



Family Small Group Model

Ideating Entity:

OYYACM

Contact:

OYYACM

Audience:

M.S. and H.S. youth and their families

Delivery System:

Family - In Person

Estimated Number of Youth Designated for:

Intergenerational implementation; family size will vary as well as age levels to take into consideration when planning content

Designated Space Used:

Family homes

Content Used:

To be curated by parish leaders from available sources based on model below

Details:

The goal of these formation gatherings is to empower parents as the primary catechist of their children. Families would be encouraged to gather weekly for faith conversations, prayer, and a family meal. Parishes are encouraged to provide materials to families that complement the model on the next page.

Family Small Group Model

**Overarching instructions for implementation and use of material provided.
Encouraging a set time each week to gather for a meal and family formation.**

Invite families to consider this time as a special sacred family moment by:

- Encouraging the participation of everyone in the creation of family dinner/setting of the space for dinner
- Encouraging the use of Bibles (pulling out as many as the family has access to; consider parishes providing Bibles where needed)
- Invite the family to eat together at a table (inside or outside)

Content of family faith conversations (general suggested flow noted below)

Opening Prayer

- Provide written prayers
- Provide flow for organic prayer (steps for the family to follow)

Message - Teaching

- Ministry Leader prepare recorded message for them to watch
- It is important for your families and their young people to have the connection to their own parish community. Try to give the message yourself so they hear from you as a leader of the faith and not simply an organizer of programs.
- Shoot for 5 to 10 minutes in length
- Content for messaging should focus on beginning with prayer, making connections to the weekly Sunday Scriptures, and providing Church Teaching “nuggets” (for reflection)

Messages should be dynamic in nature - they need to know how much you love Jesus and His Church, and why they should too - seek to convey this in your delivery

- Small Group Questions
 - Questions focused on the weekly Sunday Scriptures and recorded teaching
 - Provide catechetical points to equip parents to answer questions that may surface
 - Tips on how to navigate family faith formation conversations
- Closing Prayer
 - Provide written prayers
 - Provide flow for organic prayer (steps for the family to follow)