

§100 CATECHETICAL OPPORTUNITY

"Every parish needs a coherent, well-integrated catechetical plan which provides opportunities for all parishioners to encounter the gospel message and respond by fostering community and giving service." (NCD, #224)

<p>101.1. Policy The parish shall offer catechesis to all in the parish, either directly or in cooperation with one or more other parishes.</p>
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Procedures

- a) The parish offers catechetical programs for adults, young adults, adolescents and children.
- b) The parish makes visible efforts in its catechesis to respond to people of the community from diverse racial, ethnic, cultural and linguistic backgrounds.
- c) The parish considers the needs of family life and the community when designing its religious education programs.
- d) The parish assists families in identifying, affirming and/or creating faith formation activities/practices in families.
- e) The parish provides catechetical and faith formation opportunities for parents as the first and foremost catechists of their children.
- f) The parish offers catechetical programs for parishioners with special needs such as developmental disability, deafness, physical handicaps, hearing or visual difficulties, either directly, in conjunction with another parish or in a cluster of parishes. These persons are to be a visible part of the parish and the worshipping community.
- g) The parish integrates those parishioners who are receiving catechesis elsewhere into its community life. (For example: SPRED, Office for the Deaf programs, Shared Religious Education programs located in another parish, High School and College programs, etc.)
- h) The parish makes visible efforts to welcome new members, catechumens, neophytes, the inactive, those who feel alienated etc., into its community life.

- i) The parish offers sacramental catechesis for the community, the family and the individual.
 - 1) Parish opportunities for sacramental catechesis are ongoing and adapted to the age and circumstances of the participants.
 - 2) The parish follows Archdiocesan guidelines for sacramental catechesis as found in *Archdiocese of Chicago Policies and Procedures Book IV: The Sanctifying Office of the Church*.

- j) The parish catechetical programs are physically accessible to all parishioners.