

# FREE Evangelization Inserts for Bulletins Newsletters & Websites

**14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary  
Time  
July 8, 2018**

Note that these reflections can be found in  
Word and pdf at  
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Questions, Comments Suggestions?  
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## **Living Catholic in the 808 When Sharing the Faith Offends Others**

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When we share our faith, we can expect to have experiences like Jesus in today's Gospel. People will not always understand. People will be confused or irritated. The Gospel says people "took offense" at Jesus.

As Jesus' followers, this means there will be times when we have faithful, loving intentions and yet people will literally take offense. Sometimes people will be offended when we talk about Jesus!

NOTE: This does not mean we are supposed to go out of our way to offend people. Jesus was not angry, indignant, confrontive, argumentative etc...when he shared the Good News. If you are any of these, then I guarantee you are not speaking for God. How can I know this? Because the first and foremost sign of Jesus' presence is peace. Galatians 5: 22 tells us point blank that peace, patience, kindness, gentleness, and self-control are signs of the Holy Spirit. Not anger or combativeness.

We must be like Jesus – share openly and nondefensively. If need be, we too can be amazed and grieved by others' lack of faith, as Jesus was in today's Gospel.