

EVANGELIZATION and CHRISTIAN INITIATION

1. The Ultimate Vision: Kingdom and Reign of God

PAUL IV, **Apostolic Exhortation** *Evangelii Nuntiandi*, on evangelization, 08 December 1975; no. 8: As an evangelizer, Christ first of all proclaims a kingdom, the kingdom of God; and this is so important that, by comparison, everything else becomes "the rest," which is "given in addition" (Matt 6:33).

Evangelii Nuntiandi, no. 9: As the kernel and center of his Good News, Christ proclaims salvation, this great gift of God which is liberation from everything that oppresses....

PAUL VI, **Encyclical** *Ecclesiam Suam*, on the Church, 06 August 1964; nos. 60-22 – on the modes of dialogue necessary for today's Church.

2. Evangelization

Evangelii Nuntiandi, no. 14: ...Evangelizing is in fact the grace and vocation proper to the Church, her deepest identity. She exists in order to evangelize, that is to say, in order to preach and teach, to be the channel of the gift of grace, to reconcile sinners with God, and to perpetuate Christ's sacrifice in the Mass, which is the memorial of his death and glorious resurrection.

Evangelii Nuntiandi, no. 24: ...Evangelization, as we have said, is a complex process made up of varied elements: the renewal of humanity, witness, explicit proclamation, inner adherence, entry into the community, acceptance of signs, apostolic initiative. These elements may appear to be contradictory, indeed mutually exclusive. In fact they are complementary and mutually enriching. Each one must always be seen in relationship with the others....

3. Christian Initiation of Adults and Children of Catechetical Age

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, no. 4: The initiation of catechumens is a gradual process that takes place within the community of the faithful....

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, no. 9: ...the people of God, as represented by the local Church, should understand and show by their concern that the initiation of adults is the responsibility of all the baptized. Therefore the community must always be fully prepared in the pursuit of its apostolic vocation to give help to those who are searching for Christ.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, no. 37: From evangelization, completed with the help of God, come the faith and initial conversion that cause a person to feel called away from sin and drawn into the mystery of God's love. The whole period of the precatechumenate is set aside for this evangelization, so that the genuine will to follow Christ and seek baptism may mature.