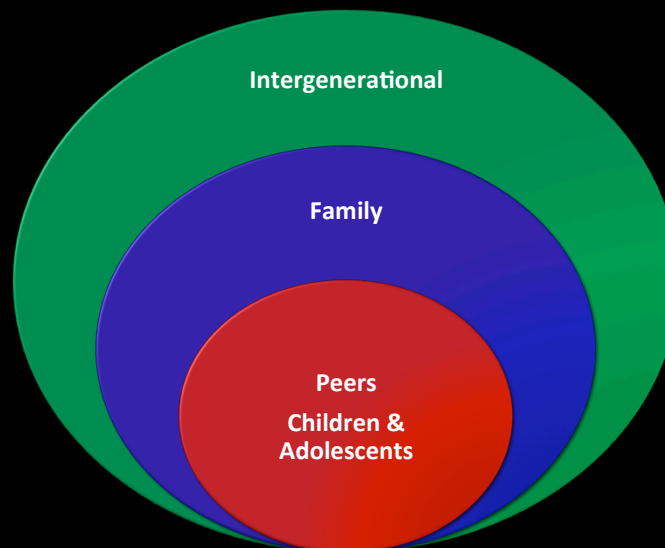


# 2017 SYMPOSIUM *FAITH FORMATION WITH A NEW GENERATION*



## Session 3 Intergenerational

### Faith Forming Environments

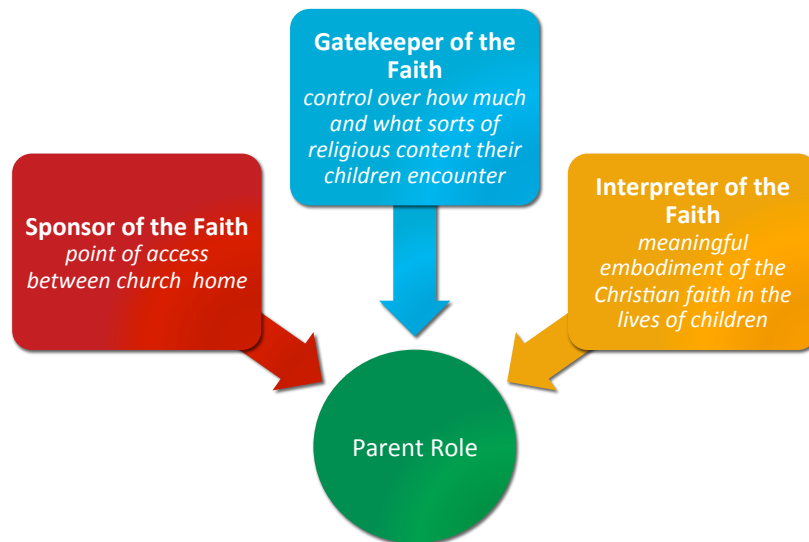


## Forming Faith: Family



- ✦ Primary Influence on transmission of religious faith and practice: Parents & Family
- ✦ Day-to-day religious practices of the family and the ways parents model their faith and share it in conversation, collaboration, and exposure to outside religious opportunities
- ✦ Secondary Influence: The Congregation and Significant Adults

## Parental Influence



## Parental Influence

*As “sponsors,” “gatekeepers,” and “interpreters” of the Catholic faith for their children, parents give children a glimpse of what Catholicism seems to be all about and whether or not it can meaningfully inform one’s day-to-day life.*

*(American Catholic Religious Parenting, Burtkus and Smith)*

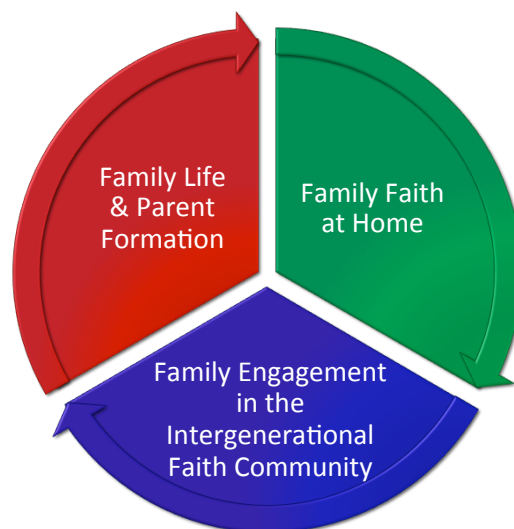
*One of the most basic suggestions of our findings is that young adults arrive at a sense of their fundamental identity and worldview not by weighing all possible intellectual arguments for and against a proposed way of life, but rather by roughly adopting the worldview of those mentors who left the deepest impression upon them—and who loved them and cared for them the most. It should come as no surprise, then, that the emergence of the new generation of dedicated young Christians (Catholics) will rise and fall with the choices of their parents.*

*(American Catholic Religious Parenting, Burtkus and Smith)*

## Everyday Family Faith Practices



## Family Faith Formation Strategies



## Family Faith Formation Strategies



1. God in Everyday Life
2. Faith Practices at Home
3. Milestones
4. Seasonal Events
5. Encountering God in the Bible
6. Intergenerational Connections
7. Strong Family Life
8. Parents & Grandparents as Faith Formers

## Family Faith Formation 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

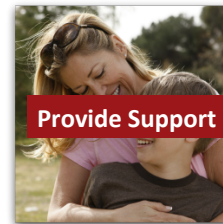
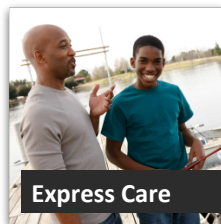
## Forming Faith @ Home

### Developmentally Appropriate activities for. . .

1. Seasons of the year
2. Rituals and milestones
3. Learning the tradition
4. Prayer and spiritual formation
5. Reading the Bible
6. Service, justice, care for creation
7. Family conversations
8. And more. . .

## Developing Family Life

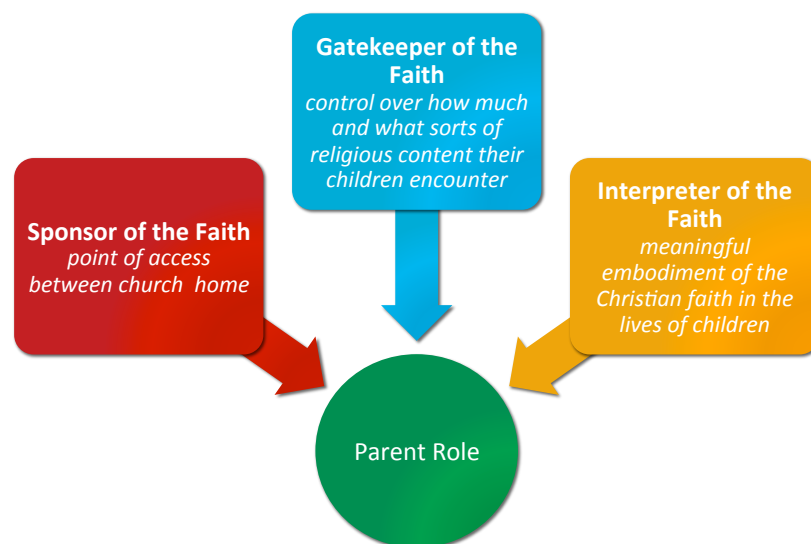
- ✦ Developing family assets or strengths
- ✦ Promoting character strengths in young people through developmental relationships.



## Family Life Practices

1. Communicating effectively
2. Establishing family routines: family meals, shared activities, daily commitments
3. Celebrating meaningful traditions and rituals
4. Discussing tough topics
5. Making decisions and solving problems as a family
6. Learning how to build strong relationships and express care for each other
7. Developing the strengths & potential of children & youth
8. Supporting each other: encouraging and praising, giving feedback, standing up for each other
9. Treating each with respect and dignity

## Parenting for Faith Formation Practices



## Parenting Practices

- ✓ Expressing care, love, affection, and support for children
- ✓ Balancing time and commitments, managing stress
- ✓ Practicing healthy relationships
- ✓ Disciplining children and learning discipline practices
- ✓ Creating a warm, caring supportive family.
- ✓ Set boundaries and high expectations for children
- ✓ Managing technology and media use
- ✓ Challenging children to grow and continuously improve
- ✓ Providing support to help children complete tasks and achieve goals
- ✓ Sharing power with children so that their voice is heard and they share in making decisions.
- ✓ Expanding possibilities and connecting children to opportunities for growth
- ✓ Developing emotional communication skills
- ✓ Developing positive parent-child interaction skills
- ✓ Learning to respond consistently to their child

## Family Activity

**Focus:** The Faith Forming Influence of Parents and the Whole Family

1. Review the documentation.
2. Develop age-appropriate ideas and strategies for developing the faith forming influence of the family.
3. Create a summary document with the ideas and strategies.



