

Applying Pastoral Accompaniment in a Parish

There are many ways to accompany people in a Parish. The best place to start is with prayer.

Come Holy Spirit, move within me to understand, see, and hear you. Help me to discern, to move with you, and to walk alongside all you have placed in this small vineyard you have asked me to tend. May all glory be to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen

Where do you want to go?

Having an end location will help us discern what path to take. Sometimes roads may be closed, detours may need to be taken. With an end goal we can adjust and find new roads get to where we want to go.



Most valuable lessons and processes are an investment.

How do you invest in the people God?



One-to-one conversations.

We do not really know what is going on in a person's faith life unless we ask them.

You maybe surprised to hear what is going on in a person's family or personal life.



Personal testimony.

Testimonies also let people know you are human and make mistakes. You can show them how you changed your life around.

- What was my life before Christ came into my life?
- What events led me to Christ?
- What has changed in my life since Christ has become a part of my life?
- Do I witness in a way that invites others to come to know Christ?



Do they know you love them?

Do they know you care? Will you love them into eternity? How do we express care and concern, even if we do not agree with a person?

Get them to love you and they will follow you anywhere. – St. John Bosco



Praying for and with people.

Take the opportunity to pray and greet your catechists, students, parents or parishioners' guardian angels. Their angels are always in God's presence.

Ask people if they would like you to pray with them.

Bring people before our Lord present in the Tabernacle. Ask our Lord to speak to them because He knows their hearts.



How can we help you get there?

I have met many people who did not know how to bridge the gap between what they believed and how they lived. They needed someone to help them bridge the gap.

