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Office of Catechesis News

Catechetical Surveys - past and present

This fall, parish leaders have been asking us “what are other parishes doing now?” So, this month we are conducting a “Fall Snapshot Survey.” This survey will help us learn how parishes have adapted faith formation this fall in light of the ongoing pandemic.

Please take 10 minutes to complete the survey by November 20.

We will share the results with you in December.

Take the Survey

Back in spring, when the Covid-19 pandemic began, the majority of parishes around the Archdiocese found ways to connect with families and to provide resources during the Safer-at-Home order. In our *Survey of Parish Catechetical Programs*, we asked how you handled faith formation during that time. Here were the results:

- 60% We gave families access to online resources (videos, activities, prayers, etc)
- 33% We sent packets or textbooks home for parents to do with their children.
- 32% We switched to virtual/online classes and meetings.
- 24% We ended our faith formation programs.
- 8% Our program was already finished.

The complete report of the 2019-2020 Survey will be posted online in the next few days. In that survey, we gather information on personnel, models of catechesis, enrollment, textbooks, special needs, sacramental preparation, and catechists. We make it available for your own faith formation planning, and we use the information to guide our archdiocesan planning, policy updates and resource development.

Check for the results soon on the [Survey of Parish Catechetical Programs page](#).

Co-Workers In Transition

Last issue, we listed catechetical leaders who are new to the ministry or serving in new positions. If you missed it, [check here](#).

Continuing our updates on new directors of religious education or faith formation, we welcome:

- Barb Lee, Coordinator of Child Ministry, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, New Berlin
- Johanna Lee, Coordinator of Child Ministry, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, New Berlin
- Brianna Vogel, Adult Education Coordinator, St. Mary on the Hill, Hubertus
- Adrian Lynch, Youth Evangelization Coordinator, St. Mary, Hales Corners

Added areas of responsibility:

- Dody Bushbaum, Director of Lifelong Faith Formation, New Munster/Twin Lakes

For all those beginning a new role this year, let us pray, and let us pledge our support and companionship along the way.

If you know of someone new to a position that we have not listed, please let us know.

Upcoming Events

New Directors Institute

The New Directors Institute is designed to provide information, support and resources to help you as your ministry unfolds. All directors of religious education, youth ministry and faith formation, who are new or nearly new to ministry, or new to archdiocese, are encouraged to join us.

For this year, we will meet virtually, using Zoom, at least through Fall 2020. [See Schedule](#). Sessions are scheduled every two weeks on alternating Tuesday and Thursdays, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon.

You can registration online at: <https://archmil.regfox.com/ndi2021>

There is no cost to participate. We will provide the Zoom link and other information after you register.

Gigs, Geeks & God

January 14, 2021



Gigs, Geeks and God, an Archdiocesan technology conference, aims to help parishes understand and integrate technology in their formation programs, communications, and parish administration.

Due to the Coronavirus, this year's conference will be virtual. The conference will feature pre-recorded workshops, a live keynote address, a live general session about a current technology trend relating to ministry, live workshop sessions as well as hands on labs. Join us for a series of presentations and workshops designed to help youth ministers, catechetical leaders and other staff

engage technology more effectively in their ministries and to address ethical and formational issues related to technology in our lives.

The conference offers topics for anyone in parish ministry such as parish business managers, finance councils, faith formation leaders. [Register Now](#)

Archdiocese News

See You at Mass

To assist parishes with encouraging people to return to Mass in person, the Archdiocese of Milwaukee has created a series of video clips of personal testimonies on the joys and necessities of attending Mass in person. All of the videos are short and invitational and are meant to be shared on social media, parish websites, or in e-newsletters.

[See You at Mass Videos](#)

Missionary Discipleship Institute Virtual Impact Sessions

The Missionary Discipleship Institute will be meeting virtually this month on November 19th at 7pm with three amazing impact sessions that will help participants dive deeper into the practicals of how to evangelize and be on mission as a disciple of Jesus. These are great sessions for you and your leaders! Choose from:

- **Anatomy of a Catholic Disciple with Doug**
- **School of Prayer: The Disposition of a Disciple Maker with Margaret**
- **Sharing God's Great Story in You with Pete**

[Find out more information and register here.](#)

Love Begins Here

In Summer 2021, the Archdiocese will be launching a new youth service opportunity called Love Begins Here. We will host 4 local service weeks throughout the Archdiocese modeled on the life of St. Teresa of Calcutta and the Missionaries of Charity. Parish registration is open now. Learn more at <https://www.archmil.org/LBH> and sign your parish teens up



**LOVE
BEGINS
HERE**
LOCAL, LIFE CHANGING MISSION TRIPS

at <https://archmil.regfox.com/love-begins-here-2021-parish-registration>



Totus Tuus

The Archdiocese will also re-launch Totus Tuus in 2021. Totus Tuus is a week-long parish youth mission (similar to vacation bible school) centered around the Eucharist, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and of course, FUN. Learn more at <https://www.archmil.org/totustuus>

The Catholic Comeback - Phase 2 & Advent & Christmas Matrix

The Catholic Comeback is the archdiocesan guide for returning to parish operations and ministry. In the form of a matrix, it lists all sorts of parish activities, sacraments, and programs. On September 14, the dispensation of the obligation to attend Sunday Mass expired. At that time we also moved to PHASE 2 of the Catholic Comeback Matrix. [View the updated matrix](#) - the matrix changes for Phase 2 highlighted in red.

In addition, an updated Catholic Comeback [Matrix for Advent and Christmas](#) has been prepared to assist staff in planning Advent & Christmas Celebrations.

From our Friends

Racial Climate in Our Catholic Faith

Mareda invites you to join them on **November 18th from 1-3pm** to hear Dr. Shawnee Daniels-Sykes, member of the Milwaukee Archdiocese's Black Catholic Ministry Commission talk about the Racial Climate in Our Catholic Faith. Dr. Daniels-Sykes is looking forward to a great discussion! [REGISTER NOW](#).



Mareda

The Association of Catholic
Catechetical Leaders in the
Archdiocese of Milwaukee

Save the date! - February 24 at 9:30 am

Bishop Schuerman will meet with Mareda

The meeting is tentatively planned for St. Anthony on the Lake in Pewaukee.

Resources

Formation Resources

Discover free-of-charge resources to supplement or enhance your lessons. Videos, lesson plans and other resources have been vetted by our review team, and are listed by general topic and by age group. Visit: <https://www.archmil.org/Catechesis/Technology/Formation-Resources.htm>

Do you have a favorite resource to share? Send us your suggestions under "Submit a Resource."

Anti-Racism Formation Resources

In their June 2, 2020 statement, the Wisconsin Catholic Bishops asked the parishes to engage in formation and activities designed to address racism. We realize that many parishes have been doing this for years and many are already engaged. In order to enhance those activities and encourage more, we have pulled together this [short list of available resources](#). We realize that there are many resources available.

Catechetical Resources During the Pandemic

We will continue to update our [Catechetical Resources During the Coronavirus Pandemic page](#) with additional resources as they are developed.

Fall 2020 Resource Page

The Office of Youth Evangelization has put together a [Planning for Fall 2020 page](#) with resources, ideas, and encouragement as we all forge ahead this year. We try to add updates as they become available.

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Do you have an article, event or district meeting you would like included in the newsletter???

Please send information to: murphyjc@archmil.org



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