

SCENARIOS OF DIFFERENT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Concrete examples of the different types of programs look like the following:

Traditional Program

#1: Classroom structured program meets weekly.

- Length of Class. Class times can vary according to parish needs and schedules.
- Materials. The primary text must be from a publisher found on the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Conformity List.
- Instructor. The main teacher is the parish catechist.

#2: Classroom structured program that can include families at certain times during the year. This program usually meets three times a month with students and one time a month with families.

- Length of Classroom Session. These sessions can vary according to parish needs and schedules.
- Materials. The primary text must be from a publisher found on the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Conformity List.
- Instructor: The main teacher is the parish catechist.
- Length of Family Session. These sessions can vary according to parish needs and schedules but it is recommended to be at least 60-90 minutes in length.
- Religious Instruction takes place at the parish and reflects a chosen theme or subject from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.
- Families receive an assignment to be experienced at home during the month.
- Instructor. The person qualified to lead one of these family sessions is usually a Pastoral Staff person.

#3 Combined Classroom and Home School

- Classroom Instruction can be 2x/month with Home-School instruction 2x/month, or Classroom instruction 1x/month with home-school instruction 3x/month.
- Length of Classroom Instruction: Class times can vary according to parish needs and schedules but it is recommended to be at least 60 minutes per session.
- Length of Home-School Session: the parents determine this family time.
- Materials: The primary text must be approved by the diocesan bishop and is found on the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Conformity List. The materials have been selected by the pastor and Catechetical Leaders and are the same in the classroom and at home.
- Instructor: The main teacher is the parish catechist for the classroom instruction and the parent(s) for the home-school session.

Home-School Program

To support the parents' partnership with the parish, parents who home-school their children are to meet quarterly with the pastor and Catechetical Leader. Discussion at this meeting will include parent accountability of a complete and authentic catechesis program.

#1: Home-school catechesis is a weekly program done in the home.

- Length of Session. The parents determine the session time.
- Materials. Those that have been approved by the diocesan bishop and are found on the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Conformity List, approved by the diocese, and been selected by the pastor and Catechetical Leader.
- Sacramental Preparation: To determine readiness for the celebration of a sacrament, follow the "Guidelines for Sacramental Preparation for Home-Schooled Children" on page 80 of *the Catechetical Leaders Handbook*.
- Instructor: The parents are the primary teachers

Family Catechetical Program

Parents who participate in a family catechetical program are to attend and participate in the family sessions with supportive religious instruction being done from home.

#1: Home instruction 3x/month, family centered instruction is 1x/month, or Home instruction 2x/month, family centered instruction 2x/month.

- Length of Home Instruction session: the parents determine the session length.
- Materials: Those that have been approved by the diocesan bishop, which are found on the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Conformity List.
- Instructor: The parent(s) are the primary teachers.
- Length of Family Religious Instruction Session: Varies according to parish needs and schedules but it is suggested to be at least 60-90 minutes in length.
- Religious instruction takes place at the parish and reflects a pastoral-chosen theme or subject. Topics to consider can be drawn from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*: or something relevant to Catholic parenting.
- Instructor. The person qualified to lead one of these family sessions is usually a Pastoral Staff person.
- Families receive an assignment to be experienced during the month.