

Family Faith Formation Innovation Lab

Family Faith Formation Project Planning

Family Strategies

1. **Discovering God in Everyday Life:** guiding families to reflect on God's presence in their daily life
2. **Forming Faith at Home through the Life Cycle:** equipping and resourcing families to practice their faith at home through prayer, devotions, reading the Bible, rituals, milestone celebrations, service, learning, and more (with activities and resources delivered online)
3. **Forming Faith through Milestones:** celebrating one-time milestones and annual milestones through experiences at home and in the congregation that activities of *naming, equipping, blessing, gifting, and reinforcing* (with activities and resources delivered online)
4. **Celebrating Seasonal Events through the Year:** celebrating church year seasons and calendar seasons at home, at church, and in the community (with activities and resources delivered online)
5. **Encountering God in the Bible through the Year:** reading and studying the Bible through Sunday worship and the lectionary, learning experiences, and at-home devotions and reading (with activities and resources delivered online)
6. **Connecting Families Intergenerationally:** developing intergenerational programs and experiences that engage families with other generations through learning, service, community life, etc.
7. **Developing a Strong Family Life:** cultivating a strong family life and strengthening developmental relationships through parent programs, whole family programs, family mentors, life cycle support groups, and online activities and resources.
8. **Empowering Parents and Grandparents:** developing parenting competencies and skills, promoting the faith growth of parents, and developing the faith forming skills of parents

Comprehensive Family Plan



Family Faith @ Home

- ✓ God in Everyday Life
- ✓ Faith Practices
- ✓ Milestones

Intergenerational Faith Community

- ✓ Seasonal Events
- ✓ Bible through the Year
- ✓ Intergenerational Connections & Experiences

Family Life & Parent/Grandparent Formation

- ✓ Strong Family Life
- ✓ Parents & Grandparents as Faith Formers

Digitally Enabled Strategies

1. Extend a church event or program
2. Design one event or program, offer it in multiple platforms
3. Prepare for and follow-up an event or experience
4. Flip a gathered program
5. Integrate online and gathered
6. Create online only experiences
7. Use webinars, Facebook live, podcasts, etc. to deliver programming directly to people

Personalizing Faith Formation

Approach One: Personalize the Pathway for People

1. Develop pathways of faith maturing
2. Develop playlists of content and experiences tailored to the pathways
3. Upload playlists to a digital platform

Approach Two: Personalize the Offerings

1. Offer a variety of content, experiences, and activities tailored to different spiritual-religious identities and the life stage needs of people
Getting Started ---- Growing ---- Going Deeper
2. Format the content tailored to different spiritual-religious identities
3. Develop a digital platform with content to address the needs

Designing a Pathways Model for Discipleship & Faith Growth

1. Identify a target audience(s): children and parents, adolescents, young adults, midlife adults, mature adults, older adults.
2. Describe the life stage and religious-spiritual characteristics of your target audience.
3. Identify how you will use the Pathways model, for example:
 - Sacraments/milestones: Marriage, Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, beginning church faith formation, etc.
 - RCIA, evangelization, and new member processes
 - Gathered faith formation events and programming
 - Parenting meetings
 - Small groups: affinity groups, interest groups, Bible study groups,
 - On-ramps where people in your church might start the discipleship journey
4. Develop the characteristics of faith growth you want to use in your Pathways model. For example:
 - Option 1. Use characteristics of faith growth specific to the life stage (such as family faith practices) or the content of the event (such as preparing for confirmation)
 - Option 2. Use characteristics of maturing faith (see the "Faith Maturing Characteristics" below)
 - Relationships with Jesus Christ
 - Living the Christian way of life - discipleship
 - Living with moral integrity
 - Learning and articulating the teachings of the Christian tradition
 - Praying and seeking spiritual growth
 - Studying and reading the Bible
 - Engaging in service and mission to the world
 - Worshipping with the community
5. Develop a 'discernment continuum' that gives people a way to reflect on their current growth, for example:
 - Inquiring---Getting Started---Making Progress---Going Deeper
 - How true is each statement for you: 1= not true for me , 3=somewhat true for me, 5=very true for me