

Taking It to the Streets: St. Paul Street Evangelization Comes to San Diego

SAN DIEGO — San Diego is now one of several U.S. cities where Catholics are taking to the streets to evangelize, and the phenomenon is growing.

These Catholics represent the St. Paul Street Evangelization, a grassroots, nonprofit Catholic organization that responds to Jesus' call to preach the Gospel to all nations by taking their Catholic faith to the public square.

The ministry is simple: Participants venture into a high-traffic area, put up a sign that says "Catholic Truth," and set up a table full of materials. Locations include beaches, parks, malls, and even outside San Diego's Petco Park.

"It's a blast and it's easy," said Steve Beuerle, one of St. Paul's local team directors. "We hand out free rosaries, brochures and other information to those interested in learning more about the Catholic faith or returning home to the Church."

"Those who are curious approach us and we listen to them, share the beauty of the Catholic faith with them, and sometimes pray with them," added James Stabile, who heads the

California effort for St. Paul Street Evangelization. "Every week, we are training new recruits. If you love Jesus and His Church, then this is the right apostolate for you."

Many of those participating in this ministry are converts, some have been Catholics all their lives, but all are excited about the Good News and cannot keep it to themselves any longer.

"Christ's call to evangelize was made to every Catholic Christian, and the Second Vatican Council reiterated this need, urging each of the baptized to bring the Gospel, found fully in the Catholic Church, to a culture that has largely reverted to paganism," Beuerle said. "As an on-the-street Catholic evangelization organization, St. Paul Street Evangelization provides an avenue for you to share the Person of Jesus Christ and the truth and beauty of the Catholic faith with a hungry culture."

For more information, visit www.StreetEvangelization.com or contact James Stabile at (760) 453-8866 or coachstabile@gmail.com.

The Southern Cross



ON THE STREETS: From left, Steve Beuerle, Angelica Ware, Andy Ware and Daniel Ware participate in St. Paul Street Evangelization ministry at the Ocean Beach Pier.

COURTESY OF STEPHEN C. BEUERLE