PRAYER – Prayer is the first and most fundamental step in all forms of evangelization. It reminds us that calling another back is primarily God’s work as the Good Shepherd. When one begins the process of helping another return to the Church, committing that person to prayer and asking God to use you is instrumental to overall success.

WITNESS – We primarily witness in two ways, by our lives and our words. Witnessing by our lives means to live in a manner that reflects true faith in Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church. Witnessing by our words means to clearly articulate God’s plan of salvation through Jesus Christ and to witness to Christ’s saving power in one’s own life.

INVITE – Invitation has multiple levels. You may invite them into a deeper relationship with God through prayer, open dialogue around faith issues or attending a church function. This could be the parish fish fry, a great talk at the parish or attending Mass together. You may invite them into a closer relationship with you by opening your home, sharing common interests or extending a listening ear.

Through invitation into deeper relationship, your witness will become more effective and accompaniment will be easier.

ACCOMPANY – accompaniment is what you’re doing in prayer, witness and invitation. Accompaniment begins by recognizing that you have a role in another’s faith journey. This pillar is about focusing on intentionally walking with those returning to the Church. It’s also about recognizing that this doesn’t end. Examples of accompaniment are joining a small group with them, or checking in to see how they’re doing on their faith journey.