social media, games, apps, movies, TV shows, podcasts, and radio platforms.

First, most people have or use social media platforms ranging from kids to the elderly. Either they are watching or using it on a cell phone, iPad, or computer. The most popular social media apps are YouTube, Instagram, TikTok, and Facebook. On these platforms, the Church can post religious videos and stories teaching about Jesus and the Church. For example, they can post YouTube videos and shorts on the gospel of the day, catechism lesson, or saint of the day. On other social media apps, the Church can post inspirational messages and images. One example that I have witnessed is the videos done by Ascension Press, especially by Father Mike Schmitz and Father Mark Mary. Their short videos on faith topics are very engaging and can reach all over the world. Increasing the Catholic Church presence on social media, will help people to know and love Jesus.

Another way the Church can evangelize in the modern era is through games and fun apps. Most kids and some adults play video games. The church can partner up with game creators and programmers to create fun-filled religious games that would teach young children about Jesus and our faith. One way the Church can turn religious stories into a game is using the Action Bible since there are a lot of action-packed stories in the text. Also, these games could be used in schools around the world so there can be a fun way to learn about the Church in school. Playing

video games is very fun and exciting, and the Church can use this technique to teach about the Catholic faith.

The last way the Church can evangelize in today's time is through TV shows, movies, podcasts, and radio stations. Many parents and kids from all over the world listen to or watch television, podcasts, and radio stations. The Catholic church could create a faith-based video streaming service, like Netflix or Disney Plus, with content based on bible stories, conversion stories, miracles, and more. These TV shows could be live-action for adults, or animated for kids. One example is the TV show "The Chosen", which shows Jesus's life and how he interacted with the people around him, especially his disciples. It is a very motivating show because it shows the disciples and Jesus in a casual way, making them very relatable. My family and I look forward to watching the show together, and we have even "binged" Jesus! Another idea is for the Catholic Church to create podcasts where they interview priests and people who witness miracles, and ask them about what God has done in their lives and how He has changed them forever. Another type of podcast the church can create is to have a priest answering questions that people have about the faith. One priest who has been very inspirational is Father Mike Schmitz. He has done tremendous work with his "The Bible in a Year" and "The Catechism in a Year" podcasts. His "The Bible in a Year" podcast is the number one app on I-tunes. He even has a billboard in Times Square! His way of sharing the bible is contagious. In addition to Catholic radio stations such as the EWTN radio, the Church should insert ads on music stations like Spotify and Apple Music so that people will have inspiration to listen to the good news about Jesus and the faith.

There are many different ways to evangelize in this present period. The Church can use social media, games and apps, television shows, movies, podcasts, and radio stations to

evangelize the faith. Throughout the past 100 years the Church has evolved in its evangelization from Archbishop Fulton Sheen, to Mother Angelica founder of EWTN, and now Father Mike Schmitz who have all made a tremendous mark on their generations. Young priests, nuns and lay people can bring even more good news to the world by using our current technology to spread the faith. The Church can use these methods of evangelizing to bring more people to Christ and save even more souls.