

FAMILIES FORMING DISCIPLES

**A PROPOSED CALENDAR FOR THE YEAR (2020-2021 FAITH FORMATION):
CONNECTING WITH THE LITURGICAL YEAR AND ENCOUNTERING JESUS TOGETHER**



Below is a proposed calendar of topics for the 2020-21 faith formation year, which the Office of Formation and Discipleship is developing into lesson plans (covering 9 months or 27 weeks, 3 weeks/month, in addition to an introductory session for parents). Parish catechetical leaders and catechists are free to use/adapt this approach and the lessons as they see fit, in consultation with their pastor. The calendar is subject to adjustment as lessons continue to be developed.

The goal of Families Forming Disciples is to help more families to pray and encounter Jesus together and to grow as disciples—therefore living more of who they are as the Domestic Church. While the proposed calendar below is connected to the liturgical year, catechists are encouraged to keep the *kerygma* and the Person of Jesus Christ ever before them. Lessons will be developed with the intention of connecting specific topics to Jesus, the message of the *kerygma*, and the word of God in Sacred Scripture—all the while pointing to key references from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* across its four pillars. Helpful references for catechists on the *kerygma* and on the word of God in Sacred Scripture include the following four paragraphs from Pope Francis' *Evangelii Gaudium*: nos. 164-165 and 174-175.

N.b. – **Bold** below indicates the primary topic to be treated. *Italics* indicate topics that will be woven into lessons in various ways as examples or supplemental support (e.g., activities, prayers, etc.).

August

Introductory Session for Parents on Being Primary Educators

Heart of Catechesis: Jesus Christ

Information about the year; tips for engaging children and youth

September

Family as Domestic Church

Prayer in the Home

Jesus and the Holy Family

October

Family Rosary

Rosary as Meditating on the Mysteries of Christ with Mary

Preparing for All Saints Day & All Souls Day

November

Preparing for Advent

Spiritual & Corporal Works of Mercy

Family Rosary – The Joyful Mystery of the Visitation

Christ the King

December

Grace and Holiness in Family Life

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception – Mary as “Full of Grace”

Family Rosary – The Joyful Mystery of the Birth of Our Lord

January

Epiphany and the Baptism of the Lord

Jesus’ Mission

Living Our Baptism

Family Rosary – The Luminous Mystery of the Baptism of Our Lord

February

Preparing for Lent – Making a Plan; Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving

Jesus in the Desert

Reconciliation

Family Rosary – The Luminous Mystery of the Proclamation of the Kingdom

March

Preparing for Holy Week

Feast of the Annunciation – The Mystery of Jesus as True God and True Man

Stations of the Cross – Contemplating Jesus’ Sufferings for Us and for the Whole World

Family Rosary – The Sorrowful Mystery of the Agony in the Garden

April

Easter – Living the Season Fully

The Good News (Gospel) of Jesus’ Paschal Mystery

The Divine Mercy

Family Rosary – The Glorious Mystery of the Resurrection

May

Ascension and Pentecost

The Church’s Mission

The Central Mystery of Christian Faith and Life: The Most Blessed Trinity

Family Rosary – The Glorious Mystery of the Coronation of Mary as Queen of Heaven and Earth

