What new ways of learning and faith formation is the digital transformation making possible?
The Print Era (1500s - )

The Multimedia Era (1960s - )
The Digital Era (2000s -)
What is the Digital Transformation Making Possible?

1. Mobile faith formation – anytime, anyplace, 24x7
2. An abundance of high quality digital content for faith formation – audio, video, print, websites, digital learning platforms, apps, etc.
3. Personalizing faith formation – putting the person at the center of faith formation – not the program
4. Provide multiple ways to learn
5. Develop content in smaller units (micro-learning) that connect together
6. Content and tools to extend and expand faith formation in multiple environments
7. Self-organizing communities of learning and practice

#1. Multi-Platform Faith Formation
#2. Blended Models of Faith Formation

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
One Event/Program, Multiple Formats

- Gathered
- Small Group
- Independent
- Online

- Digital Content to Extend & Provide New Ways to Experience

Event/Program

- Social Media
  - Interaction
  - Connection
  - Communication
  - Demonstration

- Website
  - Interaction
  - Connection
  - Communication
  - Demonstration

Multiple Formats

Build on an Event/Experience

Preparing
- What types of experiences, programming, activities, and resources will you develop to prepare people for the event?

Experiencing
- How will you design the event?
- How will you engage age groups, families, and the faith community?

Living
- How will you sustain/extend the event?
- What types of experiences, programs, activities, and resources will you offer people?
Our Confirmation preparation program has two components: Once a month in-person classes and an online study. The online study is a place for students to develop their faith weekly by completing multi-media lessons which include videos, reading, Saint reflections, multiple-choice questions and online small group discussions. Each small group has their own online space to discuss faith topics, ask questions, and pray for one another. By having both in person classes and an online study we hope to help families learn more about their faith while respecting the many demands for their time.
Confirmation

Program Requirements

1. PARTICIPATE IN WEEKLY ONLINE LEARNING
   - Complete weekly online lesson
   - Participate in online small group discussions

2. ATTEND MONTHLY SUNDAY SESSIONS
   - Sessions begin at 9:00 a.m. and end after the 9:30 a.m. Mass
   - Attendance expected

3. SERVICE PROJECTS
   - Participate in 2 service projects per year (service project opportunities will be available online to those who wish to participate)
   - Write one reflection per project completed online

4. ATTEND "INSIGHTS" (YOUTH GROUP) MEETINGS
   - Attend 2 Insights Youth Ministry Meetings; more is encouraged
   - Mighty Monday: Wednesday nights from 6:30 – 8:00 PM (a night for fun please refer to the Children's Ministry page on the website)

5. ATTEND A CONFIRMATION RETREAT EACH YEAR
   - Confirmation I: One-day retreat with parent or guardian (September 26, 2018)
   - Confirmation II: Overnight retreat (February 16-18, 2019 or March 7-9, 2019)
   - Registration for Confirmation II Retreat will begin online January 6, 2019

Integrate Online and Gathered

The Slate Project

Church with a Clean Slate

WANT'S NEW

The Slate Project
is a new kind of Christian community
that gathers both on-line and face-to-face
in Baltimore, Maryland.

We are a movement
to change the church from the inside out.

We are committed
to following the way of Jesus together,
into our local and digital neighborhoods,
and discerning in community
how to be the church in the 21st century.
#3. Online Models of Faith Formation

1. Create online-only experiences
2. Use webinars, Facebook live, podcasts, etc. to deliver programming directly to people
## Online 40-Day Lent Curriculum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Church</th>
<th>Daily &amp; Home</th>
<th>Online</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • Ash Wednesday  
• Lenten Sunday liturgies  
• Stations of the Cross  
• Lenten prayer  
• Lenten retreat  
• Lenten service  
• Lenten soup suppers | • Fasting  
• Praying  
• Service/Almsgiving  
• Lectionary reflection  
• Family Lenten activities | • Lenten learning resources  
• Lenten calendar  
• Daily Lenten prayer  
• Weekly table prayer  
• Video resources  
• Online retreat experience |

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*Online Learning*
#4. Personalizing Faith Formation
Two Ways to Approach Personalizing

**Approach One: Personalize the Pathway for People**
- Develop pathways of faith maturing
- Develop playlists of content and experiences tailored to the pathways
- Upload playlists to a digital platform

**Approach Two: Personalize the Offerings**
- Identify important life and religious needs of target audience(s) OR develop a pathways model
- Develop a digital platform with content to address the needs
- Format the content tailored to different spiritual-religious identities

**Approach 1.**
Personalize the Faith Pathways
A Pathways Model

- A Pathway is a process for helping people discern where they are in their faith journey and to chart a path for faith growth—to get from where they are to a closer relationship with Jesus and a deeper practice of the Christian faith.

- A Pathway is life-centered, reaching into every area of a person’s life.

- A Pathway is holistic incorporating the whole person: head, heart, and hands.

- A Pathway focuses on faith maturing.

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Spiritual Religious Identities

- Not Spiritual, Not Religious
  - Unaffiliated

- The Spiritual but Not Religious
  - Uninvolved

- Faith & Engagement — one among many priorities
  - Occasional

- Faith & Engagement at the Center of Life
  - Actives
Designing a Pathways Model

1. Identify a target audience(s)
2. Describe their life stage & religious-spiritual characteristics.
3. Identify how/where you will use the Pathways model
   • Sacraments/milestones
   • RCIA, evangelization, and new member processes
   • Gathered adult faith formation programming
   • Affinity groups
   • On-ramps where people might start the discipleship journey
4. Develop the content for the Pathways
5. Develop a “discernment continuum” that gives people a way to reflect on their current growth

Personalized Pathways of Faith Growth

Characteristic

1

2

3

4

Playlist of Experiences & Activities

Playlist of Experiences & Activities

Playlist of Experiences & Activities

Playlist of Experiences & Activities
Designing Steps 1 & 2
Target Audience & Description

Sample Themes – Mature Adults
1. Dealing with retirement
2. Making life plans, finances, health
3. Becoming a grandparent
4. Making a difference in the community and world
5. Incorporating family changes and transitions
6. New ways of living and relating as a married couple
7. Caring for aging parents
8. Taking time to read the Bible and learn more about my faith
9. Growing spiritually and exploring spirituality for the 2nd half of life
10. Connecting with people my age; talking about things that matter to us
11. Dealing with loss

Designing Step 3 - How & Where

Identify how/where you will use the Pathways model
• Sacraments/milestones
• RCIA, evangelization, and new member processes
• Gathered adult faith formation programming
• Affinity groups
• On-ramps where people might start the discipleship journey
Designing Step 4 – Content
Designing Step 5 – Discernment

Develop the content for the Pathways
• Life and faith characteristics of the target audience
• Characteristics of mature faith

Develop a ‘discernment continuum” that gives people a way to reflect on their current growth
• Inquiring--Getting Started--Making Progress--Going Deeper
• How true: 1= not true from me, 3=somewhat true for me, 5=very true for me

Approach #2.
Personalize the Offerings

The Seasons of Adult Faith Formation
A Network of Adult Faith Formation Experiences, Programs, Activities, & Resources
Personalize

- For Life Stage Needs
- For Spiritual-Religious Identity
- For Adults’ Interests
- For Time People Have for Activities

Playlists for Faith Formation
Learning Playlists

- A learning playlist is a curated group of digital and local learning experiences and resources (e.g. videos, websites, books, games, articles, etc.).
- A playlist weaves together these learning experiences into a sequenced pathway centered on a common theme.
- Playlists broaden opportunities to engage in cohesive, interest-driven connected learning experiences that combine a variety of ways to learning: peer settings, family settings, intergenerational settings, community/world settings, and online settings.
- Playlists create a rich network of experiences for learners.
Curating Playlists

- Books
- Audio / Podcasts
- Video and movies
- Apps and digital programming
- Website content and activities
- Courses, programs, workshops at church and online
- Church life, ministries, and events
- Small groups at church, home, community settings
- Art, drama, music
- Service and action projects, mission trips
- Retreats
- Field trips
- Mentoring

Transforming Our Role

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Roles</th>
<th>Emerging Roles</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Developing religious content</td>
<td>Designing faith forming environments — architecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Designing programming</td>
<td>Designing Digital Platforms for faith forming content</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Managing programming</td>
<td>Curating religious content and experiences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching/Facilitating programming</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
New Leadership Roles

- We are becoming *learning architects* who design and/or identify environments which can become settings for faith formation, e.g., homes, workplaces, coffee shops, online communities, and more. We can design content and experiences to “deliver” to that setting.

- We are becoming *designers of digital platforms* (websites, social media) where people can connect with each other, access content, engage in learning activities, and more. These platforms provide 24x7 faith formation.

- We are becoming *curators* of religious content and experiences. When there is an abundance of content, our role shifts from creator to curator. Curators are engaged in finding and identifying high quality content in all formats, matching it with the needs of people, providing the content on a digital platform (and often in gathered settings), and engaging people with the content.