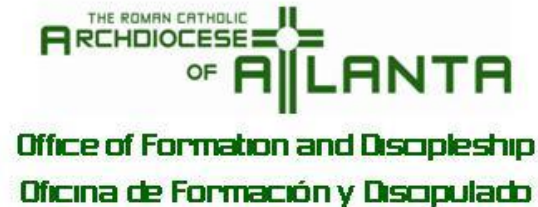


welcome

Bienvenidos

Chào mừng

DISCIPLESHIP INITIATIVE: ***Coordinating Evangelization and Stewardship***



Dennis Johnson, Jr.
Atlanta, Georgia
© 2009

Gracias



Thank You

PRAAYER

God of love and mercy,

You call us to be your people; you gift us with your abundant grace.

Make us a holy people, radiating the fullness of your love.

**Form us into a community,
a people who care,
expressing your compassion.**

**Remind us day after day of our baptismal call to serve,
with joy and courage.**

**Teach us how to grow in wisdom and grace and joy
In your presence.**

Through Jesus and in your Spirit, we make this prayer. Amen.

-- Called and Gifted for the Third Millennium, p. IV

OUTLINE

- ❑ **Welcome and Introduction:**

- ❑ **PART ONE: Evangelization**

- ❑ **PART TWO: Catechetical Ministry**

- ❑ **PART THREE: Discipleship Initiative**

- ❑ **PART FOUR: Resources and Tools**

- ❑ **PART FIVE: Proximate Steps**

- ❑ **Conclusion and Dismissal**

WELCOME

AND

INTRODUCTION

Welcome

It's all about you!!!....

WHY ARE WE HERE?

- You are key collaborators.
- A renewed focus improves ministry.
- Networking is valuable.
- Parishes and ministries will benefit.

Introduction

Today we will establish a baseline for continued work.

WE ARE ONE BUT OUR REALITIES ARE DIVERSE

- Urban, suburban, and rural.
- Wide-array of available resources.
- Variety of people we serve.
- Differing needs, abilities, and priorities.

Let us work with Clay!



PART ONE:

Evangelization – A Context for Ministry

Historical Development

The Second Vatican Council calls for renewal.

THE UNIVERSAL CALL TO HOLINESS

It is therefore quite clear that all Christians in any state or walk of life are called to the fullness of Christian life and to the perfection of love, and by this holiness a more human manner of life is fostered also in earthly society. In order to reach this perfection the faithful should use the strength dealt out to them by Christ's gift, so that, following in his footsteps and conformed to his image, doing the will of God in everything, they may wholeheartedly devote themselves to the glory of God and the service of their neighbor.

-- *Lumen Gentium*, #40

Historical Development

This renewal fosters a new age.

RESTORATION AND REFORMULATION

- Liturgical renewal (“full, conscious, and active participation” by all faithful).
- Restoration of the *Rites of Christian Initiation of Adults*.
- Instruction to develop national catechetical directories.
- Evangelization emerges as a central priority.

Historical Development

A comprehensive refocusing emerges.

UNIVERSAL CATECHETICAL DOCUMENTS

- General Catechetical Directory – 1971
- Evangelii Nuntiandi – 1975
- Catechesi Traedendae – 1979
- Code of Canon Law – 1983
- Redemptoris Missio – 1990
- Catechism of the Catholic Church – 1992
- General Directory for Catechesis – 1997

Historical Development

Particular pastoral realities are addressed.

NATIONAL CATECHETICAL DOCUMENTS

- To Teach As Jesus Did – 1972
- National Catechetical Directory – 1979
- Go And Make Disciples – 1992
- Our Hearts Were Burning Within Us – 1999
- National Directory for Catechesis – 2005
- United States Adult Catechism – 2006

Evangelization

Evangelization is the mission of the Church.

BRING THE GOOD NEWS

Evangelization is in fact the grace and vocation proper to the Church, her deepest identity. She exists in order to evangelize, that is to say in order to teach and preach, to be the channel of the gift of grace...

...For the Church, evangelizing means bringing the Good News into all of the strata of humanity, and through its influence transforming humanity from within and making it new.

-- *Evangelii Nuntiandi*, #14 & #18

Evangelization

Evangelization is the context for discipleship.

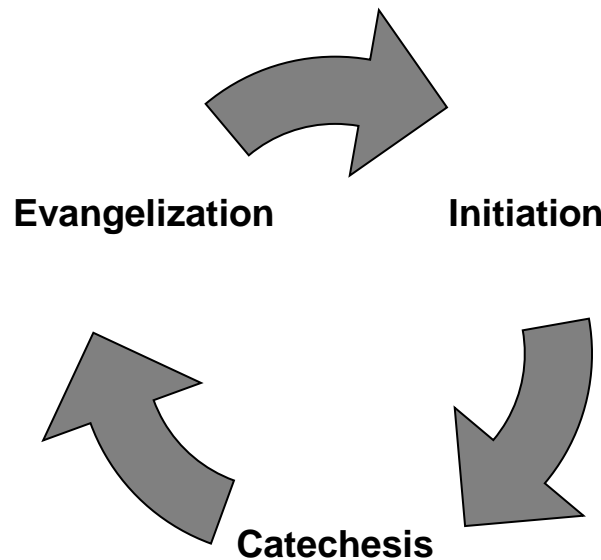
FORM DISCIPLES

**Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you;...**

-- Matthew 28:19-ff

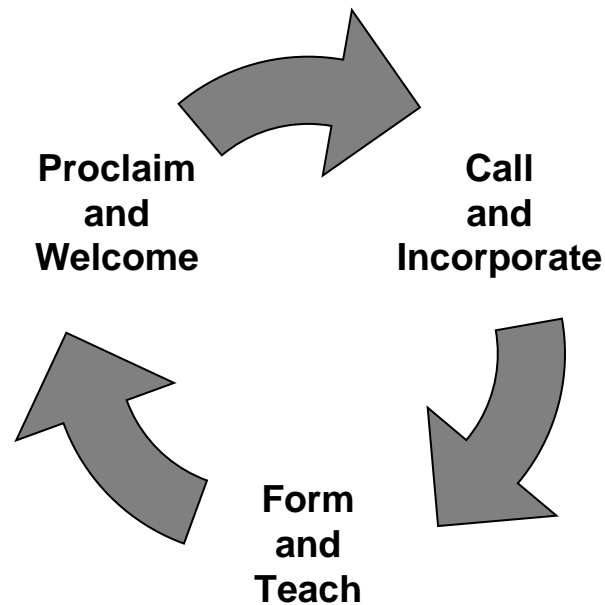
Evangelization

The process of evangelization consists of three moments.



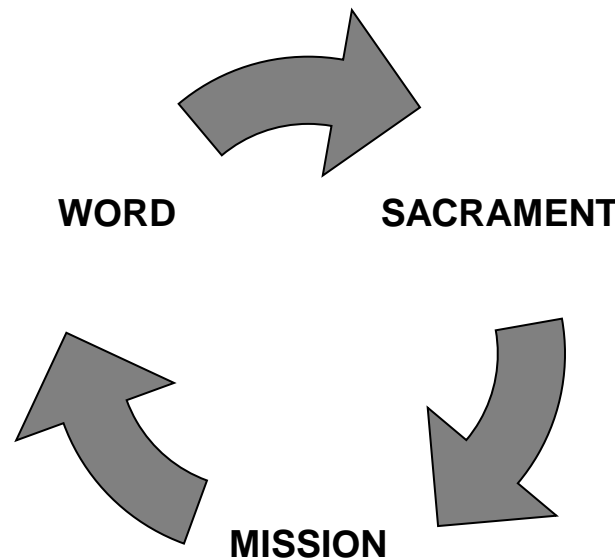
Evangelization

The moments or stages of evangelization are interrelated.



Evangelization

Evangelization is embodied by internal and external witness.



Discipleship

Discipleship is an outcome of evangelization.

THE UNIVERSAL PERSPECTIVE

Evangelization must develop its totality and completely incorporate its intrinsic bipolarity: witness and proclamation, word and sacrament, interior change and social transformation. Those who evangelize have a “global vision” of evangelization and identify with the overall mission of the Church.

-- General Directory for Catechesis, #46

Catechesis

Catechesis fosters mature discipleship.

PASTORAL PRACTICE

Since they are called by baptism to lead a life in keeping with the teaching of the gospel, the Christian faithful have the right to a Christian education [educationem] by which they are to be instructed properly to strive for the maturity of the human person and at the same time to know and live the mystery of salvation.

-- *Code of Canon Law, #217*

Catechesis

Catechesis manifests a living faith.

PASTORAL PRACTICE

It is a proper and grave duty especially of pastors of souls to take care of the catechesis of the Christian people so that the living faith of the faithful becomes manifest and active through doctrinal instruction and the experience of the Christian life.

-- Code of Canon Law, #773

Catechesis

Catechesis engages communion with Jesus Christ.

CHURCH TEACHING

The primary and essential object of catechesis is,...
'the mystery of Christ'.

-- Catechesi Tradendae, #5

Challenges and Opportunities

Looking at the world from the standpoint of faith.

PASTORAL CHALLENGE

The disciple of Jesus Christ deeply shares the ‘joys and hopes, the sadness and anxiety of the men today.’ He gazes upon human history and participates in it, not only from the standpoint of reason but also from that of faith.

-- General Directory for Catechesis, #16 (quoting Vatican II -- Guadium et Spes, #1)

Challenges and Opportunities

The Church at the service of the Kingdom.

PASTORAL OPPORTUNITY

The Church, then, serves the Kingdom by establishing communities and founding new particular churches, and by guiding them to mature faith and charity in openness to others, in service to individuals and society, and in understanding and esteem for human institutions.

-- Redemptoris Missio, #20

Part One: Summary

A simple-formula for catechetical ministry...

Our task:

To help people identify

the experience of God

in their everyday lives and,

having named that, then to

Worship with awe,

Understand it a little,

Live accordingly in love.

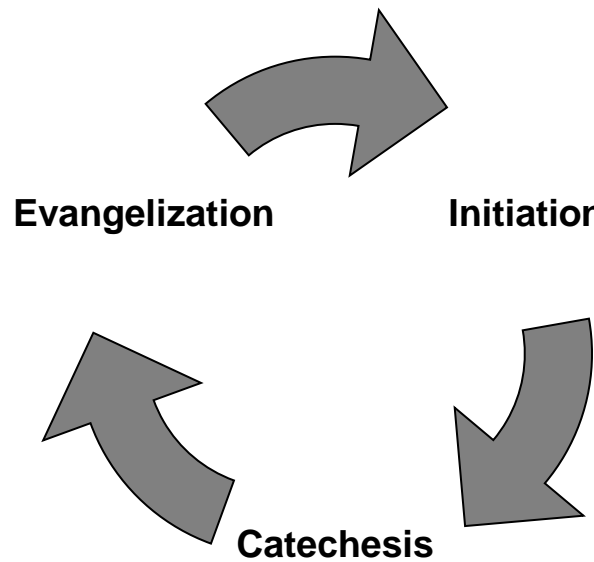
-- Bill Huebsch, author and theologian.

PART TWO:

Catechetical Ministry – A Framework for Success

Catechetical Vision

Integrates the three moments.



Catechetical Model

Comprehensive, systematic, life-long, and on-going.

PASTORAL APPLICATION

The baptismal catechumenate is the inspiration for all catechesis. This process of formation includes four stages as well as the rituals that mark those stages. While a distinction is made between catechumens and those already baptized who are being catechized, some elements of the baptismal catechumenate are instructive for post-baptismal catechesis. In that sense, the baptismal catechumenate inspires a continuing catechesis. It reminds the Church that her catechesis accompanies a continual conversion to Christ and an ongoing initiation in to the celebration of the sacraments and the life of the Church.

-- National Directory for Catechesis, p. 115-116.

Catechetical Vision

Comprehensive, systematic, life-long, and on-going.

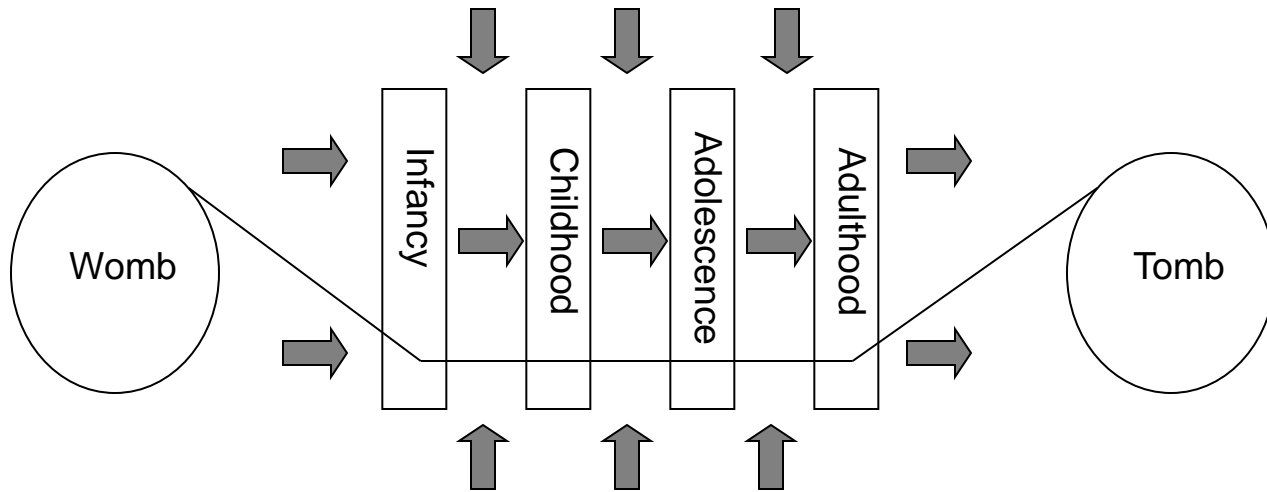
PASTORAL APPLICATION

The whole Christian community is the origin, locus, and goal of catechesis. Proclamation of the Gospel always begins with the Christian community and invites [people] to conversion and the following of Christ.

-- General Directory for Catechesis, #254

Catechetical Model

Broad and permeable entry-points.



Catechetical Model

Comprehensive, systematic, life-long, and on-going.

PASTORAL APPLICATION

Adult catechesis should be the “organizing principle,” which gives coherence to the various catechetical programs offered by a particular Church... This is the axis around which revolves the catechesis of childhood and adolescence as well as that of old age.

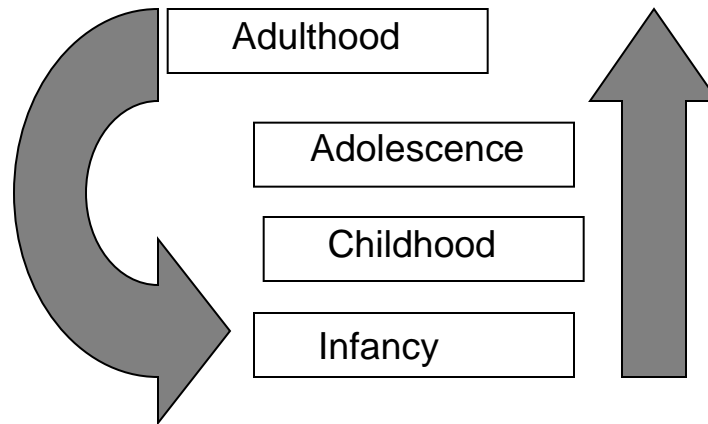
-- National Directory for Catechesis, p. 188.

Parents above others are obliged to form their children by word and example in faith and in the practice of the Christian life.

-- Code of Canon Law, #774(2).

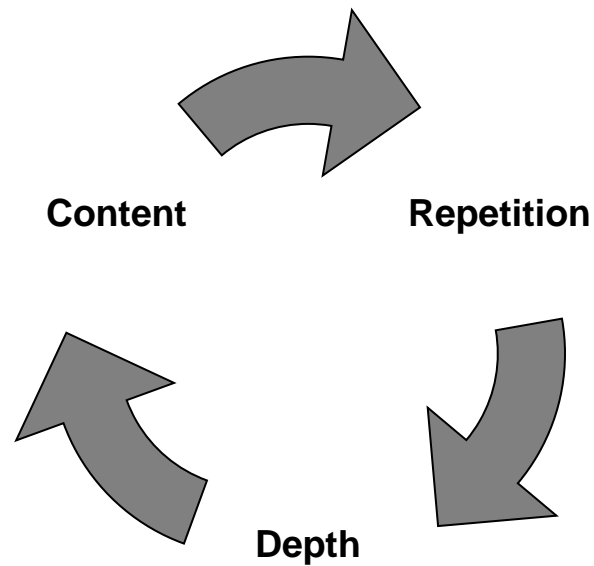
Catechetical Model

Hierarchy of focus.



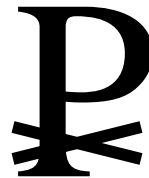
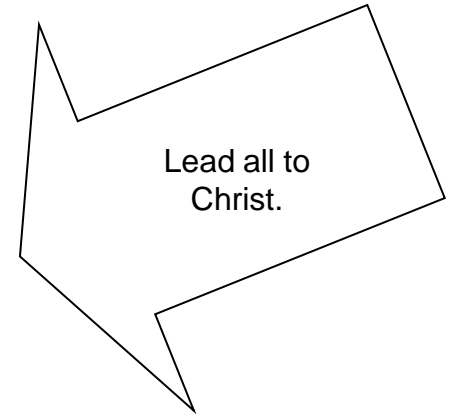
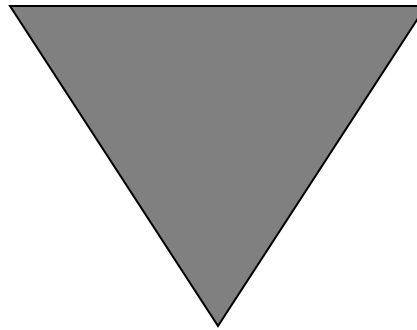
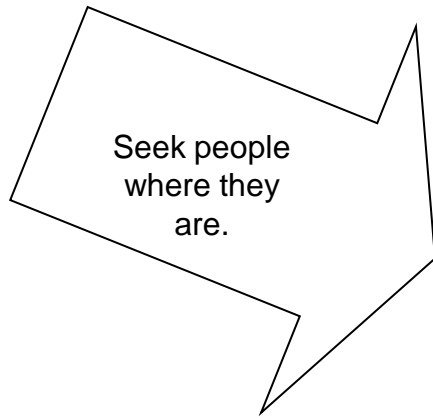
Catechetical Model

Spiral-curriculum.



Catechetical Model

Broad attraction and application



Catechetical Model

Comprehensive, systematic, life-long, and on-going.

PASTORAL APPLICATION

Pastors of souls, especially bishops and pastors, are to be concerned that the word of God is also proclaimed to those of the faithful who because of the condition of their life do not have sufficient common or ordinary pastoral care or lack it completely. They are also to make provision that the message of the gospel reaches non-believers living in their territory since the care of souls must also extend to them no less than the faithful.

-- Code of Canon Law, #771(2).

Catechetical Activity

The six tasks.

General Directory for Catechesis -- #85-ff

- Promoting knowledge of the faith.
- Liturgical education.
- Moral formation.
- Teaching to pray.
- Education for community life.
- Missionary initiation.

Challenges and Opportunities

The symphony of orthodoxy and orthopraxis.

PASTORAL CHALLENGE

The symphony of the Christian life must blend orthodoxy – “right-believing” or “right-praying” with orthopraxis – “right-living” in a harmonious melody of discipleship. If these elements are championed in contrast to one another, our faith life becomes disjointed.

-- Most Reverend Leonard Blair – Bishop of Toledo, OH

Challenges and Opportunities

Toward a new evangelization.

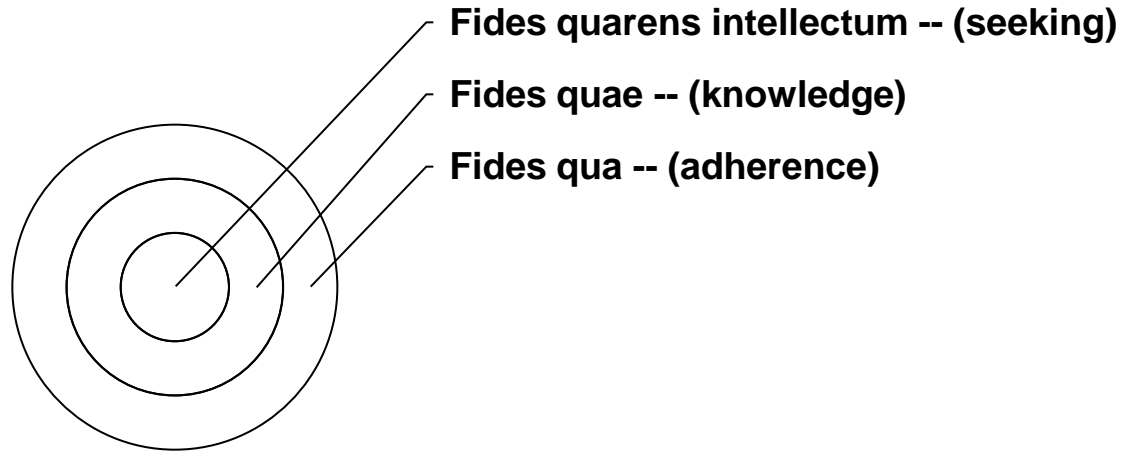
PASTORAL OPPORTUNITY

Faith involves a profound change of mind and heart, a change of life, a metanoia. There is a hunger for God and the things of the Spirit but it needs to be encouraged, informed, and directed.

-- Most Reverend Donald Wuerl, Bishop-emeritus of Pittsburgh, PA

Part Two: Summary

A simple-formula for catechetical ministry...



Wash feet.



PART THREE:

The Discipleship Initiative – A Coordinated Effort

Today's Paradigm

Participation in Church life.

The Model Parish

- **Responsive Leadership:**
Welcoming and Encouraging
- **Mature Discipleship:**
Formed and Committed
- **Vibrant Communities:**
Embracing and Engaging
- **Transformative Stewardship:**
Outward-focused and Generous

Stewardship

Stewardship is a way of life.

THE BISHOPS' PERSPECTIVE

As with all things pertaining to the gospel, stewardship is fundamentally the work of the Spirit in our lives. Discipleship requires the surrender of ourselves through grace and choice to Jesus Christ: “Mature disciples make a conscious, firm decision, carried out in action, to be followers of Jesus Christ no matter the cost to themselves.”

-- Stewardship: A Disciple's Response, p. 1.

Stewardship

Stewardship is an outcome of discipleship.

THE BISHOPS' PERSPECTIVE

“Stewardship is an expression of discipleship, with the power to change how we understand and live out our lives.” Becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ leads naturally to the practice of stewardship.

-- Stewardship: A Disciple's Response, pp. 2, 14.

Discipleship Directorate

A partnership of leadership.

Parish and Archdiocese

- **Collaborative Support:**
 - Office of Formation and Discipleship
 - Office of Stewardship
- **Integrated Process:**
 - Forming Disciples
 - Living As Stewards
- **Local Implementation:**
 - Parish-driven

Discipleship Directorate

Fostering shared priorities.

Parish and Archdiocese

- **Coordination:**
Enabling a process
- **Collaboration:**
Supporting as a partner
- **Communication:**
Promoting visible support
- **Change:**
Embracing a new approach

Discipleship Directorate

Utilizing an integrated process.

Parish and Archdiocese

- **Coordinate:**
Organize and form parish team
- **Assess:**
Prepare, refine, and execute assessment tool
- **Review:**
Evaluate results and identify improvement steps
- **Execute:**
Initiate improvement plan, review and adjust as needed.

Challenges and Opportunities

Living as disciples and stewards.

PASTORAL CHALLENGE

**Once one chooses to become a disciple of Jesus Christ,
stewardship is not an option.**

-- Most Reverend John McRaith – Bishop-emeritus of Owensboro, KY

Share.



PART FOUR:

Resources and Tools – Maximizing Ministry

Vision

Documents and guidelines.

THE CATECHETICAL LIBRARY

- Scripture, Catechism of the Catholic Church, Code of Canon Law, Vatican II
- General Directory for Catechesis, National Directory for Catechesis
- Universal Church Documents, National Church Documents
- Archdiocesan Guidelines
- Etc.

Management

Administrative support.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

- Parish Census Data (parish-soft)
- Parish Programming Management (parish-soft)
- Parish Dissemination Vehicles (bulletin, newsletter, website, sharepoint, etc.)
- Etc.

Assessment

Evaluation metrics.

TOOLS AND PROCESSES

- Paulist Fathers – parish category assessment
- Gallup, Incorporated – clifton strengths finder and engagement
- Catherine of Siena Institute – gift discernment
- Etc.

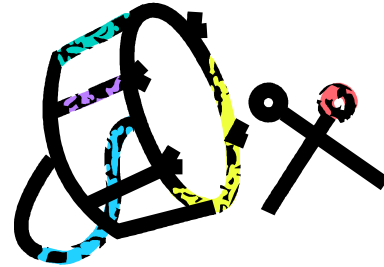
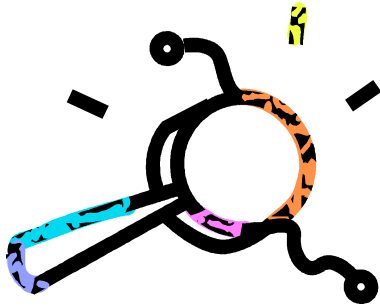
Opportunities

Archdiocesan services.

FORMATION SUPPORT

- Archdiocesan Events – COE, COI, COC
- Deanery-based Catechist Formation – CFD
- Parish-based Catechist Formation – CFO
- University of Dayton Partnership – UD-VLCFF
- *Echoes of Faith* Coordination – EOF
- Leadership networking and support – OFD, etc.

Celebrate life.



PART FIVE:

Proximate Steps – The Parish Itinerary

What Else Can We Do?

Continue to enhance your parish-based catechetical ministry.

CONCRETE STEPS

- Promote and attend diocesan opportunities where and as appropriate.
- Maintain solid networks with the Office of Formation and Discipleship.
- Study the Church's catechetical documents and apply them to your parish's needs.
- Foster a renewed vigor for evangelization.
- Etc.

What Guides Our Pursuit?

The Spirit of God rests with the Church.

KEEP IN MIND

- The Church is a community of communities, as is our archdiocese.
- Effective ministry is people-centered and relational.
- Draw others into the life of Christ and the Church.
- It is better to invite, encourage, and support than to mandate, require, and direct.
- Etc.

CONCLUSION

AND

DISMISSAL

Thank you for your Gifts

You make the formation and discipleship vibrant.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Hundreds are collaborating throughout the Archdiocese.
- Thousands are being served by parish-based ministry.

THANK YOU!!!

P R A Y E R

O Blessed Virgin Mary,

**we ask you who prayed to strengthen the faith of the first disciples
to obtain for the Church in the United States an outpouring of the Holy Spirit,
to guide us in the new evangelization.**

**Help us to teach the faith in such a way that the members of the Church today
will truly be Christ's disciples of this new millennium
drawing people throughout the world to the saving message and power of Christ.**

We ask this through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord. Amen.

Mary, Star of Evangelization, pray for us.

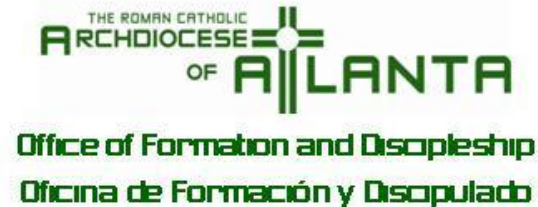
-- Adapted from the National Directory for Catechesis, p. 302

Gracias



Thank You

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