

Navigating 2020 Child Formation

What will the coming year look like?

How can we prepare for interruptions or changing conditions?

How can we improve our programming, even under these conditions?

Our Goal and Principles Remain the Same. . .

- Our goal = to make disciples
- 6 Tasks of Catechesis working together
 - *Promoting knowledge of the faith*
 - *Liturgical education*
 - *Moral formation*
 - *Teaching to pray*
 - *Education for Community Life*
 - *Missionary initiation*
- Always in context of family and the community
- Developmentally appropriate

. . . But conditions have changed, so we need to consider new settings and methods of faith formation.

Settings in General

1. **Face-to-face programs**, as in the past – grade-level classes, family program, parent sessions.
2. **Face-to-face, with limitations** - smaller groups, social distance, staggered times, careful interactions.
3. **Home-based formation** – resources & guidance for parents to foster learning and prayer in the family.
4. **Online classes** – for older students or for families.

To Expand Options, Consider these Factors:

- In person or virtual?
- Real-time or asynchronous?
- Gathered or non-gathered?
- At-parish or At-home?
- Family-focused or age-specific?

Models of Faith Formation

9 Settings / Methods that may be used, depending on circumstances

In Person Classes

- Age specific ● Gathered ● Real-time ● At Parish

Family Program

- Family and Age specific ● Gathered ● Real time ● Parish

Flipped Classroom

- Asynchronous Input
- In person or virtual session to discuss, process, apply

Smaller Groups – Staggered / Alternate Times

- Age specific ● Gathered ● Real-time ● At Parish

Take Home Activities

- Asynchronous ● Non-gathered ● Age specific

Home-based Family Formation

- Family-focused ● Asynchronous ● At Home

Hybrid Groups – Small group alternating in-person/virtual

- Gathered ● Real-time ● Parish/At Home

Homeschool – Parent as Catechist

- Age specific ● Non-gathered ● Asynchronous ● At Home

E-Learning Program

- Asynchronous ● Age specific ● At Home

Using More than one Model during this year

- **Plan B** – Develop a plan to switch to a different model during the year if needed
- **Blended or Hybrid** – Combine two models during year, from the beginning. If circumstances change, continue with the most appropriate model which is already in place.

Multiple Models – Value not only in adaptability to changing circumstances, but opportunity to improve family engagement, to build community among families, to expand use of new catechetical methods and media.

Aspects of Planning

- Content – grade-specific curriculum
- Resources – print and/or electronic
- Community – how to foster community
- Catechists – what is their role
- Parent Role – manager, teacher, parent
- Family Life – engage and enhance