

# BUILDING THE CATHOLIC ECO-SYSTEM

PEARPOD FOR GLOO | SEPT 2023

# BUILDING THE CATHOLIC ECO-SYSTEM

What is the good news? Why is the 2023 the best year ever for the Catholic church worldwide?

1. There are more high quality resources available online for free than ever before.
2. The Catholic church just participated in an international synod to understand what is working and what isn't working. We are most connected through technology.
3. Women have more opportunities in the church than anytime in history.
4. We have windows into the international Catholic church and can see how we are walking "in step" together in every single country of the world.
5. There is a "generational revival" to get back to liturgical/holy spiritual practices
6. The greatest transfer of wealth between Catholic generations is happening now. Devout Catholics are asking how they want to leave their legacy.

What is the number one obstacle  
to Church flourishing today?

“Most families that are “Catholic”  
are not fully practicing, they are not  
living out their sacramental life”

(From Diocese of Orange Strategic Planning Retreat - Aug 22, 2023)

## How much of a priority is outreach & evangelization in your dioceses?

1. “It is a strategic priority, it is why we have launched the 3 year Eucharistic Revival to help people understand their sacramental life” (conferences, bulletins, vinyl banners, websites, articles, etc - inviting people to participate)
2. “Evangelization is the responsibility of every church member”
3. “Everything we do everyday is for the mission of evangelization”
4. “Outreach and evangelization are not line items in a budget or on a to-do-list, they are how we live out our faith in our communities.”

(From Diocese of Orange Strategic Planning Retreat - Aug 22, 2023)

# BUILDING THE CATHOLIC ECO-SYSTEM

## Top 10 “pain points” of the Catholic Church (gathered at the parish level, diocese level & USCCB level)

1. Youth are leaving (starting at age 13)
2. Losing clergy to retirement (no replacements)
3. Attendance & giving down up to 40%
4. Churches are closing/merging
5. Laypeople don't understand “real presence”
6. Divide between traditionalists & progressives
7. Majority of Catholics are Easter & Christmas
8. 20% of church provides 80% involved
9. Religious freedoms persecuted state/local
10. Abuse lawsuits are costing millions

# BUILDING THE CATHOLIC ECO-SYSTEM

If you received 25 online inquiries a week from people asking to “find a local parish” - what is the best way to respond to those people?

## MODEL #1 - THE DIOCESE IS THE OUTREACH CENTER

“Our parishes aren’t equipped to respond to people, nor do we have the staff or time to respond. It would need to be a person at the diocese who was given that role.”

Bishop from Springfield, Illinois

# BUILDING THE CATHOLIC ECO-SYSTEM

If you received 25 online inquiries a week from people asking to “find a local parish” - what is the best way to respond to those people?

## MODEL #2 - THE PARISH VOLUNTEER

“Both the diocese and local parish staff can’t respond adequately to those inquiries. Maybe a Director of Evangelization for the bigger parishes, but more realistically it needs to be a trained volunteer at each parish.”

Auxiliary Bishop from Orange County California

# BUILDING THE CATHOLIC ECO-SYSTEM

If you received 25 online inquiries a week from people asking to “find a local parish” - what is the best way to respond to those people?

## MODEL #3 - A NATIONAL HOTLINE

“The Catholic church doesn’t understand evangelization. If you want to be able to field inquiries from people looking to find and get connected to a local parish, then you need to build an outside organization to handle it.”

Deacon Steve Greco, I Thirst Evangelization & Spirit Filled Hearts Ministry

# BUILDING THE CATHOLIC ECO-SYSTEM

## Who are the top Catholic PARTNERS for each category?

### REACH

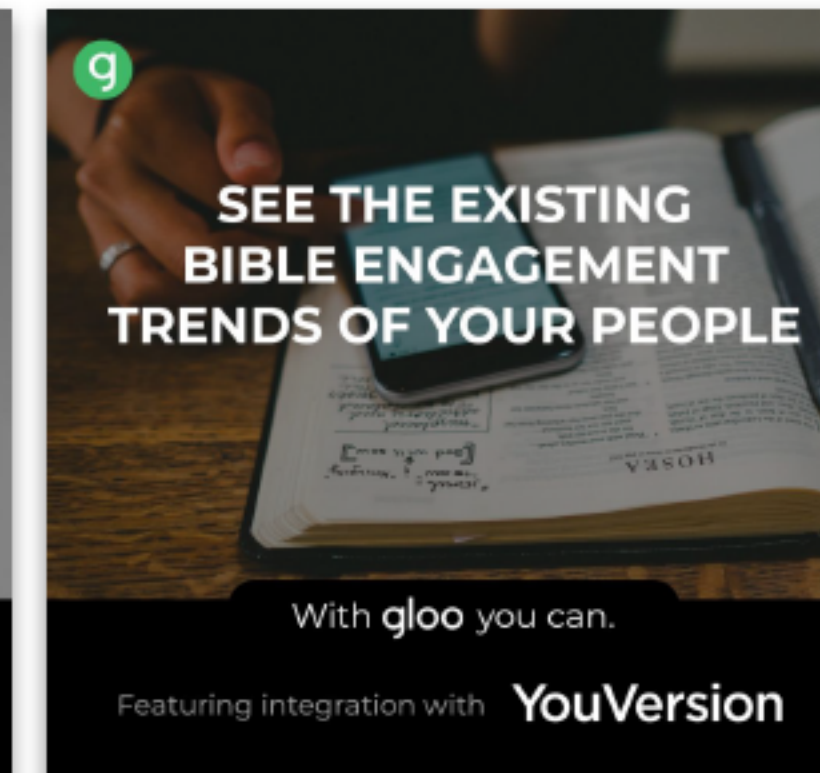
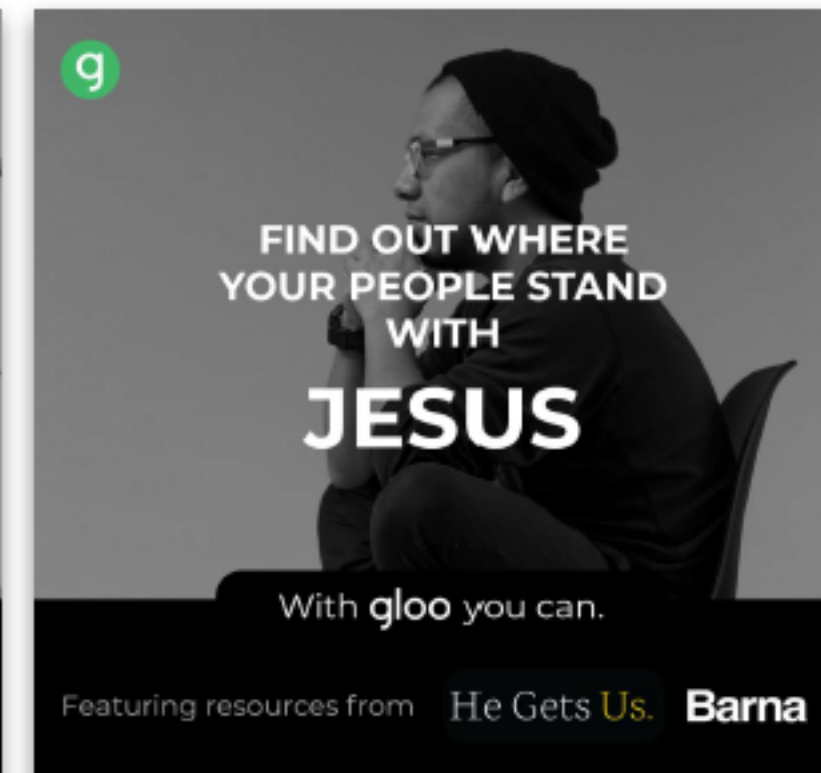
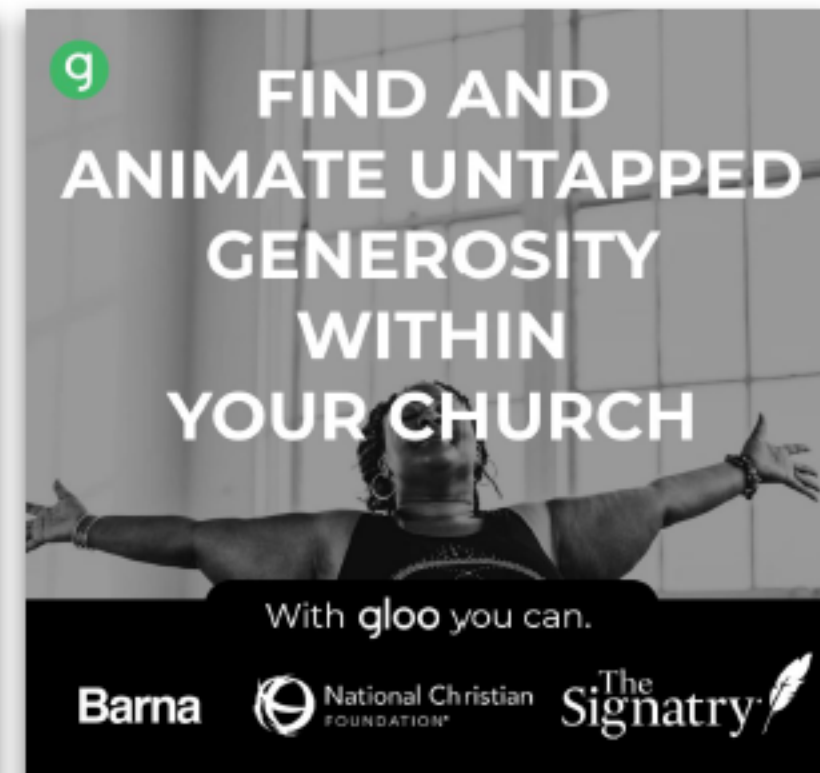
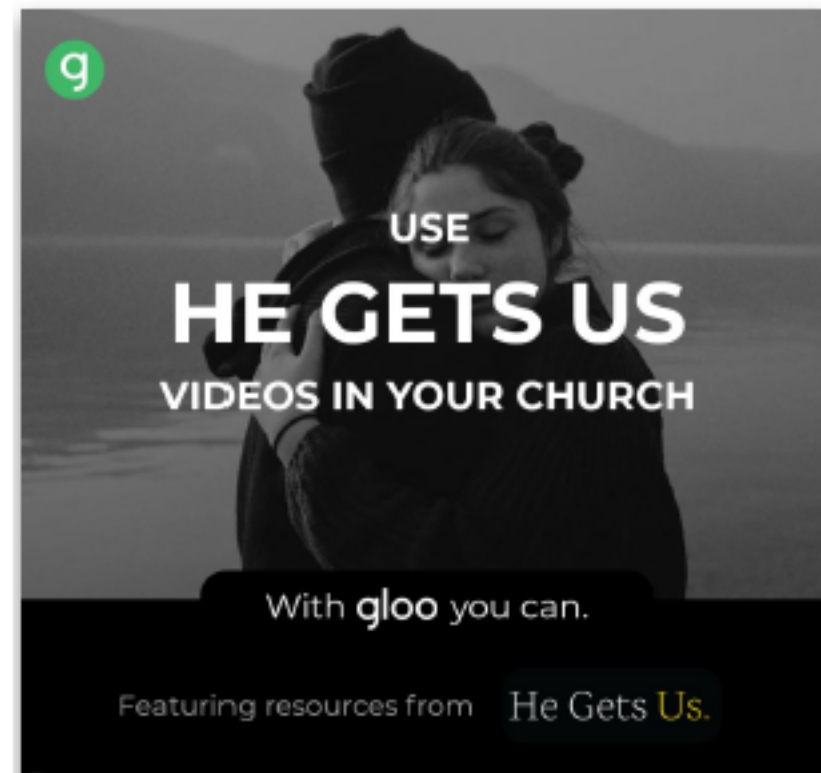
### ENGAGE

### DISCOVER

### FUND

### MEASURE

### INTEGRATE



**Strongest perceived value for Churches.**

**Free texting is a market disruptor.**

**Partners highly value their own hubs and “real estate” on Gloo.**

**Represents the future of capital flow for the Church.**

**Assessments and Barna are longer-term plays.**

**Data Exchange is central to all value props.**



Laudate



## Who are the top Catholic REACH partners?

1. DYNAMIC CATHOLIC - <https://www.dynamiccatholic.com>

At Dynamic Catholic our Mission is simple: to re-energize the Catholic Church in America

2. KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - <https://www.kofc.org>

We are Catholic men putting our faith in action to defend, serve, & protect families.

3. CATHOLIC ANSWERS - <https://www.catholic.com>

The world's largest database of answers about the beliefs and practices of the Catholic faith.

4. ALPHA USA - <https://alphausa.org/catholic-context/>

Alpha is a parish tool for evangelisation where everyone is welcome, sharing the good news of Jesus.

5. CATHOLICS COME HOME - <https://www.catholicscomehome.org>

Discover the history, beauty, spirituality and accomplishments of the Catholic Church, founded by Jesus Christ.

## Who are the top Catholic **DISCOVER** partners?

1. OSV - <https://www.osv.com>

Our Sunday Visitor is a Catholic publisher serving millions of Catholics globally through its publishing, offertory, and communication services.

2. LPI - <https://www.4lpi.com>

We exist to equip Catholic churches with: Engaging communication solutions, Modern technology, Striking art and graphics, Experienced support-people, at your service

3. WORD ON FIRE - <https://www.wordonfire.org>

Word on Fire harnesses beauty, goodness, and truth to draw people into or back to the Catholic faith.

4. AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE - <https://www.augustineinstitute.org>

The Institute produces catechetical videos, records audio drama productions, publishes books, and distributes Catholic media materials - a private Catholic graduate theology school.

5. HALLOW - <https://hallow.com>

Hallow is the #1 app for Catholic Meditation & Prayer. Find peace, sleep better, pray more, and deepen your relationship with God.

# BUILDING THE CATHOLIC ECO-SYSTEM

## Who are the top Catholic **FUND** partners?

### 1. THE PAPAL FOUNDATION - <https://www.thepapalfoundation.org>

The Papal Foundation is the only charitable organization in the United States that is exclusively dedicated to fulfilling the requests of the Holy Father.

### 2. CATHOLIC EXTENSION - <https://www.catholicextension.org>

Catholic Extension offers financial assistance to lay leaders and religious sisters attending Catholic universities across the country.

### 3. KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CHARITABLE FUND - <https://www.knightscharitable.org>

A donor-advised fund - confidential platform to maximize your philanthropic impact on organizations that align with your Catholic values.

### 4. AVE MARIA MUTUAL FUNDS - <https://avemariafunds.com>

America's largest family of Catholic mutual funds built on Pro-Life beliefs

### 5. CATHOLIC INVESTMENT STRATEGIES - <https://www.catholicinvestments.com>

Catholic investing prohibits investing in companies that take part in activities that it morally opposes.

# BUILDING THE CATHOLIC ECO-SYSTEM

## Who are the top Catholic **MEASURE** partners?

- 1. AMAZING PARISH** - <https://amazingparish.org/about/>  
Amazing Parish gives busy pastors and their teams the tools they need to transform their parishes—moving from maintenance mode to mission communities that are truly alive!
- 2. ACS TECHNOLOGIES** - <https://www.acstechnologies.com>  
ACS Technologies is a ministry development company that helps churches identify their optimum ministry focus, educate their teams for maximum effectiveness
- 3. DIVINE RENOVATION** - <https://divinerenovation.org>  
Divine Renovation offers coaching and tools to help parishes escape maintenance mode and get back on track for mission
- 4. CATHOLIC LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE** - <https://www.catholicleaders.org>  
World-class, pastoral leadership formation and consulting services that strengthen their confidence and competence in ministry, enabling them to articulate a vision for their local church, to call for the gifts of those they lead, and to create more vibrant faith communities rooted in Jesus Christ
- 5. DYNAMIC CATHOLIC** - <https://www.dynamiccatholic.com>  
At Dynamic Catholic our Mission is simple: to re-energize the Catholic Church in America

# BUILDING THE CATHOLIC ECO-SYSTEM

## Who are the top Catholic INTEGRATE partners?

### 1. LAUDATE APP - <https://amazingparish.org>

Amazing Parish gives busy pastors and their teams the tools they need to transform their parishes—moving from maintenance mode to mission communities that are truly alive!

### 2. HALLOW - <https://hallow.com>

Hallow is the #1 app for Catholic Meditation & Prayer. Find peace, sleep better, pray more, and deepen your relationship with God.

### 3. MAGNIFICAT - <https://us.magnificat.net>

Magnificat meets every need of your spiritual life. A way to more profound love of Christ.

### 4. BIBLES.COM/ABS- <https://ministry.americanbible.org/catholic-ministries/resources>

Bibles.com offers resources for your interconfessional Catholic Ministry needs, including Bibles in dozens of translations.

### 5. WALKING WITH PURPOSE - <https://walkingwithpurpose.com>

Our vision for the future is that as more Catholic women and girls deepen their relationships with Jesus Christ, eternity-changing transformation will take place in their hearts—and, by extension—in their families, in their communities, and ultimately, in our world

BUILDING  
THE CATHOLIC  
ECO-SYSTEM

100 Questions that we would receive over text at our church...  
(that are different than a Protestant church)

“If we signed up for Gloop, it would be helpful if there were prompt answers to these common questions we receive.”  
- Fr. Scott, San Clemente

# BUILDING THE CATHOLIC ECO-SYSTEM

100 Questions that we would receive over text at our church...  
(that are different than a Protestant church)

## General info

1. When are mass times & languages (48% Hispanic- 8% vietnamese)
2. Do you have Sunday school/nursery/childcare during mass
3. Where are you located
4. Am I allowed to take communion if I'm not Catholic
5. Do you have gluten free hosts
6. Do offer both forms (body and blood)
7. When is confession
8. I haven't been to Mass in along time do I need to go confession first
9. Do you have a website
10. Do you live stream the mass
11. Which priest is celebrating mass
12. Can I meet with the priest

# BUILDING THE CATHOLIC ECO-SYSTEM

100 Questions that we would receive over text at our church...  
(that are different than a Protestant church)

## Baptism

13. I want to baptize my child what do I need to do
14. Do I need to be married to baptize my child
15. Do I or my spouse need to be Catholic to baptize my child
16. Do the godparents of my baptized child need to be Catholic
17. Do the godparents of my baptized child need to be married
18. Do I need to attend a class before scheduling my child's baptism

## First Communion

19. What does my child need to do for first communion
20. Does my child need to be baptized before first communion
21. How long is the first communion process
22. What age does my child need to be for first communion
23. Do we need to be married for my child to receive first communion
24. Do you have a Sunday school program
25. Do you have a vacation bible school

# BUILDING THE CATHOLIC ECO-SYSTEM

100 Questions that we would receive over text at our church...  
(that are different than a Protestant church)

## Adult sacraments

26. How do I join the church
27. How do I get baptized as an adult
28. How do I get confirmed as an adult (what is confirmation)
29. When does RCIA/OCIA start
30. When does RCIA/OCIA meet
31. How many months is RCIA/OCIA
32. If I was baptized in another denomination do I need to be rebaptized
33. Can I take attend mass before I am confirmed
34. Can I join RCIA/OCIA in the middle of the program/liturgical year
35. Do I need to have a sponsor (what is a sponsor)
36. Can my sponsor be my spouse
37. What are the requirements for a sponsor
38. I'm not sure if I was baptized what do I need to do

# BUILDING THE CATHOLIC ECO-SYSTEM

100 Questions that we would receive over text at our church...  
(that are different than a Protestant church)

## Marriage

39. I'm divorced can I receive communion
40. I'm remarried can I receive communion
41. How do I get an annulment
42. What is required to get an annulment
43. How long does it take to get an annulment
44. Why do I need to do to get an annulment
45. I want to get married in your church what do I need to do
46. Can I get married at another location not in the church
47. My spouse isn't Catholic can we get married at the church
48. Can we have a priest and a Protestant pastor marry us
49. Do you require any pre-marital counseling
50. How much to get married in your church
51. Do you have a wedding coordinator
52. Do you offer music for our wedding
53. Can we get married in the church if are already living together
54. We have a child together can we get married in the church
55. I'm a remarried widower can I receive communion
56. Will a priest marry us right away- how fast can we get married
57. Can a deacon marry us
58. Can we get married in your church but have our own Protestant pastor
59. Can we get married with our own priest

# BUILDING THE CATHOLIC ECO-SYSTEM

100 Questions that we would receive over text at our church...  
(that are different than a Protestant church)

## Catholic School

- 60. Do you have a Catholic school
- 61. Do I need to attend your parish to have my kids go to the school
- 62. When is enrollment
- 63. What grades are at the school
- 64. How much is tuition

## Funerals/Rosary

- 65. Can we hold our funeral there - even if they weren't Catholic
- 66. How much does it cost to have a funeral at your church
- 67. Can we bring our own priest
- 68. Can we use the church with our own Protestant pastor
- 69. Do you have a funeral liaison
- 70. Can someone who died of suicide have a Catholic funeral

## Adoration/Blessed Sacrament

- 71. When do you have adoration
- 72. Do you have a prayer chapel with a tabernacle

# BUILDING THE CATHOLIC ECO-SYSTEM

100 Questions that we would receive over text at our church...  
(that are different than a Protestant church)

## Spiritual formation

- 73. Do you offer one on one spiritual formation
- 74. What spiritual formation programs do you offer
- 75. What ministries do you offer

## Liturgical Calendar

- 76. What are holy days of obligation
- 77. When is lent
- 78. When is advent
- 79. When do you offer ash on Ash Wednesday
- 80. What are holiday mass schedules

## Homebound Services

- 81. How do I schedule an anointing of the sick with a priest
- 82. Can I get the Eucharist brought to a home bound person

# BUILDING THE CATHOLIC ECO-SYSTEM

100 Questions that we would receive over text at our church...  
(that are different than a Protestant church)

Safe environment training/ policies/ fingerprinting/ approval

83. Do you offer safe environment training
84. Do you offer safe environment fingerprinting
85. How do I report abuse
86. How do I find out about the abuse victims fund
87. What are the safe environment policies
88. My spouse is on the sex offender registry - can they attend mass, volunteer, or attend our kids events

Same sex couples

89. Can same sex couple attend mass and receive communion
90. Can same sex couples get married in your church building
91. Can same sex couples volunteer (any restrictions)
92. Can same sex couples become church members/get baptized/  
be confirmed/ be god parents / sponsors/ send kids to Catholic school/  
kids baptized/ confirmed

# BUILDING THE CATHOLIC ECO-SYSTEM

100 Questions that we would receive over text at our church...  
(that are different than a Protestant church)

## Traditions

93. Do you worship Mary
94. Do you pray to st Michael in each mass
95. How do I pray the rosary - is that a prayer to Mary
96. Do I need to cover my head to attend mass
97. What is holy water
98. When do I need to genuflect
99. Do you pray to saints (what is a saint)
100. Is the pope infallible
101. Do you have any women priests or deacons - can women volunteer
102. Do I have to stop using contraceptives to go to mass and receive communion
103. I've had an abortion - can I still be Catholic
104. Do I have to stop having premarital relations to go to mass and receive communion