

Activity #3. Goals for Maturing in Faith

The *Directory for Catechesis*, like the 1997 *General Directory for Catechesis*, proposes tasks for catechesis that promote an integral Christian life and a holistic formation in faith: 1) knowledge of the faith, 2) understanding and experience of liturgical celebrations, 3) Christian formation of the moral conscience, 4) educating for prayer and in prayer, and 5) developing belonging to the Church and living its mission. These five tasks provide the framework for developing goals for maturing in faith for a lifetime.

Develop Goals for Maturing in Faith for a Lifetime

Using the five tasks, create your parish goals for maturing in faith for a lifetime. These goals apply to all of the seasons of life, presenting a lifelong vision of faith maturing. At each stage of life life-stage appropriate catechesis is developed to bring the goals to life with families and age groups.

Knowledge of the Faith: Fostering knowledge of and exploration of the Christian message in Scripture and the Church's tradition.

Through our parish's catechetical ministry people of all ages are:

Initiating into the Celebration of the Mystery: Assisting in the comprehension and experience of liturgical celebrations: the sacraments, especially Eucharist, and the feasts and seasons of the liturgical year.

Through our parish's catechetical ministry people of all ages are:

Forming for Life in Christ: Educating the believer to the good life of the Gospel through the Christian formation of the moral conscience.

Through our parish's catechetical ministry people of all ages are:

Teaching Prayer: Educating the believer for prayer and in prayer, developing the contemplative dimensions of Christian experience; teaching personal prayer and liturgical and community prayer.

Through our parish's catechetical ministry people of all ages are:

Introduction to Community Life: Developing the sense of belonging to the Church and contributing as active participants to building up the community and as missional disciples to its growth.

Through our parish's catechetical ministry people of all ages are:

Example

Here is an example of creating goals for maturing in faith that apply to each stage of life utilizing the holistic formation of the five tasks of catechesis.

Knowledge of the Faith: Fostering knowledge of and exploration of the Christian message in Scripture and the Church's tradition.

Through our parish's catechetical ministry, people of all ages are:

- Learning to live as disciples of Jesus Christ by exploring the kerygma—the life, message, death, and resurrection of Jesus—in the Gospels.
- Reading and studying the Bible and applying its message and meaning to their lives today.
- Learning the Catholic tradition and the foundational teachings of the Catholic faith, and integrating its meaning into their lives as Catholics.

Initiating into the Celebration of the Mystery: Assisting in the comprehension and experience of liturgical celebrations: the sacraments, especially Eucharist, and the feasts and seasons of the liturgical year.

Through our parish's catechetical ministry, people of all ages are:

- Appreciating the significance of the Mass and worshipping God with the community at Sunday Mass.
- Learning the theology and rituals of the Catholic sacraments and celebrating the sacraments throughout life.
- Celebrating and living the seasons of the Church year in their daily lives and with the community.

Forming for Life in Christ: Educating the believer to the good life of the Gospel through the Christian formation of the moral conscience.

Through our parish's catechetical ministry, people of all ages are:

- Learning and internalizing the ethical teachings of the Church and integrating them into decision-making and actions in everyday life.
- Living with moral integrity guided by Catholic moral values.
- Learning Catholic social teaching and living the Church's mission in the world by serving those in need, caring for God's creation, and acting and advocating for justice and peace—locally and globally.

Teaching Prayer: Educating the believer for prayer and in prayer, developing the contemplative dimensions of Christian experience; teaching personal prayer and liturgical and community prayer.

Through our parish's catechetical ministry, people of all ages are:

- Learning to develop a life of prayer that nurtures their relationship with God.
- Growing in a life of prayer through spiritual practices and disciplines.
- Exploring various forms of Catholic spirituality that deepen one's relationship with God.

Introduction to Community Life: Developing the sense of belonging to the Church and contributing as active participants to building up the community and as missional disciples to its growth.

Through our parish's catechetical ministry, people of all ages are:

- Developing a sense of belonging to the Catholic community and participating actively in the life and ministries of the parish community.
- Being equipped to practice their faith in Jesus Christ by using their gifts and talents within the Church and in the world.