

# FREE Evangelization Inserts for Bulletins Newsletters & Websites

19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary  
Time  
August 12-13, 2017

Note that these reflections can be found in  
Word and pdf at  
[www.catholicahawaii.org/inserts](http://www.catholicahawaii.org/inserts)

Questions, Comments Suggestions?  
Contact Kristina kdeneve@rcchawaii.org or  
808-203-6767

## Living Catholic in the 808: A Willingness to Witness

Dcn. Michael Ross  
St. Michael the Archangel Parish  
Kailua-Kona, HI

**Did you know**...that ever since Vatican II and the pontificate of Paul VI, the church has revamped its evangelizing approach? Now it is the business of all Catholics, not just priests and religious. Moreover, we are to spread the Good News intelligently, carefully fertilizing the soil for its reception, and gently coaxing growth with new approaches.

Chief among these approaches is the willingness to *witness* to the faith of the church in one's own life, so that others who see it are attracted to it because they see that it undergirds that attractiveness. In word and deed, evangelizers are like good gardeners, tilling the soil of faith with love and respect for growing things.

Moreover, we do not expect others (or ourselves!) to hold a belief simply because "the church says so." Beliefs are earned by reading, listening and thinking. We and those we evangelize, those for whom we help cultivate their soil, are called to understand the faith as intelligent creatures made in the image and likeness of God. This is what it means to be catechized, to be formed in the faith.

What have you done this past week to witness to your faith? What have you done in word and deed that others could be attracted to? What will you do today?

---