Talking Points (in bold and underlined) and Sample Script for "Pulpit Talk"

Use this as a guide in creating a BRIEF talk (no more than two minutes) to share with your parish or group. Don't memorize a speech! Just be sure to cover the key points, smile, and show enthusiasm!

THANK YOU
Thank you, Fr. _____ for allowing me to take just a few minutes to speak to the parish.

INTRODUCTION
My name is _____ and I am a parishioner here. I'm here today to personally invite you to join me at a retreat at St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center on the weekend of _____. I would love all of the men/women of the parish to join me!

DESCRIPTION OF CENTER/RETREAT EXPERIENCE
Whether you have taken a retreat in the past or if this will be your first time, you will feel welcomed from the moment you enter the door on Friday afternoon until you leave on Sunday morning. St. Paul's is a beautiful, serene place conveniently located in Detroit on the Schoolcraft service drive just east of Telegraph. The talks, presented by two Passionist priests and a laywoman, focus this year on a very timely theme: "Abide in Me: Choosing to Live Faithfully in an Era of Chaos". This weekend away will give you the opportunity to step away from the chaos in your life and reconnect with Jesus. You will have the opportunity for physical and spiritual refreshment, time to pray and rest, your own room with a private bath and five meals prepared for you. Mass is celebrated each day, and there are opportunities for reconciliation and one-on-one spiritual direction throughout the weekend.

ALL ARE WELCOME
Also, I'm happy to tell you that each one of you can afford the cost of the retreat! There is a suggested donation, but NO one should allow cost to be an impediment to attending. Some give more, some give less, and ALL are welcome. Sometimes folks say they can't afford to take time for themselves. In the scriptures we hear often of the times Jesus himself took time away to be alone and pray. Don't each of us need this time as well?

CONTACT INFO/ENCOURAGEMENT TO REGISTER
I ask you to really consider coming on this retreat and inviting a friend or two: your mom/dad, your sister/brother, brother/sister-in-law, co-workers, neighbors, friends, your BFF. Anyone you think might need this time with the Lord.

SUMMARY/THANK YOU AGAIN
Again, the retreat starts on Friday night, with registration starting at 4:30 and ends on Sunday after 11:00 Mass. I will be (location of church) to answer any questions you may have, and there is also information available in the bulletin. Thank you for your time and have a wonderful week.