10 Ways to Use 10 Things...

Here are some possibilities for using a great, locally-produced resource. For your parish’s benefit—choose one, or more, or devise your own! May God bless a hundredfold your use of 10 Things...

Print mailing labels featuring your parish name, website and/or phone number, and Mass times. Have the labels placed on the back of 10 Things… in the space that’s the size of—a mailing label! (You might advise the parish secretary not to correct folks who ask “What time are your services?”)

Start in the immediate parish neighborhood and eventually fan out to the whole parish territory. In pairs (like the Lord advised) send folks out to hand-deliver 10 Things… to each and every household—with a simple verbal invitation to read it and visit the parish some time for Mass.

Consider implementing Neighbor Nights (or some such title) several times a year—using 10 Things… to invite folks for a simple evening of refreshments, a brief presentation on a basic doctrinal topic, and most importantly: casual follow-up Q&A on any 10 Things… topic, or the evening’s topic, or any faith-related topic!

To complement Neighbor Nights you might want to run 6-week no-strings-attached info series three times a year—one of them corresponding with the inquiry period of RCIA, the other two at different times of year with an eye toward encouraging folks to repeat the session before RCIA (for deeper understanding) then become a catechumen or candidate.

Send a letter to everyone on the parish roll who you have reason to believe isn’t participating in the life of your parish consistently e.g. attending Mass, enrolling children in religious ed or school, etc.. Include 10 Things… along with a brief explanation of it in your letter and invite folks to rekindle their relationship with Jesus in the context of Catholic parish life. Because you miss them!

Plus…

- Distribute them at your parish festival or even the County Fair.
- In your travels within the parish territory, keep a few in your coat pocket—just in case.
- Include with food pantry efforts—to remind folks they’re welcome to worship with you.
- Encourage youth to take 10 Things… to school for conversations with peers.
- Place on the ticket table as fans enter CYO events.

Again—multiple ways to use 10 Things… are feasible. We all want more parishioners—more disciples of Jesus living their relationship with him in our parish community. 10 Things… is a simple, local resource to break what might be an awkward silence about faith for many people in your parish territory. To order free copies of 10 Things… please email tbrydon@archindy.org.