

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the objective of the Parish Champion initiative?

Our research shows that highly engaged Catholics practice four life-giving spiritual habits: Prayer, Study, Generosity, and Evangelization. We call these the four signs of a Dynamic Catholic. Helping people develop these habits leads to personal transformation and vibrant parishes. (For more information, see The Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic, How Engaging 1% of Catholics Could Change the World.)

2. How does the Parish Champion initiative achieve this objective?

Every month, Parish Champions distribute a case of free Dynamic Catholic books or CDs to their parishioners to help people grow in the second sign—Study—and to support an environment for continuous learning, sharing and conversation..

3. What exactly is a Parish Champion expected to do?

A Parish Champion commits to spending time each month practicing the four signs of a Dynamic Catholic:

1. **Prayer:** Pray for their parish, and form a pray team. Regularly ask their pastor, parish staff, friends, family, and other parishioners for prayer intentions.
2. **Study:** Distribute free Dynamic Catholic books or CDs (“Study Resources”) after one Mass to encourage parishioners to be continuous learners.
3. **Generosity:** Generously give of their time by praying for their parish, distributing free Dynamic Catholic books and CDs to parishioners, and sharing Dynamic Catholic programs with their pastor and parish staff.
4. **Evangelization:** Share Dynamic Catholic programs (“Evangelization Resources”) with their pastor and parish staff, and be an example of someone striving to live the four signs in practical ways.

4. What is the relationship between Dynamic Catholic, the Parish Champion, and the parish?

At Dynamic Catholic, our mission is to re-energize the Catholic Church in America by developing world-class resources that inspire people to rediscover the genius of Catholicism. The Parish Champion plays an important part in this mission and in supporting his or her parish by volunteering to share our free resources and programs with parishioners. This initiative is fully funded by Dynamic Catholic so there is no financial obligation for the parish or financial incentive for the Parish Champion.

5. Will Dynamic Catholic inform the parish about the Parish Champion initiative or is that the responsibility of the Parish Champion?

The Dynamic Catholic Parish Champion team leader, Brennan Hehman, will send a letter to the parish's pastor and the Director of Religious Education, explaining the Parish Champion initiative and letting them know their parish has a Parish Champion. Dynamic Catholic will also send the Parish Champion copies of The Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic to give to the pastor and DRE.

6. How and when will the Parish Champion receive the free books and CDs every month?

On or around the first Monday of every month, Dynamic Catholic will ship a case of free books or CDs to the Parish Champion's home. This allows the Parish Champion to become familiar with the book or CD before giving it to parishioners.

7. How many books or CDs will the Parish Champion receive each month to give away?

The Parish Champion will receive one case of books (44 count), or one case of CDs (50 count).

8. How does the Parish Champion know what to expect each month?

On the first Monday of every month, the Dynamic Catholic Parish Champion team leader, Brennan Hehman, will send an email with a video to the Parish Champion. In the video, Brennan will talk about best practices for supporting the needs of the parish, as well as the Study Resource (the free book or CD), and the Evangelization Resource (the Dynamic Catholic program) to share with parishioners and parish staff that month.

9. What if the Parish Champion is from a very large or very small parish?

Don't worry about having too many or not enough copies of the free book or CD. If you have extra copies, you can give them to friends and family or other ministries. If parishioners ask why they didn't get a copy, let them know they can get a free copy of that resource—and other great books and CDs—at DynamicCatholic.com. You can also tell them you will be giving out a new resource next month.

Note: Due to the volume and logistics involved in this initiative, Dynamic Catholic needs to keep as many things standardized as possible. For example, shipping only one case of books or CDs to each Parish Champion.

10. What is the best way to distribute the Study Resource (free books or CDs) each month?

There are many creative ways to distribute the free resources. The easiest way is to hand them out to parishioners before or after Mass. The most impactful way may be to work with the parish staff and ministry leaders to share the free materials with parishioners experiencing some sort of milestone that month. (Examples include new parishioners, people receiving a sacrament, anniversaries, book clubs, men's groups, prayer ministries, and prison ministries.) It may be very helpful to even form a distribution team to come up with new ways to share these powerful resources as gifts, a thank you, or inspiration.

11. Can there be more than one Parish Champion in a parish?

Yes; however, Dynamic Catholic will assign only one person as the lead contact for book shipments and coordination of monthly activities. A best practice is to build prayer teams or distribution teams to help expand the reach and impact of the Parish Champion's efforts. Additional parish volunteers are always welcome.

12. Can I be a Parish Champion at more than one parish?

Dynamic Catholic's goal is to have a Parish Champion at every parish in America. It is ideal for each parish to have their own Parish Champion.

13. Can I do more than just hand out free books, share Dynamic Catholic programs with my pastor, and pray for special intentions? Absolutely! The Parish Champion initiative is just the foundation for individual and parish transformation. Dynamic Catholic urges you to do whatever is best for your parish and fits into your schedule. You could join committees, serve as a catechist, or recruit other volunteers. The more connected you are with the needs of your parish and pastor, the better you can serve your parish.

14. Why is Dynamic Catholic funding and supporting the Parish Champion initiative?

The Parish Champion initiative supports the mission of Dynamic Catholic, our commitment to creating game-changers for Catholics and their parishes, and our passion for meeting people where they are and leading them to where God is calling them to be. With each passing year, we approach our work with a great hunger for best practices, a commitment to continuous improvement, and a desire to transform the way things are done. Now that we know the difference between highly engaged Catholics and disengaged Catholics (see The Four Signs of Dynamic Catholic), it influences everything we do.

15. Who do I contact if I have questions or concerns?

Contact Brennan Hehman at Parish-Champion@DynamicCatholic.com.