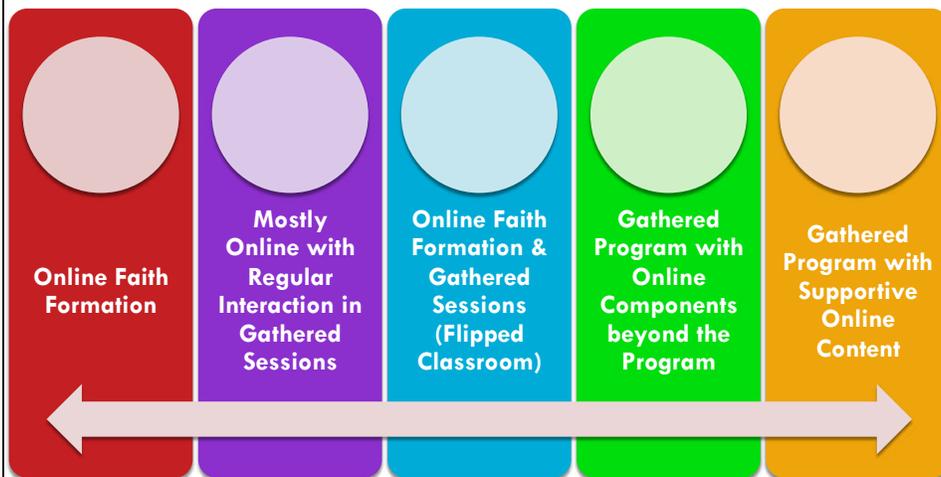




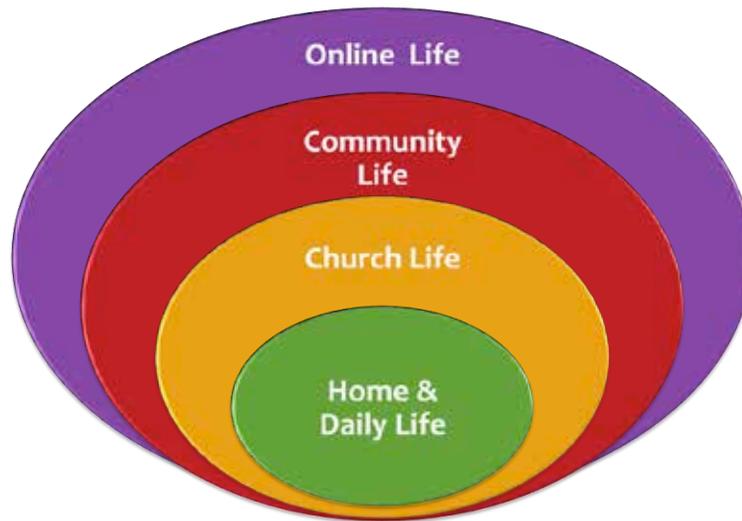
# STRATEGIES FOR 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY FAITH FORMATION

John Roberto  
jroberto@lifelongfaith.com www.LifelongFaith.com

## Blended Faith Formation



## Connected Faith Formation



## Connected Flows

**Church Life → Daily & Home Life via Online Life**

**Online Life → Daily & Home Life → Church Life**

**Community Life → Daily/Home Life via Online Life**

**Online Life → Church Life → Daily & Home Life**

## Gathered with Online Content

You can extend. . . .

- ✦ Sunday worship
  - ✦ Church year feasts and seasons
  - ✦ Sacrament and ritual celebrations
  - ✦ Children, teen, or family programming
  - ✦ VBS and summer camp
  - ✦ Mission trips and service projects
  - ✦ Retreat experiences
- . . . . and more



## Extending Worship

Church Life →	Daily & Home Life	← Online Life
Experience of Worship in the Congregation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sunday worship and lectionary</li> <li>• Church year feasts and seasons</li> <li>• Church rituals: baptism, communion, funerals, etc.</li> </ul>	Experience of Sunday worship, rituals, and church year seasons in daily life <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reflecting on the sermon and readings at home</li> <li>• Practices: Lectio, etc.</li> <li>• Application to daily living</li> </ul>	Online worship, church year, and lectionary resources on the church's faith formation website <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lectionary commentaries online</li> <li>• Video reflections and commentary</li> <li>• Online activities and projects</li> </ul>

# Example: Sunday Worship

**Share It**  
Blog/Facebook Question  
After Worship Sharing  
@Home Conversation  
Activity

**Study It**  
“Taking Faith Home”  
Sermon Video + Study  
Guide  
Daily Readings  
Scripture Commentaries  
Online Bible Study

**Live It**  
Living the Message Daily  
Living Christian Practices  
Service/Mission Idea  
Action Project

**Pray It**  
Weekly Table Prayer  
Praying with the Saints  
AM & PM Prayer  
Lectio Divina

**Sunday  
Worship**

**WORKING PREACHER**  
May 05, 2013  
Sixth Sunday of Easter  
from Luther Seminary

**Gospel Reading**  
John 14:23-28 Commentary  
by Karyn Williams  
When Jesus departs from his disciples, there will be significant changes and this text makes a promise that despite this fact the disciples will not be left alone.  
[Read More](#)

**1st Reading**  
Acts 16:9-18 Commentary  
by Brian Peterson  
Just prior to the beginning of this text, Paul and his companions Dileas and Timothy seem to be at a loss for where to go next with the gospel.  
[Read More](#)

**Psalm**  
Psalm 67 Commentary  
by Nancy Koester  
The sixth Sunday of Easter may feel a bit like the fourth day of Christmas – officially still in the zone but, practically speaking, most people have moved on.  
[Read More](#)

**2nd Reading**  
Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5 Commentary  
by Barbara Keisinger  
“Then the angel showed me the river of the giving water, clear as crystal.” Bishop William Dreyback of the Roman Catholic Church’s Spokane Diocese cites this verse from Revelation as ...  
[Read More](#)

**Dear Working Preacher**  
Commands and Promises  
by David Loe  
May 05, 2013  
Dear Working Preacher,  
A quick but HUGE word of thanks before jumping into this week’s readings. We met every challenge (making an additional \$12,000) and topped out ...

**Sermon Brainwave Podcast**  
Brainwave 292 - Lectionary Texts for May 5, 2013  
May 05, 2013  
Join Priests Wolf Jacobson, Karoline Lewis, and Matt Skinner for a conversation around preaching the lectionary texts for Easter 6: John 14:23-29; Acts 16:9-18; Psalm 67; Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5.

HOME PRACTICES RESOURCES EVENTS OUR MISSION TOURS

# The Five Loaves

New media resources for parishes, faith sharing groups and individuals.

First Sunday of Lent  
The Temptation of Jesus  
Matthew 4:1-11

PLAYLIST

5:33

Click on the Playlist Tab to view videos from previous weeks.

### The Temptation of Jesus

The Spirit led Jesus into the desert where he fasted for forty days and forty nights. Fasting can be a form of prayer as it focuses our attention on things that matter. What are the things we must personally and communally focus upon during these Lenten days?

The devil tempts Jesus to doubt his relationship with God, to doubt God's providence, and then to use his power to save himself. Jesus resists, but each one of us face temptations to mistrust our experience of God's love in our lives or to lose sight of the common good. Our Lenten fasting and prayer offer an opportunity to refocus on the Word of God and resist temptations.

Subscribe to Between Sundays Free!

DECEMBER 15, 2013  
THIRD SUNDAY  
OF ADVENT

Advent is a season of hope.

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday. We invite you to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passages.

Sunday	Matthew 11:2-11	Jesus and John the Baptist
Monday	Malachi 3:1-4	A messenger is promised
Tuesday	Isaiah 61:1-7	The Lord's anointed one
Wednesday	Matthew 9:27-31	The blind receive sight
Thursday	Matthew 9:2-7	The lame walk
Friday	Luke 15:26	The birth of John announced
Saturday	Psalms 146:5-10	God lifts up those lowered down
Sunday	Matthew 13:21-23	Immanuel - God with us

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"Be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near."  
James 5:8 (NIV)

**SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:**

**A Prayer for the Week:**  
Lord Jesus, give us joy as we wait for you with sure hope.

**Headline Prayer:**  
We praise you, O God, for you are good and faithful. You meet our needs of body and soul. In you, we place our hope. Amen.

**A Blessing to Give:**  
God is coming to save you. May the gift of hope calm your fears and give you a brave heart. Amen. (Isaiah 35:4)

DECEMBER 15, 2013  
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## taking faith home

### CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Are you a patient and hopeful person? In what ways are you impatient?
- The apostle James encourages us to be patient until the Lord's coming and to not lose hope (James 5:7-10). What things cause people to feel hopeless?
- What helps us keep hope in the Lord?

### DEVOTIONS

In the third week of Advent, light the first three Advent candles.

**Say:** This is the third week of Advent. We light our third candle as a sign of the hope we have in Jesus. Jesus came to bring us hope, and we are looking forward to his coming again with patience and faith (the candles are lit.)

**Read:** Read one of the following passages: Psalm 62:9, Psalm 150:7, Jeremiah 28:9, Matthew 12:18-21, Romans 15:12, 2 Corinthians 1:10, Hebrews 10:23.

**Pray:** Let us pray. God, in this time of preparation for Christmas, give us new hope, increase our faith in your Son, Jesus, and our trust in your promises. Amen.

### SERVICE

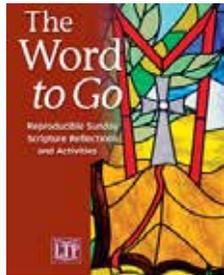
As you arrange gifts for one another, prepare a Christmas gift of non-perishable food items to donate to a local charity for a needy individual or household in your community. You may include a Christmas craft item or a signed card from your household.

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Place figures from a nativity scene in different parts of your house. Each day, have household members move them closer towards the manger scene, so that they arrive on the day before Christmas Eve. On Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, place the baby Jesus figure into the nativity scene.

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Written by Dr. Greg Reeborn and edited by Verlan Faith Ministries

VERLAN FAITH @HOME  
Go to [www.verlanfaithathome.org](http://www.verlanfaithathome.org) for more faith-forming activities.



## Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King

November 20, 2011

### Carrying on the Mission of the Shepherd-King

Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17  
 Psalm 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6  
 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28  
 Matthew 25:31-46

#### SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

Most of us might not realize the responsibilities that came with the job of a shepherd, but this once-important position is key to understanding many Biblical passages and Jesus' identity as Shepherd-King. In Jesus' day, the shepherd had the awesome responsibility of protecting a highly valued animal. No fences or convenient ways existed to bring massive amounts of food to a large herd. Without the shepherd, the animals were easy prey to wild beasts and were often lost to the expanse of the land. Shepherds were not casual overseers but were constantly on guard over their flocks.

The passages this week rely on an understanding of the shepherd's duties. In Ezekiel we find a shepherd who has not done his job, thereby putting the flock in danger. A new shepherd—the Lord—comes to save the abandoned herd. In light of the New Testament and their faith, Christians understand this shepherd as the Lord Jesus. Parallel to Ezekiel's scenario, Matthew tells about a shepherd who comes to sort the good from the bad while rescuing the weakest members of the flock. Because the weak animals of the flock are overlooked to protect the majority, Jesus surprises his audience by delegating responsibility for them and clearly defining their tasks for them. His words are the basis for what Catholics have traditionally called the corporal works of mercy.



#### SHARING FAITH

- ♦ What traits do you associate with the title of "shepherd"? Where do these ideas about shepherds come from? What images from today's world might be used to describe Jesus' unique style of leadership?
- ♦ What skills and personal qualities did shepherds have in Jesus' time? Why do you think Jesus chose to identify himself with a shepherd?
- ♦ What prevents you from seeing God in all people?

#### LIVING THE LITURGY

- ♦ Many find guiding principles for life in this passage from Matthew's account of the Gospel. Look out for the citation of this Sunday's Gospel on license plates and t-shirts. Think about why this particular passage might speak to people.
- ♦ Make a crown for the center of your table. Decorate it with symbols or words that tell about the qualities of Christ the King. Leave the crown in place until next Sunday, when Advent begins.
- ♦ Look at a hidden picture book or puzzle. After finding some of the missing objects, decide what makes the things you are looking for so hard to find. Discuss strategies for the rest of your search. Talk about how we miss seeing the presence of Christ the King in our families, neighborhood, and world.

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## Sunday Connection

Background, text, activities to better understand the upcoming Sunday's Scripture readings.

Sunday February 23  
 Monday March 2  
 Tuesday for Pentecost  
 Sunday March 3  
 Sunday March 6

God speaks to us in many ways, including through the Sunday Scripture readings. The Sunday Connection provides useful background and activities to better understand the upcoming Sunday's Scripture readings, helping you to connect the Scripture to daily life in a meaningful way. Use the red buttons below to view the activities for your group.

[READING & BACKGROUND](#)  
[GRADES 1-3](#)  
[GRADES 4-6](#)  
[GRADES 7-8](#)  
[FAMILY](#)  
[SINGERS](#)  
[PRINT ALL](#)

### Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A

February 21, 2011

#### This Sunday's Readings

**First Reading**  
 Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18  
 Be holy, for I, the Lord, your God, am holy.

**Responsorial Psalm**  
 Psalm 103:1-4, 8-11  
 Merciful and gracious is the Lord, slow to anger and abounding in kindness.

**Second Reading**  
 1 Corinthians 15:20-28  
 Are you not aware that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?

**Gospel Reading**  
 Matthew 9:36-38  
 My heart is to go out to you, sheep who are lost, for you are many, and the Son of Man is sent to save the lost.

**Background on the Gospel**

The 100 leprosy sufferers offered on the Synanon site on the Mount of Olives with their prayer. We should not look at "an eye for an eye" as an immediately self-defensive, but it is actually meant to limit acts of vengeance or retribution. The parable is not excessive but the same. If you are sent to the wilderness to take a different approach by creating relationships. The response to a stranger person who steps in on the scene. We can be sent, or demanded a service of us in his name. Sunday for a number of years, such as a teacher or instructor, the acts to see them or their what he can do for. There are many called to the Kingdom of heaven who to see them the day. The acts usually work, and have God's blessing have on each.

**Your Sunday Connection**

**Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C**  
Explore the readings for **September 22, 2013**

**Celebrating Our Saints**



September 16  
**Saints Cornelius and Cyprian**

September 17  
**Saint Robert Bellarmine**

September 19  
**Saint Januarius**

**Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C**

**Luke 16:1-13 (shorter form, Luke 16:10-13)**  
Jesus tells a parable about a dishonest steward who is commended for his prudence; one cannot serve both God and money.

Today's Gospel sounds puzzling to contemporary readers, but it can be made less so by considering the economic system which stands behind the parable. A steward is dismissed because he is squandering his master's property. He is called dishonest because he is not serving the interests of the rich man, his employer. In response the steward, in an attempt to ensure favor for himself among the rich man's debtors, brokers repayment of the rich man's loans by foregoing the interest and fees that had been levied to line the steward's pockets. It is this action, in which the steward puts aside his greed and takes the longer perspective in order to enhance his security, which is commended by the rich man.

The passage concludes with three morals for the listeners. The first exhorts the listener to be prudent about the use of wealth. Like the steward in the parable, those who would follow Jesus must put transitory affairs in proper perspective. Christians should handle the affairs of temporal life with an eye toward eternal life.

[Continued...](#)

**Religious Educators:** [Click here for activity ideas](#) related to today's gospel for grades 1-3, 4-6, 7-8, and for families.

 **AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY**  
*Helping Each Other with the Word*

Having trouble reading this?  
[Normal Version](#) | [Print this page](#)

**LECTIO DIVINA**



Sunday, March 25, 2012  
Fifth Sunday of Lent

**WHOEVER WANTS TO SERVE ME MUST FOLLOW ME**  
**John 12:20-35 (Good News Translation)**

<sup>22</sup> Some Greeks were among those who had gone to Jerusalem to worship during the festival. <sup>23</sup> They went to Philip (he was from Bethsaida in Galilee) and said, "Sir, we want to see Jesus." <sup>24</sup> Philip went and told Andrew, and the two of them went and told Jesus. <sup>25</sup> Jesus answered them, "The hour has now come for the Son of Man to receive great glory. <sup>26</sup> I am telling you the truth: a grain of wheat remains no more than a single grain unless it is dropped into the ground and dies. If it does die, then it produces many grains. <sup>27</sup> Those who love their own life will lose it; those who hate their own life in this world will keep it for life eternal. <sup>28</sup> Whoever wants to serve me must follow me, so that my servant will be with me where I am. And my Father will honor anyone who serves me. <sup>29</sup> Now my heart is troubled—and what shall I say? Shall I say, "Father, do not let this hour come upon me"? But that is why I came—so that I might go through this hour of suffering. <sup>30</sup> Father, bring glory to your name!" Then a voice spoke from heaven, "I have brought glory to it, and I will do so again." <sup>31</sup> The crowd standing there heard the voice, and some of them said it was thunder, while others said "An angel spoke to him!" <sup>32</sup> But Jesus said to

**ABOUT LECTIO DIVINA.**  
Lectio Divina is a weekly framework for a faithful and respectful reading of the Bible, coordinated with the Catholic lectionary calendar. Content provided by UBS.

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3 minutes a day, 24 hours of peace  
Start your retreat

Start your retreat with your friends

**LIFE'S SURVIVAL GOD PAUSE**

Friday, May 23, 2013

John 14:23-29

It's again a promise to Jesus' followers that after his mission here is finished, they will not be alone. They will receive the Paraclete (counselor, advocate, helper) who will guide them in remembering and understanding the life and teachings of Jesus. This Paraclete will empower them in witnessing and service. And they will experience—whether in tranquil or stormy times—peace. And it's all in the plural, the promise to Jesus' followers.

After communion, when returning to their pews, the eyes of some fellow members meet mine. There is a smile, a slight nod of recognition or a subtle wave of the hand. We have worshiped together for twenty years. Opened the Bible and read together. Prayed together. Encouraged one another to service and sacrifice. Forgiven one another. There is a joy in this, a sense of belonging. And thus we are experiencing the abundant life, life lived in the near presence of God.

*Present Lord, we keep doing the things of the world around us. We get hooked on the idea that more stuff can give lasting happiness and that accumulation of property, power and prestige will fill us up, alleviate the emptiness. And then we discover that stance to be woefully inadequate for it never delivers. We ask that you will return us again to your promise that you will make your home in us. Amen.*

Bruce W. Hanstedt  
Manitowoc, WI

John 14:23-29 (NRSV)

ELCA Blogs

Back to ELCA Blogs  
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About  
No categories

**Faith Lens**  
Weekly Bible studies that engage youth and young adults in connecting world events with the Bible, faith, and everyday life.

**January 27, 2013--Misinterpreted at Home**  
Posted on January 22, 2013 by [lshelton](#)

Contributed by [Daphanie Opool](#), West Des Moines, IA

Like

**Warm-up Question**  
Have you ever let someone close to you did not fully understand you?

**Misinterpreted at Home**



Although he was a shining star to many football fans a year ago, Tim Tebow spent the 2012 season with the New York Jets as a second string quarterback. In addition, Coach Rex Ryan chose to play the third string quarterback over him when the starting quarterback, Mark Sanchez, was taken out of the game against the San Diego Chargers on December 23. On top of that, it is unclear whether Tebow refused the opportunity to play in a wildcat offensive formation during the game. In a later article, Tebow reported that the conversation with his coach was misinterpreted: he simply asked for the opportunity to play his favorite position, quarterback, though he was willing to do anything for the team.

An article by Greg Couch on FoxSports.com describes Tim Tebow's situation. Couch writes that, in his opinion, Tebow's coach used him for the quarterback's image and popularity without giving him a chance or intending to play him much. Similarly, Couch stated that Tebow's previous coach on the Broncos called the wrong plays, trying to expose Tebow's weaknesses to his adoring fans. Instead, Tebow found success and helped lead the team to the playoffs.

Couch describes Tim Tebow as a man who simply wants to be a good person and play football, but many others do not accept his approach. People have viewed him as hypocritical, attention-seeking, selfish, and not having what it takes to play in the NFL. After the mix-up at the Chargers game, many onlookers faulted his character and criticized him, saying that he "pulled on his team."

Verizon 3:09 PM 48%

**Daily grace**

- Embrace Change
- Wisdom of the Spirit
- Take This Bread
- Perfect Welcome
- Coming Home
- Random Grace

Twitter Facebook ELCA

Women of the ELCA

Verizon 3:09 PM 48%

**Daily grace**

**Take This Bread**

"Early one morning at age 46, I walked into a church and ate a piece of bread, took a sip of wine. This is a routine Sunday activity for tens of millions Americans. Except at this particular moment—my first communion—everything changed.

That led me against all my expectations to a faith I'd scorned and work I never imagined. The mysterious sacrament turned out to not be a symbolic wafer, but actual food—indeed the bread of life. In that shocking moment of communion, I realized what I was meant to do: feed people. Opening a food pantry for those in need is the San Francisco

## Devotions & Readings

Get the Daily Prayer app

Today's Daily Lectionary reading

This week's Sunday / Festival Readings

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Frequently asked questions

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 100 Wilkespoon Street  
 Louisville, KY 40202

Give to  
 Daily Lectionary Readings

### Devotions and readings suggested for daily meditation and prayer

#### Lectionary readings

Lectionary readings provide a disciplined way to read through the Bible. These readings are available for both lectionary cycles, the Sunday and festival readings and the daily readings.

**READ THE LECTIONARY ONLINE**

Two lectionary options are provided on this site: the two-year Daily Lectionary from the Book of Common Worship (BCW) and the three-year Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) for Sundays and festivals.

Read today's Daily Lectionary reading and find previous and future readings.

Read this week's Revised Common Lectionary reading for Sundays and festivals.

**PRINT THE LECTIONARY READINGS**

Download printable lectionary reading lists.

**SUBSCRIBE BY EMAIL**

Get the daily lectionary delivered by email. [Subscribe now](#)

**HEAR THE WORD**

Weekly Revised Common Lectionary podcast of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Listen to lectionary readings for Sundays and festivals. Subscribe to "Hear the Word."

**GET THE DAILY PRAYER APP**

The Office of Theology and Worship has developed an iPhone / iPad app for daily prayer, to be released in the fall of 2012. Sign up for this newsletter to be among the first to hear of the app's launch.

Here's a sneak preview:





## Daily Prayer



... pray without ceasing ...  
(1 Th. 5:17)



October 5, 2012

- Opening Sentences** >  
Stay with us, Lord ...
- Service of Light** >  
The Lord be with you ...
- Evening Psalm(s)**
- Psalm 141** >  
O Lord, I call to you ...
- Evening Psalm 1** >  
Psalm 25
- Evening Psalm 2** >  
Psalm 40
- Scripture Reading(s)**
- First Reading** >  
Hosea 4:11-19
- Second Reading** >  
Acts 21:37-22:16
- Gospel** >  
Luke 6:12-26

# Example: Advent

Church Life →	Daily & Home Life	← Online Life
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advent Sunday liturgies</li> <li>• Advent prayer services</li> <li>• Giving Tree</li> <li>• Advent-Christmas service projects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lectionary reflection</li> <li>• Advent wreath</li> <li>• Daily prayer</li> <li>• Advent rituals and blessings</li> <li>• Service</li> <li>• Alternative gift-giving</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">← Sharing stories → church and online</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advent calendar</li> <li>• Advent devotional</li> <li>• Lectionary resources</li> <li>• Advent daily prayer</li> <li>• Weekly table prayer</li> <li>• Video resources</li> <li>• Alternative gift-giving ideas</li> <li>• Service project ideas</li> </ul>

# Advent Wreath

The screenshot shows a video player interface. On the left is a sidebar with a profile picture of a man and the text 'CHUCK KNOWS CHURCH'. Below this are social media icons for Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter, and a search bar labeled 'Search Episodes'. The main video area has a title '5 | Advent Wreath' in a green header. Below the title is a short description: 'Four candles in a circle with a big one in the middle? Yep, take a moment and learn the basics about the advent wreath. Chuck introduces you to what those candles symbolize. You'll smile and learn with Chuck on his fifth show.' There are two buttons: 'Download this episode' and 'Embed this video'. The video player itself shows a man in a light-colored shirt smiling, with an advent wreath and candles in the background. The video progress bar at the bottom shows 0:00 / 1:40.

# Advent: A Time of Waiting (Vibrant Faith @ Home)

The screenshot shows a webpage with the title "Advent: A Time of Waiting" by Diana Overby Jordan. The page includes an introduction, an "Activity Plan" with four steps, and a sidebar with sections for "For Your Family" (Season, Needed, Prepare in Advance, Resources, Share) and a QR code.

**Advent: A Time of Waiting**  
By Diana Overby Jordan

The four weeks before Christmas is known as the season of Advent in the church. It's a time of waiting and preparation. As a family, talk about how to wait well.

**Activity Plan**

1. See the prayer aloud to begin.  
Gather for with us during our times of waiting. Amen.
2. Ask someone to read aloud [Psalm 138:1-4](#).  
"Praise for the Lord, as strong, and all your heart into heaven; wait for the Lord!"  
Then ask another family member to read aloud [Lamentations 3:22](#).  
"The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the one who would hope."
3. As a family, read the [Joy article Celebrating The Waiting, why Advent Still Matters](#) (see link below). Discuss these questions:
  - What does Advent mean to you?
  - Is the season of Advent new to you? Why or why not?
  - What has been your past experience of Advent?
  - What gives Advent meaning?
  - Where do you find your own waiting?
  - How do you wait well?
4. Mark the four Sundays of Advent by lighting a candle each week, and reading the corresponding scripture:
  - Four Sundays before Christmas—Light one candle. Read aloud [Isaiah 61:1-11](#).
  - Three Sundays before Christmas—Light two candles. Read aloud [Luke 1:26-38](#).
  - Two Sundays before Christmas—Light three candles. Read aloud [Philippians 1:3-11](#).
  - One Sunday before Christmas—Light four candles. Read aloud [Luke 1:1-25](#).

**For Your Family**

**Season**  
Advent

**Needed**  
Bible, four candles and matches, Joy article Celebrating The Waiting, Why Advent Still Matters (see below)

**Prepare in Advance**

- Mark your Bible to Psalm 138:1-4 and Lamentations 3:22 (see below)
- Gather needed materials as noted above

**Resources**

- Celebrating The Waiting, Why Advent Still Matters

**Share**  
Save the QR code and share your experience with others.

# Advent Resources (Loyola Press)

The screenshot shows a webpage titled "Advent Resources" with a navigation menu on the left and a main content area. The main content includes a description of Advent, a link to "Don't Miss our Advent Intergenerational Faith Event: Advent: Waiting for Jesus Child", and a list of resources.

**Advent Resources**

Home  
Español  
Prayer  
Articles  
The Jesus Tree  
Suggested Reading  
Activities  
Calendar  
Aids & Faith: Advent

**Advent**

We are a people who wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior Jesus Christ. Advent is a joyful time of preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus. Select a link below to get information about Advent activities, Advent readings, and Advent activities.

**Don't Miss our Advent Intergenerational Faith Event: Advent: Waiting for Jesus Child**

- About
- Inspiration
- Prayers
- Sermons
- The Jesus Tree
- Suggested Reading
- Activities
- Calendar
- Aids & Faith: Advent

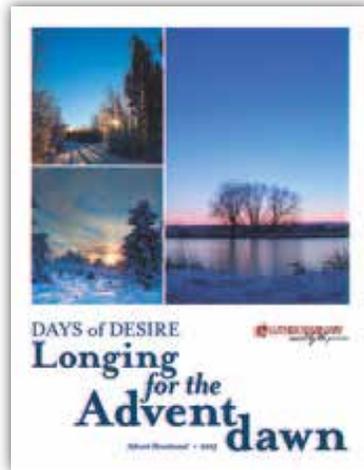
# Journey through Advent

The screenshot shows the OCERS Fair Trade website. The top navigation bar includes links for 'What is Fair Trade?', 'OCERS and Fair Trade', 'Products and Resources', 'Fair Trade Resources', and 'Economic Justice'. The main content area is titled 'Advent Resources' and features a 'Journey Through Advent' banner. Below the banner, there is a search bar and a list of 'Prayer Questions'. To the right, there is a 'Weekly Reflections/Reflections Sermonies' section with a grid of images and text, and an 'Alternative Giving Activity' section below it.

# Advent Calendar

The screenshot shows the Busted Halo website. The top navigation bar includes links for 'Home', 'About Us', 'Contact Us', 'Privacy Policy', and 'Terms of Service'. The main content area is titled 'Advent Surprise Calendar' and features a 'Stay tuned!' announcement. Below the announcement, there is a 'For now, here's last year's calendar to give you a taste of what's in store.' section. The calendar is organized by day (Sunday through Saturday) and week (Week 1 through Week 4). The grid contains various images representing the calendar's content.

# Advent Devotional



# The Text This Week

**the text this week**  
HIGH YIELD SEVEN DISCIPLINES OF THE FRUITFUL LEADER  
Read from Tom Butler and Louisa M. Weeks, Jr.  
"Church leaders should study, digest and apply this book." — Pastor Jorge Aguilar

Lectionary, Scripture Study, Worship Links, and Resources

HOME | ACCEPTANCE INDEX | MOVIE INDEX | ART INDEX | SEARCH | ABOUT | WORKS | ADVERTISE | SUPPORT | BLOG | CONTACT

**On-Line Resources for the Season of Advent**

- **Advent 2012** about my son Philip
- **General Resources**
  - Advent, UMC 8000
  - Advent Journals, VPC
  - Advent Resources, Faith and Leadership
  - The Advent Journal, the North American Academy of Liturgy
  - Rev. Chuck Moore Resources
  - Advent Season of Devotion: Seasonal Devotion (Dennis Smith), includes materials on The Jesus Top and Advent Journals, and an article on Postcard DL Bookmarks Advent Study
  - Advent Scriptures
- **Advent Conits/Worship Changes**
  - Advent at 1000: Liturgy, Scripture, Litanies, Year 4, North Spring, February 2013
  - Advent Liturgy, Rev. William O'Brien, Presbyterian Church in Canada
  - Advent Carols: Lyrics, Reflections, Reformation Lutheran World Service, 2013
  - Devotion for Leaders of Advent Celebrations, Jennifer Phelps, The Association of Pastors for Advent and Lenten, 2013
  - Words for Worship (Advent Celebrations), Amy Loring, 2013
  - Rev. Chuck Moore Resources
  - Southern United Methodist Ministry, Winter Series, 2010
  - Advent Carols: Lyrics, Reflections, Process and Faith
  - Season of Advent: Faith and Resources, Rev. Bruce Peters, New Zealand
  - Advent at 1000: Resources, New Bible Project, Liturgy, 2010
- **Worship Planning**
  - Developing 400 Devotions: Planning for the Advent and Christmas Seasons, including children in the congregation's worship, using the Revised Common Lectionary, Carolyn C. Brown, 2013
  - "Seasonal Advent 2012: Plan Worship on the Church's Calendar, 2012"
  - "Common Core," Katherine Lewis-Peterson, 2013 (Creative Commons)
  - "The Best Ideas for Small-Group Christmas Eve Devotions," Katherine Lewis-Peterson, 2013 (Creative Commons)
  - "Advent and Christmas Resources: Rev. Mark, 2012-2013, 2013"
  - "No Nonsense: Connecting the Fall and the Present," Kaitlin Thompson

**No Time To Read?**  
Try Leaders Book Summaries

**Summaries of Top Leadership Books**  
Marked Common Core Skills, Health, Critical Study, Writing

**Leaders**  
BOOK SUMMARIES

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**INDEX BY SCRIPTURE**

**FORCASTS**

**DAILY LECTONARY RESOURCES**

**WORSHIP RESOURCES INDEX**

**FESTIVAL/SPECIAL DAYS**  
(Includes Christmas)

**FOR USE IN TIMES OF VIOLENCE**

**FOR USE IN TIMES OF TERRORISM, WAR, PEACE**

**FOR USE IN TIMES OF NATURAL DISASTERS**

**PERIODIC/PUB** - August 8

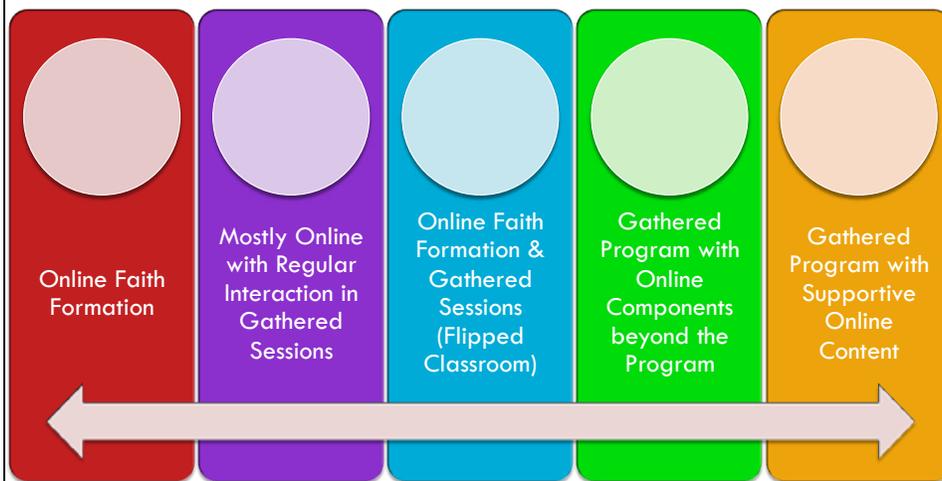
Twitter@GospelFuel - Aug 8

Facebook.com/GospelFuel - Aug 8

# Catholic Mom



# Blended Faith Formation



## Reaching People in the Community

### Community Life → Daily/Home Life via Online Life “Just for Parents” Fall 2014

1. Parent Webinar Series
2. Learn more about Parenting
3. Small Group Book Study: “Secrets of Happy Families”
4. On Your Own Video: Parenting for the Long Haul

<http://holytrinityfamilies.weebly.com/for-parents.html>

## One Program, Multiple Formats

Create new formats and delivery systems for church-based programs

- + Sunday sermon
- + Church event: worship, rituals, church year celebrations
- + VBS – updates & presentations
- + Adult enrichment
- + Parent programs

And more. . . .



## Online & Gathered: Flipped Classroom

“Flipping the classroom” so that children and teens are doing project-centered learning with their parents or peers—accessing content online through the network website and connecting via a secure social network such as Edmodo AND then refocusing “class time” on practicing, demonstrating, and performing.

## Khan Academy

The screenshot shows the Khan Academy website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'LEARN', 'COACH', 'ABOUT', and 'DONATE', along with the 'Khan Academy' logo and a user profile icon. Below the navigation bar, a banner reads 'Learn almost anything for free'. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- CS number pattern challenges:** A card with a colorful background and the text 'So challenge me to learn a new number system. How about...?'
- Get Measurable:** A card with the text 'So measure the progress you're making. How about...?'
- Practice your math skills:** A card with the text 'Practice your math skills from within the website and learning is fun!'

Below these cards, there are two columns of course listings:

- Math:** A grid of course cards including 'Arithmetic', 'Algebra', 'Geometry', 'Calculus', 'Statistics', and 'Probability'.
- Science & Economics:** A grid of course cards including 'Biology', 'Chemistry', 'Physics', 'Earth Science', 'Economics', and 'History'.
- Computer Science:** A grid of course cards including 'Coding', 'Data Science', and 'AI/ML'.
- Humanities:** A grid of course cards including 'Literature', 'History', and 'Art'.

On the right side of the page, there is a 'Join the Academy' section with a 'Sign up for Khan Academy' button and a 'Subscribe to our courses' section. At the bottom, there is a 'How to use Khan Academy' section.

*St. Edward the Confessor* 

# CONFIRMATION

*Be sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit*



**Welcome to Confirmation**

Confirmation is the sacrament in which you receive a clearer outpouring of the Holy Spirit. It completes what began in Baptism, giving you the gifts and tools needed to live out your whole life as a Catholic. Confirmation preparation is a 2-year process with weekly meetings, online work, service projects, retreats, and night preparation.

[Confirmation Registration is Taking Place! Click to Register Now!](#)

[LEARN MORE ABOUT CONFIRMATION](#)

**LEARNING**  
*login*



**Confirmation 1**  
*Calendar of Events*

Tuesday, **9/29/14**

Sunday, September 28  
8:00am Homeward Bound  
Saturday, September 28  
5:00pm Confirmation 1 Mirror  
Sunday, October 5  
4:00pm Confirmation 1 Class  
Sunday, October 12  
4:00pm Confirmation 2, Safe

**PROGRAM**  
*requirements*



**Confirmation 2**  
*Calendar of Events*

Tuesday, **9/29/14**

Sunday, September 28  
8:00am Homeward Bound  
Sunday, October 26  
4:00pm Confirmation 2 Class  
Sunday, October 27  
4:00pm Confirmation 2 - Safe  
Sunday, November 9  
4:00pm Confirmation 2, Prep

**SERVICE**  
*projects*



**Insights**  
*Calendar of Events*

Tuesday, **9/29/14**

Sunday, September 28  
8:00am Homeward Bound  
Wednesday, September 24  
7:00pm Insight  
Wednesday, October 8  
7:00pm Insight  
Wednesday, October 15  
8:00pm Retreat

Flipped Classroom

*St. Edward the Confessor* 

# CONFIRMATION

*Be sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit*

[Back to Confirmation Homepage](#)

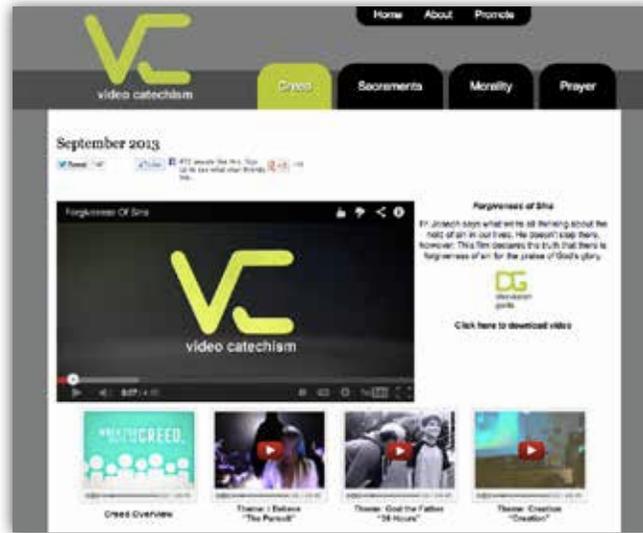
**Program Requirements**

- 1) **PARTICIPATE IN WEEKLY ONLINE LEARNING**
  - Complete weekly online lessons
  - Participate in online small group discussions
- 2) **ATTEND MONTHLY SUNDAY SESSIONS**
  - Sessions begin at 4:00 p.m. and end after the 5:30 p.m. Mass
  - 1 Absence allowed
- 3) **SERVICE PROJECTS**
  - Participate in 2 service projects per year (if more project opportunities will be available online or you can suggest one to us that you would like to participate in)
  - Write one reflection per project completed online
- 4) **ATTEND "INSIGHT" (YOUTH GROUP) MEETINGS**
  - Attend 2 insight Youth Ministry Meetings, none is encouraged!
  - Insight takes place Wednesday nights from 7:00 - 8:30 PM in Knight Hall (please refer to online insight calendar)
- 5) **ATTEND A CONFIRMATION RETREAT EACH YEAR**
  - Confirmation I - One-day retreat with parent or proxy (September 28, 2013)
  - Confirmation II - Overnight weekend retreat (February 14-15, 2014 or March 7-9, 2014)
  - \*\*\* Registration for Confirmation II Retreat will begin online January 6, 2014

Flipped Classroom

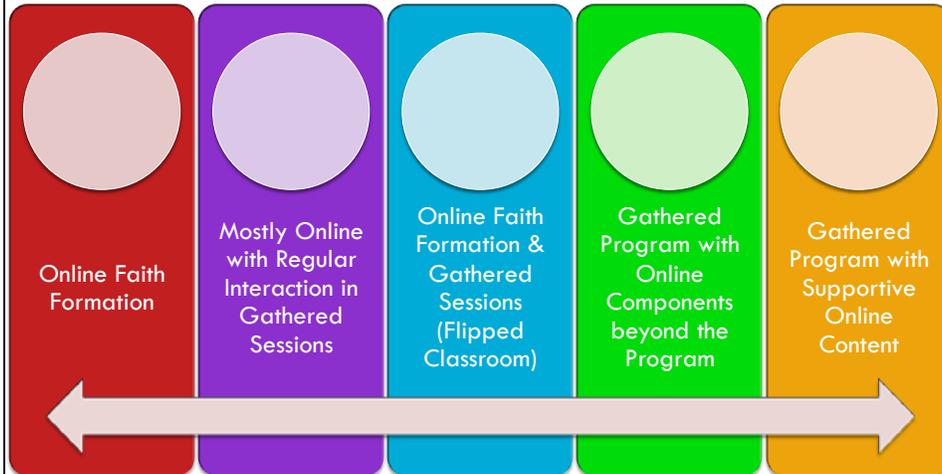
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# Online Faith Formation Centers





## Blended Faith Formation



## Online Programs

1. Online video conference with online content
2. Online courses and activities
3. Online learning and resource center

# Google+ Hangout

- Online Course, Small Group, Workshop, or 1-1 Mentoring
- Broadcast a Presentation
- Record the Presentation (YouTube)



# Online Learning & Courses

#	Title	Year	Released	Description	Availability	Price
1	Research Series: Christianity	18.01	2011.01	Yale Divinity School Professor	Available	Free
2	Introduction to Religion	18.08	2011.01	Yale Divinity School Professor	Available	Free
3	What is Religion?	18.01	2011.01	Yale Divinity School Professor	Available	Free
4	Evangelicalism?	18.01	2011.01	Yale Divinity School Professor	Available	Free
5	What is the Bible?	18.01	2011.01	Yale Divinity School Professor	Available	Free
6	Is Faith a Delusion?	18.01	2011.01	Yale Divinity School Professor	Available	Free
7	Is God's Existence?	18.01	2011.01	Yale Divinity School Professor	Available	Free
8	The Bible's Truth?	18.01	2011.01	Yale Divinity School Professor	Available	Free

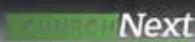


## Learn From Proven Experts

HUNDREDS OF INTERVIEWS



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INNOVATING LIVES & CONGREGATIONS

### Introducing online Christian learning for your congregation.

Imagine your church's own virtual classroom, stocked with dozens of courses on the Bible, liturgy, and important Christian topics. Students can interact in a safe online environment that's convenient, engaging and affordable.

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A-Z BCINFO MAPS DIRECTORIES

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Search BC  GO



C21 ONLINE

About C21 Online Courses Registration

Course Schedule

- Online Learning
- Certificates
- Computer Requirements
- FAQ
- Faithfuls
- Resources
- The Network
- Boston Archdiocese

Enroll Now!

Participants log in here:

Blackboard View

Course Schedule

C21 ONLINE, SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY

Summer 2013

Date Course Begins	Date Course Ends	Courses
7/31/13	8/28/13	<a href="#">The Good</a>
7/31/13	8/28/13	<a href="#">Teaching Reform</a>

Our Fall courses are now available! Please click [here](#) to register.

Fall 2013

Date Course Begins	Date Course Ends	Courses
9/18/13	10/22/13	<a href="#">What Makes Us Catholic I</a>
9/18/13	10/9/13	NEW! <a href="#">Preaching to Children</a>
9/25/13	10/26/13	<a href="#">Coral</a>
9/25/13	10/26/13	<a href="#">Sacramental Matters</a>
10/2/13	11/12/13	New! <a href="#">The Way of Justice and Peace</a>
10/6/13	11/12/13	<a href="#">Christian Faith and Moral Character</a>
10/9/13	11/19/13	<a href="#">Adrian Beabout</a>
10/16/13	11/19/13	New! <a href="#">The Gospel of John</a>
10/16/13	11/26/13	New! <a href="#">Bible and Apologetics II: The Church Today</a>
10/16/2013	11/12/13	<a href="#">Marian Devotion</a>
10/20/2013	12/3/2013	<a href="#">What Makes Us Catholic II</a>
11/20/2013	12/17/2013	<a href="#">Jesus, Friends and Enemies</a>

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**C21 Online Mini-Courses**

**The Death of Jesus: Four Gospel Accounts**

[bc home](#) > [schools](#) > [stm home](#) > [c21 online](#) > [resources](#) > [death of jesus](#)

## The Death of Jesus: Four Gospel Accounts

The Death of Jesus: Four Gospel Accounts, is an online, self-paced mini-course written and narrated by Philip A. Cunningham, Executive Director of the Center for Christian-Jewish Learning at Boston College. It is a collaborative project of the Center and C21 Online.



By the end of the mini-course, a participant will have explored:

- the four different Gospel Passion Narratives by examining five scenes that are common to each of the narratives;
- the unique characteristics of each account;
- the limits of our historical knowledge about Jesus's death;
- the spiritual message about the death of Jesus that each Evangelist sought to convey.

### 1 INTRODUCTORY MATERIALS

The mini-course begins by exploring how the Catholic tradition and recent biblical scholarship understand the origins of the Gospels and their proper interpretation.

### 2 PASSION NARRATIVES COMMENTARIES

In the main section of the mini-course, short presentations examine each of the four Gospel Passion Narratives in five different scenes. Before viewing the commentaries, read the pertinent biblical passages by clicking the links provided. After completing the commentaries for each scene, try out the Self-Check.

### 3 CONCLUSION

This final page sums up the mini-course and introduces the Gospel resurrection accounts. These narratives must also be considered to appreciate fully the Evangelists' insights into the significance of Jesus' ministry.

Welcome to the new TED.com

We've rebuilt TED.com with all the things you asked for... A big, beautiful video player. Mobile-friendly pages. A "Watch later" feature. And new ways to dig deeper into talks you love. Questions? Comments? We're listening. [Contact us](#)

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# 1700+ talks to stir your curiosity

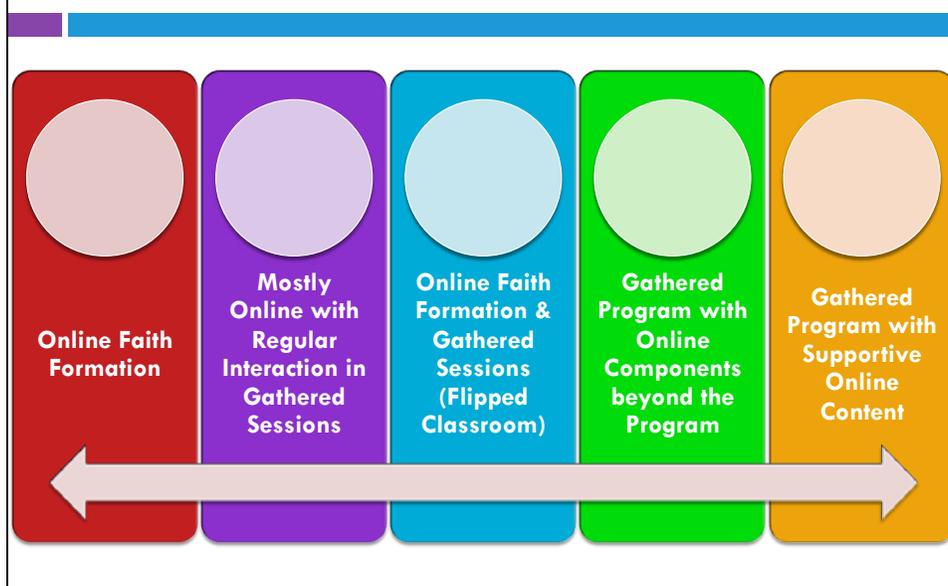
Find just the right talk:

Sort by:

 <p><b>Larry Page</b> Where's Google going next? 2008 video • Nov 2014 Innovation, Mapping</p>	 <p><b>Richard Lindley</b> The NSA responds to Edward Snowden's TED Talk 2013 video • Nov 2014 Information, Persuasion</p>	 <p><b>Charissa Cook</b> My wish: To launch a new era of openness in business 2014 video • Nov 2014 Information, Entrepreneurship</p>	 <p><b>Chris Hadfield</b> What I learned from going blind in space 2015 video • Oct 2015 Inspiring, Persuasion</p>	 <p><b>Edward Snowden</b> Here's how we take back the internet 2013 video • Nov 2013 Courageous, Persuasive</p>	 <p><b>Daniel Arellano</b> The neuroscience of restorative justice 2010 video • Mar 2014 Innovative, Inspiring</p>
 <p><b>Artemus Frenschberger</b> God-fearing and Sinner-friendly The long reach of reason 2014 video • May 2014</p>	 <p><b>Corin Jordan</b> The birds and the bees are just the beginning 2014 video • May 2014</p>	 <p><b>Johly Shephard</b> You don't need an app for that 2014 video • Nov 2014 Innovative, Inspiring</p>	 <p><b>Anna-Maria Slaughter</b> Can we all "have it all"?? 2014 video • Mar 2014 Innovative, Entrepreneurial</p>	 <p><b>Clayton Conroy</b> J-rhythms-etic. The math behind the beats 2012 video • May 2014</p>	 <p><b>Will Vengason</b> A word game to communicate in any language 2012 video • Feb 2014</p>



## Connected & Blended Faith Formation



## Personalized Faith Formation



## Personalized Faith Formation

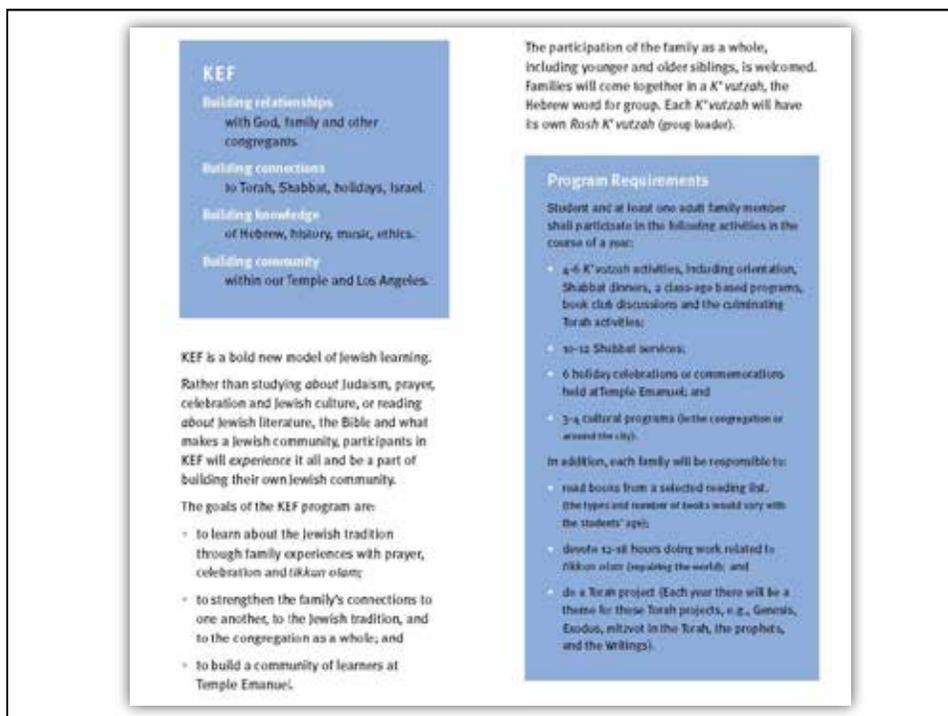
Personalized pathways for discipleship & faith growth. . . .

- Guide people in discerning their religious and spiritual needs
- Equip people with the resources and tools to learn and grow at their own pace
- Provide mentoring and support for the journey

# Faith Growth Plan

Create expectations for participation in faith formation and church life by providing a seasonal/yearly growth plan with a variety of options for experiencing the Christian faith through community life. For example:

- ✦ Sunday worship
- ✦ Church year feasts and seasons
- ✦ Service/mission projects
- ✦ Retreat experience
- ✦ Faith practices @ home, e.g. reading the Bible, praying, rituals, and more



**KEF**  
Building relationships with God, family and other congregants.  
Building connections to Torah, Shabbat, holidays, Israel.  
Building knowledge of Hebrew, history, music, ethics.  
Building community within our Temple and Los Angeles.

KEF is a bold new model of Jewish learning. Rather than studying about Judaism, prayer, celebration and Jewish culture, or reading about Jewish literature, the Bible and what makes a Jewish community, participants in KEF will experience it all and be a part of building their own Jewish community.

The goals of the KEF program are:

- to learn about the Jewish tradition through family experiences with prayer, celebration and tikkun olam;
- to strengthen the family's connections to one another, to the Jewish tradition, and to the congregation as a whole; and
- to build a community of learners at Temple Emanuel.

The participation of the family as a whole, including younger and older siblings, is welcomed. Families will come together in a *K'vutzah*, the Hebrew word for group. Each *K'vutzah* will have its own *Rosh K'vutzah* (group leader).

**Program Requirements**  
Student and at least one adult family member shall participate in the following activities in the course of a year:

- 4-6 *K'vutzah* activities, including orientation, Shabbat dinners, a class-age based program, book club discussions and the culminating Torah activities;
- 10-12 Shabbat services;
- 6 holiday celebrations or commemorations held at Temple Emanuel; and
- 3-4 cultural programs (on the congregation or around the city).

In addition, each family will be responsible to:

- read books from a selected reading list. (The types and number of books would vary with the students' ages)
- devote 12-18 hours doing work related to tikkun olam (repairing the world); and
- do a Torah project. (Each year there will be a theme for these Torah projects, e.g., Genesis, Exodus, mitzvot in the Torah, the prophets, and the Writings).

# Missional Faith Formation



# Missional Faith Formation

1. Who we are addressing or involving or reaching?
2. Ways we are currently responding/involving/reaching?
3. Ways we could respond/involve/reach more effectively?

Scenario #4	Scenario #1
Scenario #3	Scenario #2

## Example: Families with Children

<p><b>Scenario #4</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parent faith formation at Baptism &amp; First Communion</li> <li>• Parent mentoring / small groups</li> <li>• Milestone &amp; church year celebrations</li> <li>• VBS, family service, family camp</li> <li>• Early childhood programming</li> <li>• Online family resource center</li> </ul>	<p><b>Scenario #1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whole family programs at church</li> <li>• Faith practices at home (rituals, Bible reading, devotions, service, prayer)</li> <li>• Parent faith formation &amp; mentoring</li> <li>• Milestones celebrations</li> <li>• VBS, family camp, family service</li> <li>• Online family resource center</li> </ul>
<p><b>Scenario #3</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family life center / early childhood center</li> <li>• Family events sponsored in the community: movie nights, concerts, children's festivals</li> <li>• VBS, family camp, family service</li> <li>• Parenting programs &amp; resources</li> <li>• Online family resource center</li> </ul>	<p><b>Scenario #2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family life center / early childhood center</li> <li>• Small group family experiences</li> <li>• VBS, family camp, family service</li> <li>• Parenting programs &amp; resources</li> <li>• Family events in the community</li> <li>• Parent faith (e.g., Alpha)</li> <li>• Online family resource center</li> </ul>

The screenshot shows the 'fresh expressions' website interface. At the top left is the logo 'fresh expressions' with a blue cross icon. To the right is a photo of a group of people with colorful balloons. Below the logo is a social media navigation bar with icons for Weibo, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Google+. The main content area is titled 'e-xpressions: July 2014' and includes a 'Welcome' message. Under 'New stories this month', there are three featured articles: 'St Ives Café Church (update)' about a wedding, 'Neither Young Nor Old' about a church in a housing complex, and 'Connect (video update)' about a church from an Alpha course. A 'The Way' section is also visible at the bottom.

# The Wesley Playhouse



[www.freshexpressions.org.uk/stories/playhouse](http://www.freshexpressions.org.uk/stories/playhouse)



A **Third Place** gathering space in the community, offers hospitality, builds relationships, hosts spiritual conversations, provides programs and activities, and nourishes the spiritual life of people.

WHAT IS LIFETREE CAFE? FIND A LIFETREE CAFE PLANT A LIFETREE CAFE

*An hour of stories & conversation to feed your soul.*

This Week's Topic: Finding Peace When Life is Difficult

Week of March 22: Hurt By Church

Week of April 1: Why Did I Survive?

Week of April 8: To Heaven and Back

Week of April 15: Living Online

Join the conversation

LIFETREE CAFE

Lifetree Cafe Locator

Zip Code:

City:

State:

Search Now

**An hour of stories and conversation to feed your soul.**

Lifetree Cafe is a comfortable place and time to gather weekly to explore life and faith. It feels and looks like the kind of place you'd typically meet a friend for food, drink and fun. Where the atmosphere encourages conversations, questions, and personal stories.

Join us for compelling stories about fascinating people. Stories from the news. Stories from our own lives. The story of what God is doing in the world around us. At Lifetree Cafe, we explore all those stories - and make sense of our faith and our lives.

[Read more](#)

Plant a Lifetree in your community.

## PLANT A LIFETREE CAFE

What if you could create a comfortable place and time for people to gather weekly to explore life and faith?

What if it looked and felt like the kind of place you typically meet a friend for food and drink and fun? What if the atmosphere encouraged conversations, questions, and personal stories? What if the conversations about life somehow led to an ab-ha of God's real presence and his genuine love?

Those questions led to the creation of Lifetree Café. Now each week people gather in cozy venues to explore life and faith. The hour-long Lifetree Café experiences feature real stories of real people, guided conversation, time to build relationships with new and old friends, laughter, fun, spiritual insights, and opportunities to serve.

Lifetree Café offers a casual physical environment, warm hospitality, a safe place for questions and doubts, and an encouraging atmosphere for participants to share their own stories.

Lifetree stories dig into the big and little stuff that shapes our lives. Family. Friends. Fears. Busyness. Balance. Money. Materialism. Health.

"I felt welcomed the minute I walked in the door... and my opinions we're welcomed too. Thank you Lifetree Café."

"I found myself sharing things I've never shared with anyone before."

"My wife and I like to come here as a date night out."

Learn more about planting a Lifetree Café in your community by visiting [Discover.LifetreeCafe.com](http://Discover.LifetreeCafe.com).



## Reaching People in the Community

**Community Life → Daily/Home Life via Online Life**  
**“Just for Parents” Fall 2014**

1. Parent Webinar Series
2. Learn more about Parenting
3. Small Group Book Study: “Secrets of Happy Families”
4. On Your Own Video: Parenting for the Long Haul

<http://holytrinityfamilies.weebly.com/for-parents.html>