

DIOCESE OF WINONA-ROCHESTER

THE MISSION

Youth Ministry and Faith Formation

The Church Exists to Evangelize

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTORY FOR CATECHESIS

Evangelizing is not, in the first place, the delivery of a doctrine; but rather, making present and announcing Jesus Christ (27).

There is no true evangelization if the name, the teaching, the life, the promises, the kingdom and the mystery of Jesus of Nazareth, the Son of God, are not proclaimed (32). Youth Ministry and Faith Formation at the Diocese of Winona-Rochester must always be rooted in sharing and witnessing to the Good News, that Jesus Christ, Our Lord, has conquered death and through Him we can inherit eternal life as adopted sons and daughters. The transmission of faith to the next generation is highly relational.

In addition to content, the faith formator must desire to walk with young people and their families into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church.



What we do

The Office of Youth Ministry and Faith Formation is "the means which the bishop as head of the community and teacher of doctrine utilizes to direct and moderate all the catechetical activities of the diocese" (General Directory for Catechesis, No. 265).

WE ASSIST BISHOP QUINN IN HIS ROLE AS THE CHIEF CATECHIST BY:

- Supporting pastors and coordinators in their vital task of educating the youth throughout Southern Minnesota
- Providing educational and professional development, networking, and retreat opportunities for directors and coordinators of faith formation, youth ministry, family ministry, and catechists.
- Implementing guidelines for sacramental preparation
- Consulting on the selection of resource materials
- Offering activities on a diocesan level where young people can encounter Jesus.



Family Ministry

THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY IS THE FIRST PLACE OF EDUCATION IN PRAYER (CCC 2685)

All that we do should first and foremost foster the home as the domestic church and parents as primary formators in the faith.

Below are some recommended resources for empowering families in prayer together and assisting them as primary catechists.



Looking for more ideas? You're free to gather important information from various sources. Interview parishioners and feature them on your newsletter to involve different members of the community. How about talking to the different sectors that make up your church, such as the choir and the youth groups? Take photos or ask them about their latest events. Announce bake sales and charity drives. There are plenty of possibilities, especially when you ask your community to contribute their ideas. Consider your distribution methods too. If you decide on print, you can hand out your newsletter after Sunday service. However, going digital will give you a wider reach and provide you with more opportunities to get feedback. When you're done, review your newsletter and make revisions if necessary.

Based on the sacrament of marriage, the family is the "domestic church" where God's children learn to pray "as the Church" and to persevere in prayer. For young children, in particular, daily family prayer is the first witness of the Church's living memory as awakened patiently by the Holy Spirit.

CATECHISM OF THE
CATHOLIC CHURCH 2685

