

**HEARTS ON FIRE  
SACRED HEART VALUES REFLECTION  
APRIL: EVANGELIZATION**

*The person or group who will share this reflection should gather in a quiet place and begin with a moment of silence (and perhaps light a candle or some other way of being mindful of prayer).*

*All make the sign of the cross together.*  
In the name of the Father, and of the Son...

*One person reads the Scripture passage:*

**A reading from Paul's First Letter to the Thessalonians.**

1 Thessalonians 3:1-8

**That is why, when we could bear it no longer, we decided to remain alone in Athens and sent Timothy, our brother and co-worker for God in the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you in your faith, so that no one be disturbed in these afflictions. For you yourselves know that we are destined for this. For even when we were among you, we used to warn you in advance that we would undergo affliction, just as has happened, as you know. For this reason, when I too could bear it no longer, I sent to learn about your faith, for fear that somehow the tempter had put you to the test and our toil might come to nothing. But just now Timothy has returned to us from you, bringing us the good news of your faith and love, and that you always think kindly of us and long to see us as we long to see you. Because of this, we have been reassured about you, brothers, in our every distress and affliction, through your faith. For we now live, if you stand firm in the Lord.**

**The Word of the Lord.**

*All read the Parish Mission Statement together:*

**Sacred Heart Parish is a welcoming Catholic community which inspires faith in God through prayer, sacraments and service while living Gospel values as faithful followers of Jesus Christ.**

*One person reads the definition of Evangelization:*

**Evangelization means spreading the joy of the Gospel in word and action.**

*Spend a few moments in silence answering the following questions (you can write your answers if you like):*

**1. What does this value say to you?**

**2. How do you experience this value at Sacred Heart?**

**3. How could I evangelize others by spreading the joy of the Gospel in my words and actions?**

*Spend a few moments sharing your answers to the three questions. If the group has more than four members, share your answers with one other person.*

*Finish this reflection by praying the Hearts on Fire prayer together:*

**Let us pray.**

**Most Sacred Heart of Jesus,  
set our hearts on fire for love of you  
and help our parish to know how to best serve you.**

**Help our parish to**

**Follow you,**

**Invite participation,**

**Renew community, and**

**Explore our future**

**by discerning together how we can be your faithful disciples.**

**You have been our inspiration for many years;**

**may we continue to trust in you**

**and place you above all else in our lives.**

**We make this prayer in your holy name,**

**for you live and reign in unity**

**with the Father and the Holy Spirit,**

**one God, forever and ever. Amen.**