

Family Catechesis Program Design

Archdiocese of New York

- 2-½ hour catechetical experience for the whole family.
- Parents stay with their children (grades K-6) for the entire time.
 - Program led by the Parish Family Catechesis Team

1. HOSPITALITY / REGISTRATION PROCEDURE:

(30 minutes)

*Upon arrival at the family catechesis program, families are welcomed by the **hospitality team**, sign in, make or receive name tags, pick-up their home kit, handouts for the session, and are assigned a table group for the program. The Family Catechesis program begins with a shared meal.*

2. GATHERING / OPENING PRAYER:

(15 – 20 minutes)

*The **facilitator** for the family catechesis program welcomes everyone and provides an overview of the session. The **prayer and music team** leads the opening prayer service.*

3. WHOLE GROUP PRESENTATION / INTRODUCTION OF THEME:

(15 – 20 minutes)

*The theme for the session is presented in a whole group shared experience that is dynamic and motivating....eg. music, drama, scripture reading, art project, video, storytelling, ritual. The **teaching team** presents this introduction.*

4. IN-DEPTH LEARNING EXPERIENCE:

Two Options: Whole Group or Activity Stations:

(60 –90 minutes)

*The family groups participate in a learning experience that explores the theme for the session. Option 1: WHOLE GROUP – **the facilitator and/or teaching team** guides the entire group through an integrated learning program.. presentations, leading activities, group discussion, etc... Option 2: ACTIVITY STATIONS – **the activity teaching team** provides the families a structured learning experience focusing on a particular aspect of the main theme while they visit their activity station.*

5. SHARED LEARNING EXPERIENCE:

(15 – 20 minutes)

*The families gather together to share what they learned in the in-depth learning experience. The home kit is reviewed. The **facilitator and/or teaching team** guides the entire group.*

6. CLOSING PRAYER:

(10 – 15 minutes)

*The **prayer and music team** leads the closing prayer service.*