

Relationships, Religion and Relevance

Best Practices for Family Faith Formation

RELATIONSHIPS:

- Welcomes all family structures, diversity of cultures, levels of faith development and backgrounds
- Addresses family life cycle stage tasks and issues
- Plans for schedules of busy families
- Includes intergenerational faith formation events
- Ensures that all family members can participate
- Promotes relationship building between family and parish
- Are built around a family friendly and hospitable parish community

RELIGION:

- Encourages a comfortable learning environment for parents to share their faith stories
- Offers inspirational prayer and worship
- Honors the content of our Catholic faith across the Six Tasks of Catechesis:
 - Knowledge of Faith
 - Liturgical Education
 - Moral Formation
 - Teaching to Pray
 - Community Education
 - Missionary Discipleship
- Encourages consistent participation in Mass and the Sacraments
- Supports families to find the gift of silence, to pray together, and to talk about their faith with one another outside of structured catechesis
- Highlights both knowing God and knowing about God
- Is centered on the Liturgical calendar
- Helps families develop their capacity to be happy, healthy and holy communities called to faith and service in their home, their parish and society

RELEVANCE:

- Uses media and technology productively
- Incorporates the best of learning models and practices
- Facilitates insights on the connection between faith and daily life
- Offers a “bang for the buck” and tangible results
- Intentionally integrates Catholic faith practices with purpose and meaning
- Offers activities that are easy to do and practical to implement in the home
- Provides accessible and meaningful resources for home use, with a focus on digital resources available 24/7