

Diocese of Ogdensburg

Engaging in a Hope-Filled Future

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Engaging in a Hope-Filled Future

Part 1. Imagining a New Future for
Faith Formation

Part 2. Creating a New Future

Four Mega-Challenges

1. Increasing diversity throughout American society
 - Lifespan
 - Generational identities
 - Marriage patterns & family structures
 - Ethnic makeup
2. Rise of new digital technologies that are reshaping society
3. Dramatic decline in the importance of religious beliefs and practices and church involvement, and the rise of non-affiliation of Americans
4. Decline in faith transmission from generation to generation at home

Catholic Family Study (CARA, 2015)

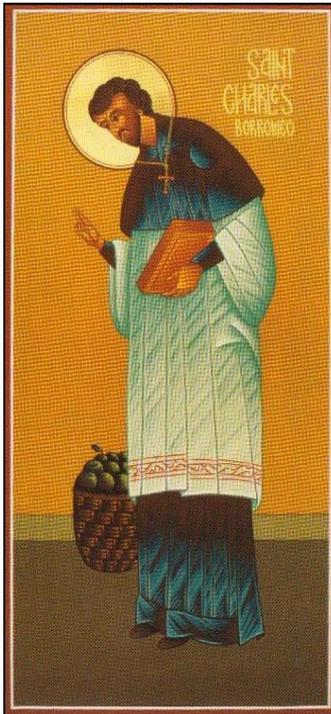
Do any of your children currently attend...

1. A Catholic elementary or middle school: 8%
2. A Catholic high school: 3%
3. A parish-based Catholic religious education program: 21%
4. A youth ministry program: 5%
5. None of the above: 68%

Pope Francis

“One of the great challenges facing the Church in this generation is to foster in all the faithful a sense of personal responsibility for the Church's mission, and to enable them to fulfill that responsibility as **missionary disciples**, as a leaven of the Gospel in our world. This will require creativity in adapting to changed situations, carrying forward the legacy of the past not primarily by maintaining our structures and institutions, which have served us well, but above all by being open to the possibilities which the Spirit opens up to us and communicating the joy of the Gospel, daily and in every season of our life.”

Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul in Philadelphia on Sept. 26, 2015

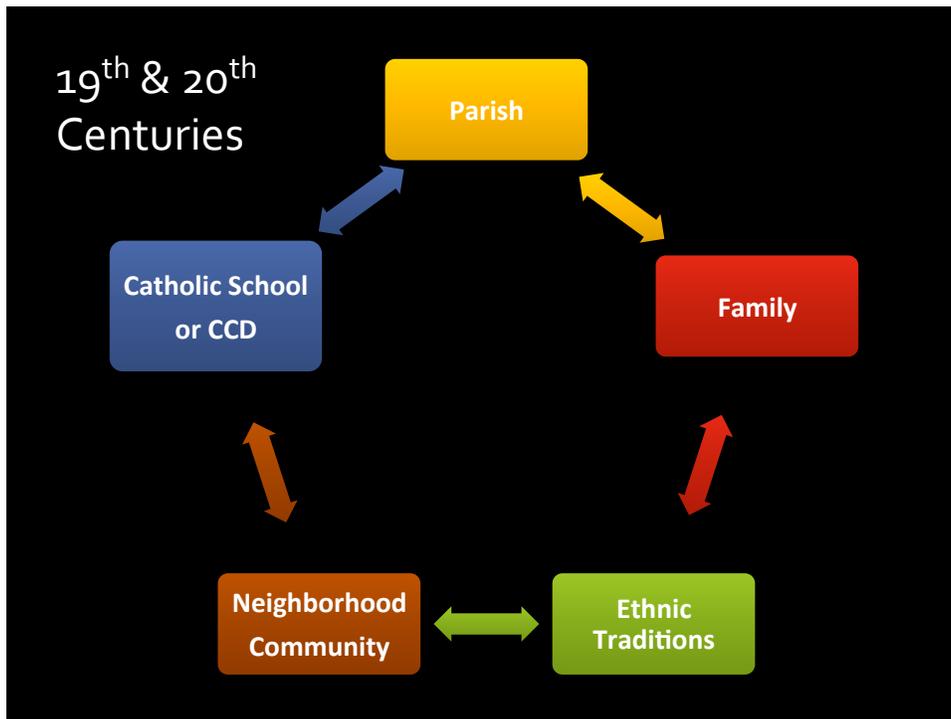


The sixteenth century brought the invention of the printing press and ushered in the era of the mass-produced Bible (now everyone could own a Bible), catechisms, and catechetical pamphlets.

The sixteenth century also saw the creation in Milan of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine—“schools of Christian doctrine for children, youth, and unlettered adults” taught by lay catechists.

What gave the Milan schools their place in history was the fact that Charles Borromeo became Cardinal Archbishop of Milan in 1565 and wrote a guide for them entitled *A Constitution and Rules of the Confraternity and School of Christian Doctrine*. Its principles of pedagogy, formation, and organization became enormously influential.

CCD classes averaged about eight or ten participants. Each session was forty-five minutes in length and was followed by what was called a *disputa* or quiz-discussion for forty-five minutes—a kind of public debate or discussion by the students. Common prayers led by the students brought the session to a class. Practical techniques, like this, evolved in European parishes to implement the new media of the catechisms, as CCD programs burgeoned.



Imagine

... engaging everyone in faith formation - all ages & generations

... connecting all generations in the faith community

... developing families as faith forming communities

... reaching & building relationships with the uninvolved & unaffiliated

From “parish” into the “world”



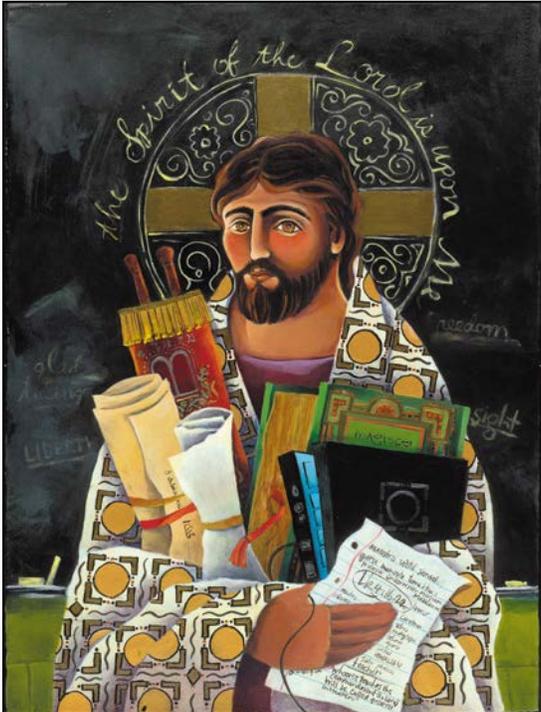
*From “provider-centered”
to “person-centered”*





Journey

Faith formation nurtures a lifelong journey of discipleship - a process of experiencing, learning, and practicing the Christian faith as we seek to follow Jesus and his Way in today's world.

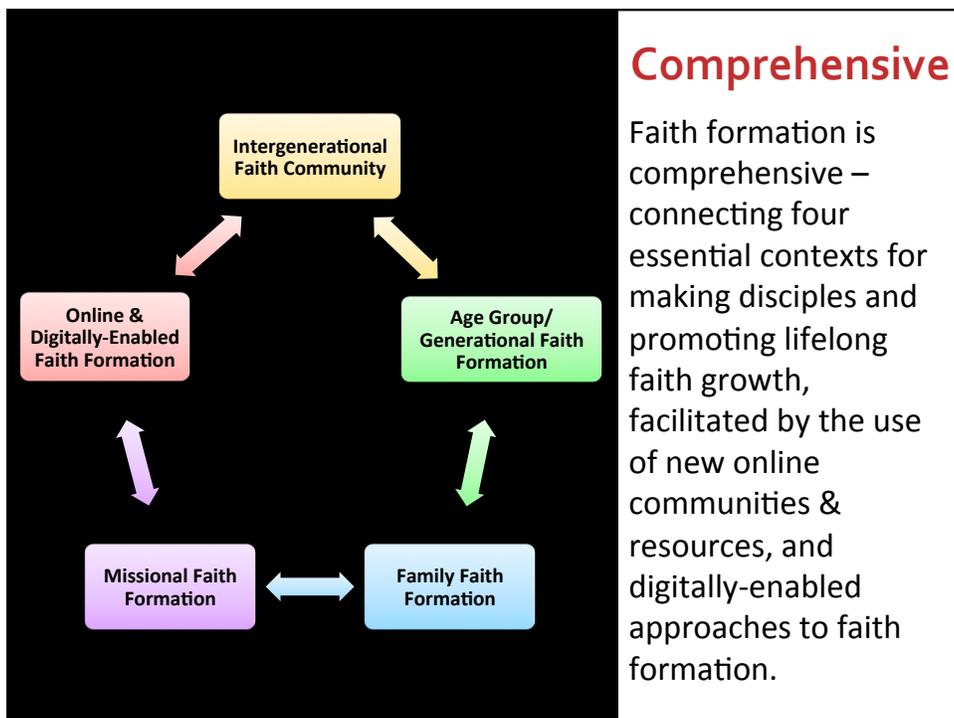


Holistic

A way of the head
(inform)

A way of the heart
(form)

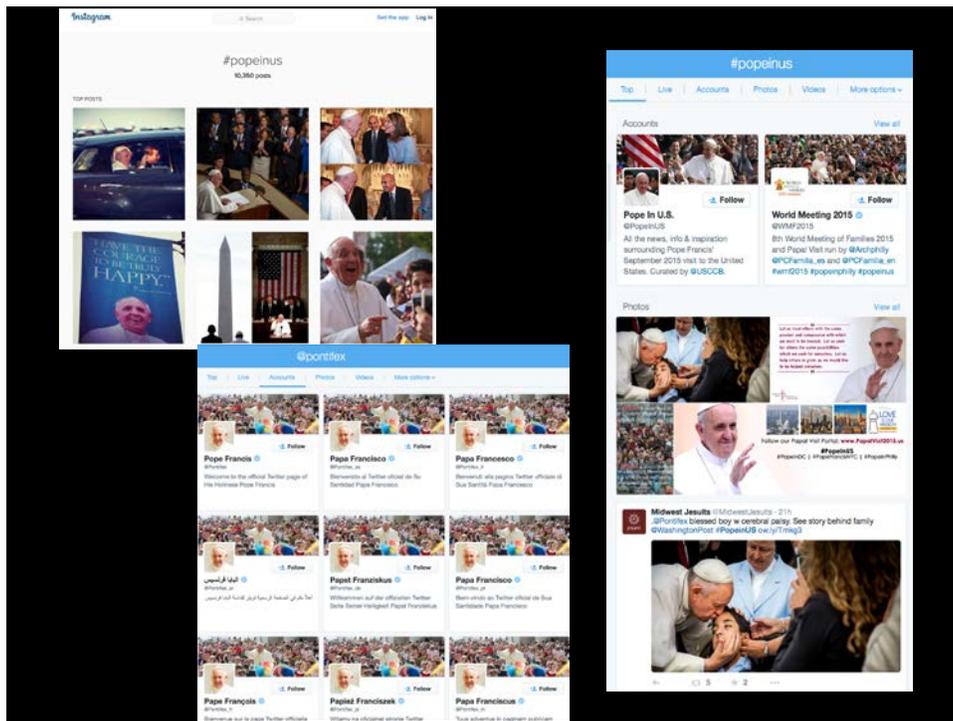
A way of the hands
(transform)



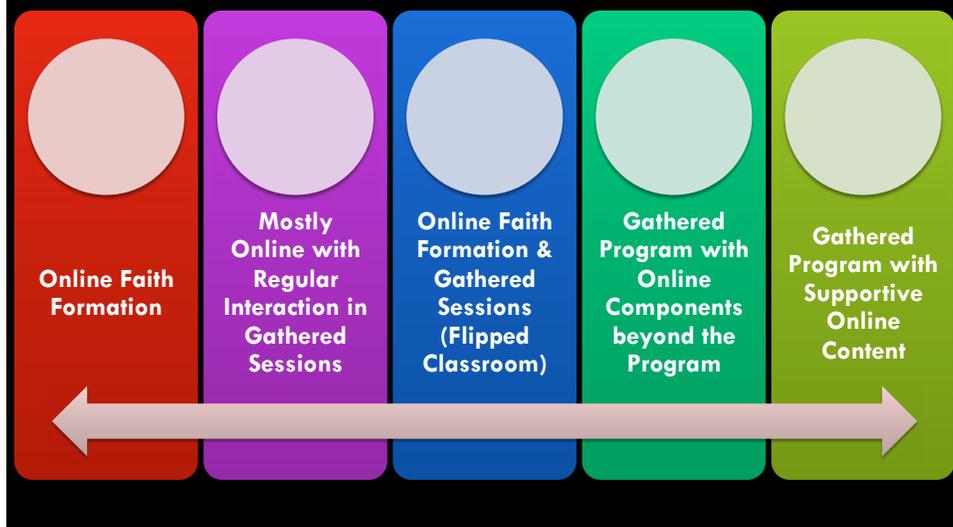


Digital

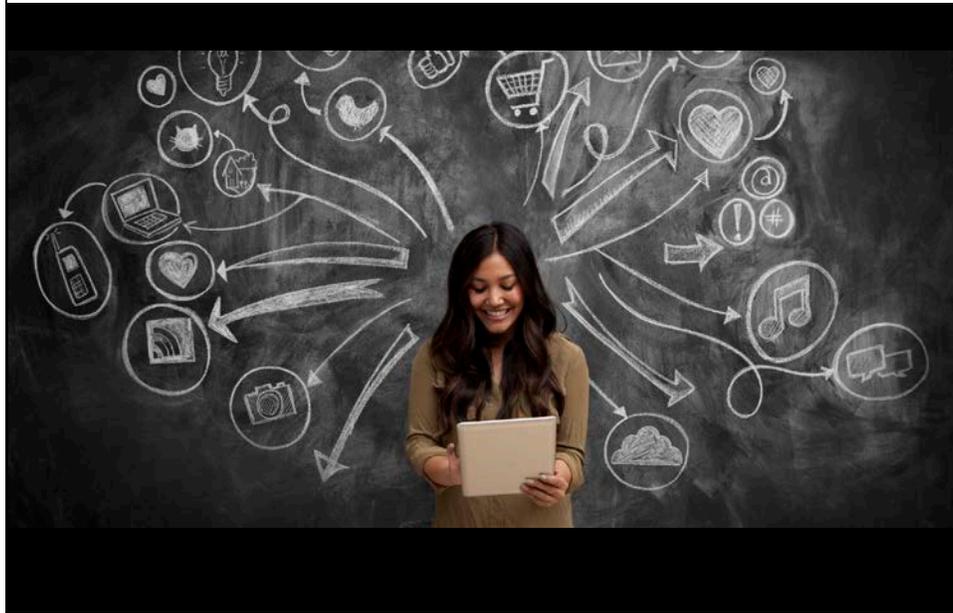
- *Digitally-connected*— linking church & home & daily life using online and digital media
- *Digitally-enabled* — blending gathered community settings with online learning environments and using the abundance of digital media and tools for faith formation



Digitally-Enabled

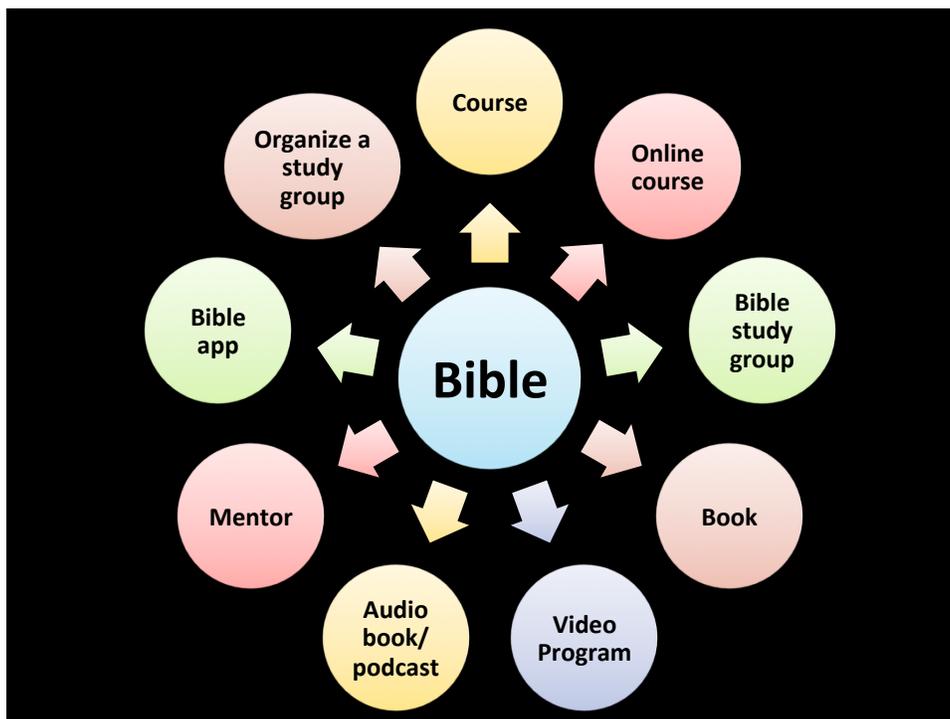


A Network of Faith Formation



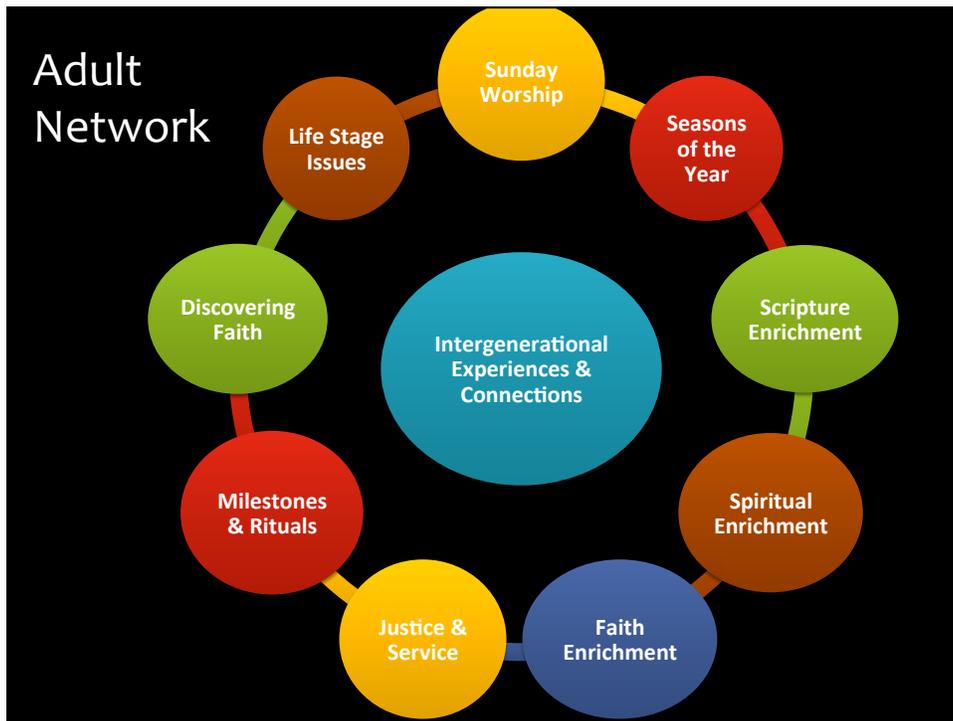
**A shift from education to learning anywhere, anytime.
A shift from consumption of information to participatory learning.
A shift from institutions to networks.**





Networks of Faith Formation

- Imagine faith formation as a *network of relationships, content, experiences, and resources* offering a wide variety of engaging and interactive content and experiences in online and physical settings (church, home, community, world) that respond to the diversity of people today.
- Imagine congregations as centers of learning, and faith growth.



HOME WORSHIP SEASON BIBLE SPIRITUALITY STUDY DISCOVER FAITH LIFE ISSUES GRANDPARENTS

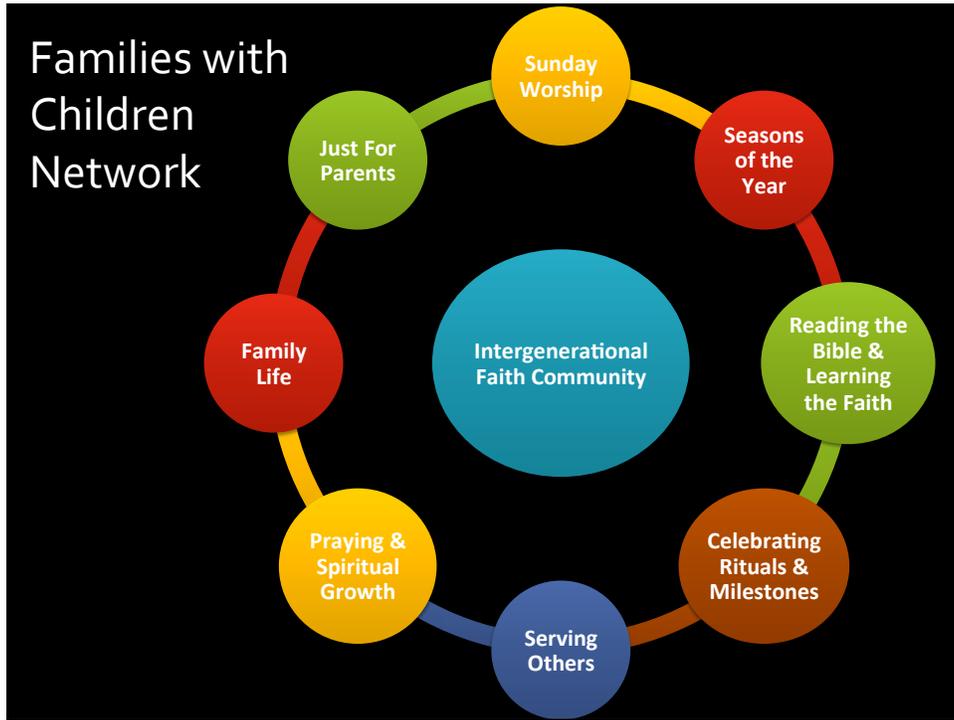
Holy Trinity Adult Faith Formation - Fall 2015

Welcome to the Fall 2015 Adult Faith Formation Opportunities

Welcome to Holy Trinity's adult faith formation center designed specifically for adults in their 40s through 70s who seek a faith community that . . .

- engages them in meaningful spiritual growth and faith enrichment
- provides enriching worship services
- engages them in making a contribution to the church & world
- connects them to each other and the other generations in the faith community

Our faith formation center is rich in experiences, activities, and resources designed to nurture your faith as adults. Select from our variety of activities using the menu. You can learn and grow on your own, at home, in small groups, in large group programs, in our church community, and in the world. Invite your friends to join you in an activity.



Examples