

October 21, 2020

The Family Catechesis Corner



Department of Faith Formation
Diocese of Ogdensburg

Series helps parents, catechists

By: Jessica Hargrave, *Secretary, Department of Faith Formation*

A faith formation series can help catechists polish their skills in delivering the Good News. The Catechetical Formation Series from Loyola Press will build confidence in catechists and parents by getting back to the basics. During these challenging times, parents have become the frontline catechists to their children and may feel like they are in over their head in keeping the Faith going in their home. This free, online catechist training resource offers the basic knowledge and skills needed to engage people of all ages in faith formation. Presenters Joe Paprocki and Dierdre Mullane break down sessions into three areas: Doing, Knowing, and Being.

Sessions one through four cover “Doing” concepts which include getting started planning and preparing, laying the foundation of faith formation, how to lead others in various types of prayer, and facilitation skills. Sessions five through nine is about “Knowing” the basic beliefs, sacraments, morality, and scripture. Lastly, “Being.” A section where catechists and parents can hone their vocation.

Alesia Olney, the Catechetical Leader for St. Bartholomew’s Church in Old Forge and St. Anthony of Padua Parish of Inlet and Raquette Lake, tells unsure parents to not worry.

“God will prepare you for every good work. They do not need a degree in Catholic Theology, and they don’t need to be a Biblical Scholar to teach what the Catholic Church teaches. God will teach them little by little, as they present the lessons to their children. Children will learn the most about real life by following their parents’ example.”

Just like the Diocese of Ogdensburg’s Department of Faith Formation, Olney wants parents and catechists with questions to know she and parish staff are willing to help with great love.

For more information on the Catechetical Formation Series go to www.loyolapress.com/catecheticalformationseries or call the Department of Faith Formation at (315) 393-2920.