

Profile For Those Engaged in Parish Faith Formation Programs **

Introduction

A person designated as a leader in parish faith formation (e.g., catechesis of children, adolescents, adults, sacramental preparation and RCIA), should meet the *National Certification Standards For Lay Ecclesial Ministers*. * In addition, for each formation area, the leader should meet the local standards and competencies in specific area as described in the profile.

It is recommended that the faith formation leader be a paid employee willing to work with the diocesan Faith Formation Offices.

* www.usccb.org/resources/Lay-Ecclesial-Ministry-Standards-2018.pdf

Identifying a Parish Faith Formation Leader

1. Human Qualities

- Does the person demonstrate a belief in the dignity of each person?
- Can the person identify the gifts of self and the gifts of others?
- Does the person recognize the importance of good physical, mental and spiritual health in self and others?
- Is the person open to feedback and evaluation?
- Is the person committed to maintaining a safe environment for all?
- Does the person have a healthy sense of self?

2. Spiritual Qualities

- Does the person attend Sunday Mass regularly and actively participate in the parish?
- Does the person live in harmony with Church teaching?
- Does the person participate in prayer and other spiritual opportunities?
- Is the person willing to commit to becoming diocesan certified and continuing spiritual formation?

3. Intellectual Qualities

- Does the person have adequate knowledge in the areas of Scripture, Sacraments, Social Teachings and Church documents or the willingness to obtain that knowledge?
- Does the person have experience as a teacher or catechist?
- Is the person able to recognize the need for change and improvement in programming?
- Does the person understand the critical role of the pastor and parish in formation?

- Does the person have the ability to plan, organize and direct catechists in the program?
- Is the person aware of the diocesan documents related to youth ministry and catechesis or willing to become familiar with these documents?
- Does the person embrace the value of technology and its use; does the person have adequate technological skills?

4. Pastoral Qualities

- Is the person an empathetic listener and have the ability to collaborate with others?
- Is the person committed to inclusion of all persons in the program, especially those with special needs?
- Does the person recognize the importance of involving the family?
- Can the person inspire others to deepen their spirituality and skills?
- Can the person develop and nurture prayer experiences for all involved?

** A parish formation leader should be commissioned through the Formation For Ministry Program.

Note: No one person has all these qualities. However, people working in Church ministry should exemplify some of these qualities. As they continue in ministry, it is hoped that they would begin to develop those qualities that may be deficient.

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