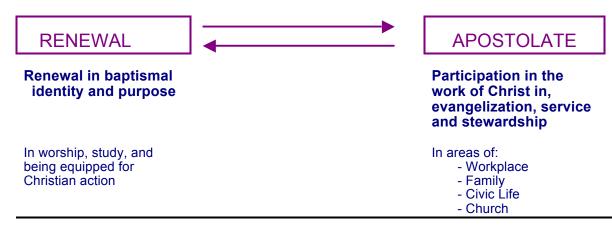
THE RENEWAL - APOSTOLATE CYCLE As Related to Eucharistic Spirituality

The Renewal - Apostolate Cycle is a way of describing a central dynamic of Christian life. The primary task and central process of a congregation can be seen as enabling people in a faithful and effective movement between renewal and apostolate.



The Eucharist, and participation in the Eucharistic community, is the primary means for the individual Christian, and the church, to be renewed.

What we bring to the Eucharist

Our Weekday Prayer Life

The extent to which we have participated in offering:

- the daily prayer of the church (some form of the Daily Office) and/or
- our personal devotions (e.g., contemplation, intercession, adoration, etc.) The particular type of personal devotions we make use of is properly related to our personality and calling

Our Daily Life

Our work, friends & family, civic involvements and political passions, our work in the church; all of the joy and pain that comes with those involvements

A Cycle

The cycle is between a conscious and intentional attention to God and Christian formation and a subconscious reliance upon God as members of the Body of Christ, in the workplace, family, civic life and congregational life.

In that Cycle: We Need: To accept our dependence on God Which is Helped By: Openness to spiritual guidance

To accept responsibility for ordering our spiritual life

Establishing a rule of life

To accept our interdependence with others in the Church

Life in Christian community, a congregation

It is important to note that:

- 1. There is something organic about this cycle in relation to the Eucharist. By just showing up at the Eucharist, we bring ourselves our daily life, our prayer life, etc. Even in those times of a weary, half-hearted participation, God may act. Our being present is our offering and God may use that toward our transformation.
- 2. If we seek a more powerful experience of Eucharistic prayer we can be more intentional in our weekday prayer life and we can, at the Offertory, offer a specific intention that rises out of our daily life.

© Robert A. Gallagher, 1985, 2002