

Parish Personalities Each person is unique

© RENEW International, 2014. All rights reserved.
Parishes who are signed-up members of the ARISE Together in Christ process
may make copies of this page for their own parish use.

Livid Lizzie

- angry, cynical, sarcastic
- perhaps she was hurt when she approached the Church for her child's first Communion
- angry over the sexual-abuse scandal
- questions some of the teaching that seem too autocratic
- often betrayed by life, institutions, people, family
- relies on challenging everything and everyone ...

Perhaps getting to know people who are genuine in the Catholic community will be the first step for her.

Corporate Cory

- a go-getter
- has little time for his family, and his work/life balance is definitely skewed heavily to work
- perfectionist, aggressive, judgmental
- recognizes professionalism and despises shoddiness
- lack of self-worth, poor self-image, relying on rules and achievement to establish worth and judge it in others
- ...

He needs to be approached in a way that gives him space to ask questions and to hear good answers.

Hedonist Harry

- wants to be free to choose whatever he likes with no restrictions or judgments
- wants a good time now
- lives for the buzz and the next "high" (sports, cars, vacations, fun)
- relies on material experiences without reflection
- often chemical, substance or sexual dependencies
- relies on challenging everything and everyone ...

Yet, there is a hollowness and shallowness to his life, he is always looking for something more ...

Maybe it could be Jesus.

Apathetic Annie

- may be the hardest nut to crack
- simply not interested in anything
- no passion, doesn't care
- doesn't care much about herself, about other people or the big questions of life
- relies on challenging everything and everyone ...

Above all, she needs "wordless witness." She needs someone to persevere in concern for her, gently inviting her and being willing to walk with her.

>>>

Searching Susie

- has dabbled in this and that
- picks at traditions from all over the world
- goes from one thing to another
- she considers herself “spiritual” but is suspicious of “religion”
- her journey is intense and sincere ...

People who invite should respect her journey and help her make connections between her experiences and those of the Christian mystics, encourage her to discover the beauty and depths of Christian rituals ...

Remember

- Never rule out any person.
- Everyone can change.
- Because a person is apathetic or angry doesn't mean that you should stop asking.

Activity

- What might you say to invite this person?
- What would you expect as this person's response?
- How would you encourage him or her?

© RENEW International, 2014. All rights reserved.
Parishes who are signed-up members of the ARISE Together in Christ process may make copies of this page for their own parish use.