**Sample Letters for Awakening Faith Publicity**

**Includes letters for Inactive Catholics, Parents and Guardians, and Young Adults**

**Note:** The sample letters appear here as a MS Word document. The content of the material that a parish may wish to use is presented below exactly as it is printed in the manual.

**Letter to Inactive Catholics**

**Letter from the pastor to specific groups of parishioners**

**After compiling a list of inactive Catholics,** **the pastor can send this sample letter.**

Dear XXXX,

I want to tell you about an exciting ministry we are starting here at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ parish called *Awakening* *Faith*. I believe it can benefit many people, particularly anyone who feels some desire to reconnect more deeply with Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church.

People today do not live as they did forty or even twenty-five years ago. We are busier, make more commitments, and ask more questions. We sometimes drift away from things that are important to us. We get over-prioritized and are just too distracted to keep things in order in our lives. All too often this happens with the practice of our Catholic faith.

*Awakening* *Faith* is a simple process. We will provide six sessions on basic elements of our Catholic faith, with opportunities for conversation and sharing. The initial sessions help us explore spirituality, who Jesus is, what we think of the Holy Spirit, whether we can find forgiveness, how the Mass might engage us more, and what we think of the Church. If people want, four more sessions are available later about our quest for faith, love, marriage-divorce-annulment, and the use of money. The enclosed flyer explains *Awakening* *Faith* in more detail.

You might know someone who can benefit from a program like this. It might even be you. There’s no cost or obligation. The sessions will be confidential and in a safe, comfortable environment. And of course we realize someone may not be able to make all of the first six sessions, but they still can benefit from coming to some of them.

Please give the flyer to anyone who might benefit from attending *Awakening* *Faith.* If you or the people you invite have questions, call the parish office at (\_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_), send an email to ( ), or call \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, who will be directing the program, at (\_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_).

Please pray with me for an increase of faith today!

[Signed]

Pastor

**Letter to Parents 1**

**Sample letters sent to parents and guardians of children in religious education or in the parish’s Catholic school**

**The pastor can send this letter.**

Dear XXXX,

I want to tell you about an exciting ministry we are starting here at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ parish called *Awakening* *Faith*. I believe it can benefit many people, particularly anyone who feels some desire to reconnect more deeply with Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church.

Sometimes parents feel this desire to reconnect in a particular way because their children are asking them questions about God or Jesus and they simply are not sure what to say. Parents today are pushed from one thing to another, with barely enough time for themselves. As a result, feeling connected to the Church sometimes suffers, in spite of all the best intentions.

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Please give the flyer to anyone who might benefit from attending *Awakening* *Faith.* If you or the people you invite have questions, call the parish office at (\_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_), send an email to ( ), or call \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, who will be directing the program, at (\_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_).

Please pray with me for an increase of faith today!

[Signed]

Pastor

**Letter to Parents 2**

**The school principal or the director of religious education can send this letter.**

Dear XXXX,

I want to tell you about an exciting ministry we are starting here at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ parish called *Awakening* *Faith*. I believe it can benefit many people, particularly anyone who feels some desire to reconnect more deeply with Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church.

As the [principal/director of religious education] here at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ parish, I know the kinds of pressures that parents face. Many want to, and choose to, have their children educated in the basics of the faith, but often feel unconnected with the faith themselves. Let’s face it, we often did not receive solid religious education—or if we did, sometimes we did not pay much attention! Children are the same in every generation! And often today our schedules pull us in so many directions that we cannot prioritize the things that are important to us, including the practice of our faith.

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You might know someone who can benefit from a program like this. It might even be you. There’s no cost or obligation. The sessions will be confidential and in a safe, comfortable environment. And of course we realize someone may not be able to make all of the first six sessions, but they still can benefit from coming to some of them.

Please give the flyer to anyone who might benefit from attending *Awakening* *Faith.* If you or the people you invite have questions, call the parish office at (\_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_), send an email to ( ), or call \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, who will be directing the program, at (\_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_).

Please pray with me for an increase of faith today!

[Signed]

Title of person signing

**Letter to Young Adults 1**

**The pastor can send this letter to young adults.**

Dear XXXX,

I want to tell you about an exciting ministry we are starting here at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ parish called *Awakening* *Faith*. I believe it can benefit many people, particularly anyone who feels some desire to reconnect more deeply with Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church.

I believe this will be of particular benefit to young adults in our parish. After all, the young adult years are times when we come to question our given identities and explore options. As a result, these years can be a prime time to truly engage in faith. . . or a time to leave a lot of faith behind. And we continue to search, particularly in our faith life.

*Awakening* *Faith* is a simple process. We will provide six sessions on basic elements of our Catholic faith, with opportunities for conversation and sharing. The initial sessions help us explore spirituality, who Jesus is, what we think of the Holy Spirit, whether we can find forgiveness, how the Mass might engage us more, and what we think of the Church. If people want, four more sessions are available later about our quest for faith, love, marriage-divorce-annulment, and the use of money. The enclosed flyer explains *Awakening* *Faith* in more detail.

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Please give the flyer to anyone who might benefit from attending *Awakening* *Faith.* If you or the people you invite have questions, call the parish office at (\_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_), send an email to ( ), or call \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, who will be directing the program, at (\_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_).

Please pray with me for an increase of faith today!

[Signed]

Pastor

**Letter to Young Adults 2**

**The Young Adult Coordinator can send this letter to other young adults.**

Dear XXXX,

I want to tell you about an exciting program we are starting here at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ parish called *Awakening* *Faith*. I believe it can benefit many people, particularly anyone who feels some desire to reconnect more deeply with Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church.

As someone involved in young adult ministry in our parish, I particularly wanted to call your attention to this program. Our young adult years are times when we come to question our given identities and explore options. As a result, these years can be a prime time to truly engage in faith. . . or a time to leave a lot of faith behind. And we continue to search, particularly in our faith life.

*Awakening* *Faith* is a simple process. We will provide six sessions on basic elements of our Catholic faith, with opportunities for conversation and sharing. The initial sessions help us explore spirituality, who Jesus is, what we think of the Holy Spirit, whether we can find forgiveness, how the Mass might engage us more, and what we think of the Church. If people want, four more sessions are available later about our quest for faith, love, marriage-divorce-annulment, and the use of money. The enclosed flyer explains *Awakening* *Faith* in more detail.

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Please give the flyer to anyone who might benefit from attending *Awakening* *Faith.* If you or the people you invite have questions, call the parish office at (\_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_), send an email to ( ), or call \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, who will be directing the program, at (\_\_\_-\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_).

Please pray with me for an increase of faith today!

[Signed]

Title of person signing.