Throughout Scripture there is a pervasive sense that all generations were typically present when faith communities gathered for worship, for celebration, for feasting, for praise, for encouragement, for reading of Scripture, in times of danger, and for support and service...

To experience authentic Christian community and reap the unique blessings of intergenerationality, the generations must be together regularly and often—infants to octogenarians.

(Intergenerational Christian Formation, Allen and Ross, 84)
The best curriculum for forming children, youth, and anyone else in Christian faith is guided participation in a community of practice where people are vibrantly, passionately risking themselves together in lives of faith in a world crying out for the love of Christ.

(Joyce Mercer)

Guided participation in a community of practice puts a premium on both participation and practice. . . . We become Christian, taking on the identity of one who is a disciple of Jesus, by acting the way Christians act, and by talking the way Christians talk. Over time through practice, even our hearts and minds are formed in this way of life.

(Joyce Mercer)
Meaning of Intergenerational

- Multi-generational
  - All ages environment

- Cross-generational
  - Sharing
  - Listening
  - Learning

- Intergenerational
  - Mutuality
  - Equality
  - Reciprocity
Intergenerational Impact

Churches engaged in . . .

✦ Intergenerational learning:
  monthly, bi-weekly, weekly, seasonal/occasional
✦ Intergenerational service projects or mission trips
✦ Intergenerational retreats or camps
✦ Intergenerational mentoring
✦ Intergenerational Bible study

Intergenerational Impact

1. Strengthens relationships among people of all ages, enhances their sense of belonging to the faith community, and increases participation in church life.
2. Has a positive effect on both the older and young populations involved by creating intentional opportunities for young and old to meet together, to share stories, or to create something together.
3. Affirms each person’s value in the total community (regardless of age), and promotes understanding of shared values and respect for individuals in all stages and ages of life.
Intergenerational Impact

4. Creates a welcoming and safe environment conducive to promoting faith sharing, group participation, mutual support, and care for one another.

5. Supports families by surrounding them with a community of faith and engaging the whole family in learning and practicing their faith.

6. Helps people learn the beliefs and practices of the Christian faith as they participate with more experienced members of the church community.

Intergenerational Impact

7. Promotes a community where generational differences can be transcended rather than reinforced, where generational understanding and positive intergenerational relationships can be experienced.


9. Provides parents with opportunities to learn from Christians who are practicing their faith.

10. Incorporates real-life application of learning.
Growth of Intergenerational

- Wider Community
- Church Culture
- Community Life
- Programs Ministries

Moving toward Intergenerational

- Learning
  - Seasonal
  - Monthly
  - Biweekly
  - Weekly
- Sunday Worship
- Church Year Seasons
- Retreats
- Camps
- Service & Mission Trips
- Prayer
- Community Life
- Leadership

Age Segregated  Multiple Generations  Intergenerational
Moving toward Intergenerational

Utilize  Infuse  Connect  Create

Future: Designing Faith Formation

- Young Children
  - Intergen
  - Family @ Home
  - Peers

- Grade School Children
  - Intergen
  - Family @ Home
  - Peers

- Young Adolescents
  - Intergen
  - Family @ Home
  - Peers

- Older Adolescents
  - Intergen
  - Family @ Home
  - Peers
Future: Intergenerational in the Community

- Connecting the young and the old (like a preschool in a nursing home)
- Establishing a center for all generations in the community
- Fostering communication and understanding across generations
- Creating mentoring relationships

PART 2. WORKSHOP
Become Intentionally Intergenerational

Utilize Infuse Connect Create

Intergenerational Approaches

- **Utilizing** the intergenerational events and experiences of church life (community life events, worship and the lectionary, seasons of the year, service and mission projects, prayer and spiritual formation) as a primary “content” in faith formation.

- **Infusing** intergenerational experiences and relationships into existing programs and activities.

- **Connecting** the generations through intergenerational programs and experiences that bring together all of the generations for learning, celebrating, praying, reading the Bible, serving and working for justice, and worshipping.
Utilizing Events

1 - Preparation: knowledge & practices for participating fully

2 - Guided Participation: in the events of church life & the Christian Faith

3 - Reflection: on the experience and living its meaning in daily life

Infusing Intergenerational

*Infusing* intergenerational experiences and relationships into existing programs and activities, such as bringing mature adults into children and youth programs for interviews, storytelling, and mentoring; and transforming age-group programs (vacation Bible school, service projects) into intergenerational experiences.

- Worship
- Service projects and mission trips
- Age group learning programs
- Social / community program
- Sacramental preparation
Connecting Generations

1. Incorporate intergenerational dialogues into programming
2. Develop mentoring relationships
3. Involve the community in praying for each generation,
4. Organize social and recreational activities that build intergenerational relationships
5. “Intergenerationalize” age-group programming
6. Integrate intergenerational programming into an age-group program plan and calendar
7. Offer service projects and mission trips for all ages
8. Offer simple, one-time intergenerational experiences: arts, music/concerts, drama, social events, service projects, sports, educational experiences

Creating Intergenerational Programs

1. Intergenerational Service
   • Intergenerational Mission Trips
   • Churchwide Service Day
   • Intergenerational Monthly Project
   • Intergenerational Service Nights
   • Intergenerational Service Projects
2. Intergenerational Learning
   • Weekly or Bi-Weekly
   • Monthly
   • Seasonal
   • Small Group & Large Group
### Intergenerational Learning

1. As the faith formation curriculum for the whole community  
2. In Lectionary-based catechesis  
3. In sacramental preparation  
4. In Vacation Bible School  
5. In parent-child and parent-teen programs  
6. In milestone celebrations  
7. In intergenerational service projects  
8. In liturgical season celebrations  
9. In a retreat experience or parish mission

### Elements of LOGOS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTS 2:24&lt;sup&gt;nc&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th>They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayers.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

1. **Bible Study**  
2. **Family Time**  
3. **Worship Skills**  
4. **Recreation**

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GenOn Ministries  
www.genonministries.org
Faith Inkubators Cross-Gen

Model 1. Blending Worship Elements into Education
Model 2. Blending Educational Elements into Worship
Model 3. Creating Cross-Generational Communities around Worship
Model 4. Creating Missional Oikos Communities (small communities)

www.messychurch.org.uk
Intergenerational Learning

- A flexible, relaxed arrival time with drinks and snacks
- Creative exploration of a Bible story/theme through creative experiences for people of different learning styles and of all ages. Children and adults are not separated and are encouraged to explore the story/theme together
- A short but explicit time of worship with story, music and prayers that builds on the creative exploration.
- A generous welcome and hospitality is expressed through a delicious home-cooked, sit-down meal with others

Whole Church Faith Formation

- Creed
- Sacraments
- Morality
- Justice
- Prayer
- Bible
- Christian Practices
### Whole Church Faith Formation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Theme</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advent</td>
<td>Jesus the Messiah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christmas – Epiphany</td>
<td>Divinity of Jesus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lent</td>
<td>Journey with Jesus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good Friday</td>
<td>Death of Jesus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Easter Season</td>
<td>Resurrection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pentecost</td>
<td>Mission of the Christian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday Readings</td>
<td>Ministry of Jesus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday Readings</td>
<td>Identity of Christ</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Whole Church Faith Formation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Celebration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baptism</td>
<td>Celebrations of Baptism, Baptism of the Lord, Easter Season</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmation</td>
<td>Celebration of Confirmation, Pentecost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eucharist</td>
<td>Sunday, First Eucharist, Holy Thursday, Corpus Christi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reconciliation</td>
<td>Lent, Reconciliation Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anointing of the Sick</td>
<td>Celebration of Sacrament, February Lectionary Readings (Cycle B)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marriage</td>
<td>World Marriage Day, Holy Family Sunday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orders</td>
<td>Vocations Day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Intergenerational Learning

Intergenerational Learning Model
(James White)

1. In-Common All Ages Experiences
2. Parallel Learning
3. Contributive Occasions
4. Interactive Sharing

Intergenerational Learning Process

Meal and Community Building
Part 1. Gathering and Prayer
Part 2. All Ages Learning Experience
Part 3. In-Depth Learning Experience
  Option 1. Whole Group (together)
  Option 2. Age Group (parallel)
  Option 3. Activity Center
Part 4. Sharing Learning Experiences and Home Application
Part 5. Closing Prayer
Liturgically-Centered
St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Acton, MA

5. January: The Baptism of the Lord (Matthew 13-17)
6. February: You are the Salt of the Earth - 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Matthew 5: 13-16)
7. March: The Temptation of Jesus - First Sunday of Lent (Matthew 4: 1–11)
8. April: Palm Sunday (Matthew 26: 14-27)

Thematic
Holy Infant Catholic Parish, Durham, NC
Christian Practices

1. Caring for the Body
2. Celebrating Life
3. Discernment
4. Dying Well
5. Eating Well
6. Forgiving
7. Hospitality
8. Managing Household Life
9. Participating in Community
10. Praying
11. Reading the Bible
12. Transforming the World.

WIDER COMMUNITY
Community Center

Teacher families how to play and grow together

Daily Activities

Community Street Play Center

Monday - Saturday 9am - 4pm

Kid’s Club: Thanksgiving 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

December 25, 2018: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

New Year 2019: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Contact Us

The Atlantic
The Preschool Inside a Nursing Home
For the elderly residents, interacting with the kids is a jot back to the world of the living.

A call from Evan mogul’s doctor, present Perfect shows an elderly resident doing a puzzle with preschoolers.

Tiffany N. Jansen | JAN 29, 2015 | EDUCATION
Generational Storytelling

Generational Communication
PRINCIPLES & PRACTICES

Principles: Christian Identity

1. Through IFF Christian commitment is formed and strengthened as persons develop relationships and actively participate in intergenerational faith communities that teach, model, and live our the communities’ beliefs.
Principles: Christian Identity

2. Through IFF people learn the ways of the community of practice as they participate authentically and relationally with more experienced members of the culture; people learn Christian ways from more experienced members of the culture through intergenerational Christian communities.

Principles: Christian Identity

3. Through IFF people identify with their community of practice as they are allowed to participate legitimately in the activities to be learned – as children and new believers (and others) participate in relational community doing “Christian” things with those further down the road, they come to identify with the believing community.
Principles: Community

4. IFF strengthens and creates new relationships among people of all ages, enhances their sense of belonging in the faith community, and increases participation in church life.

5. IFF promotes a community where generational differences can be transcended rather than reinforced, where generational understanding and positive intergenerational relationships can be experienced.

6. IFF affirms each person’s value in the total community (regardless of age), and promote understanding of shared values and respect for individuals in all stages and ages of life.

7. IFF fosters a climate that includes valuing, nurturing, and employing the gifts of every person from young to old.
Principles: Community

8. IFF creates a welcoming and safe environment – of warmth, trust, emotional safety, acceptance, and care – conducive to promoting faith sharing, group participation, mutual support, and care for one another in the congregation and in the community.

Principles: Developmental

9. IFF addresses the social and developmental needs of age groups, and speaks to the relevant concerns and challenges people face today within the context of intergenerational community and experiences.
Principles: Developmental

10. IFF addresses the variety of faith styles and religious experiences of people in the congregation by engaging people of all ages in a variety of activities that are developmentally-appropriate, experiential, multisensory, interactive, and participatory.

Principles: Developmental

11. IFF settings are authentic, complex learning environments, made up of individuals at various stages in their faith journeys, teaching some and learning from others as they participate in their community of believers.
Principles: Learning & Growing

12. IFF encourages faith growth and practice in all generations and provide “up close and personal” formation in faith as children, teens, young adults, middle-aged adults, and older adults engage in sharing faith, teaching, learning, serving, celebrating, and praying for one another.

Principles: Learning & Growing

13. IFF has a positive effect on both the older and young populations involved by creating intentional opportunities for young and old to meet together, to share stories, to create something together or merely to talk which can be mutually beneficial and bless the whole body of Christ.
Principles: Learning & Growing

14. IFF supports families by surrounding them with a community of faith and engaging the whole family in caring, celebrating, learning, praying, and serving together; and providing parents with opportunities to learn from Christians who are practicing their faith and raising faithful children.

15. IFF equips people to live their faith in daily life, and engages them in service to others, locally and globally.

Principles: Leadership

16. IFF is led by congregational leaders who embrace a collaborative, team-based, and empowering style of leadership; and have a shared vision of an intergenerational church.

17. IFF ministries and programming is facilitated by teams who work collaboratively in designing and conducting programming, and are well-prepared and supported in their ministry.