Call to Faith & People of Faith

Lifelong, Intergenerational Faith Formation

An Integration Guide
Harcourt Religion Publishers and the Center for Ministry Development are pleased to introduce to you a new catechetical resource called *People of Faith: Generations Learning Together*. *People of Faith* has been created to enable parishes to implement a lifelong, event-centered, faith formation vision.

How can *Call to Faith* users and users of other children’s catechetical programs use *People of Faith* in their faith formation plans? This integration guide has been developed to enable a variety of parishes to implement some or all aspects of *People of Faith* in their community.

**We have created this integration guide for:**

- parishes that are already implementing lifelong, event-centered, intergenerational faith formation that also want to use a children’s catechetical program such as *Call to Faith* to address age-specific learning needs

- parishes that are using *Call to Faith* that also want to incorporate lifelong, event-centered, intergenerational learning into their parish catechetical program by adding gatherings at strategic times throughout the year with the assistance of the new *People of Faith* program.

- parishes that want to explore ways of implementing lifelong, event-centered, intergenerational faith formation with the assistance of the new program, *People of Faith*. 
Principles of Lifelong Faith Formation

The General Directory for Catechesis (1997) calls for a lifelong approach to faith formation with the Church as the center of catechesis—as the curriculum for lifelong catechesis, as the content for learning, and as the catechist or teacher of the faith. The power of this vision can be seen in excerpts such as:

“From her very beginnings the Church, which ‘in Christ, is in the nature of a Sacrament,’ has lived her mission as a visible and actual continuation of the pedagogy of the Father and of the Son. She ‘as our Mother is also the educator of our faith.’” (#141)

“These are the profound reasons for which the Christian community is in herself living catechesis. Thus she proclaims, celebrates, works, and remains always a vital, indispensable and primary locus of catechesis.” (#141)

“Catechesis is nothing other than the process of transmitting the Gospel, as the Christian community has received it, understands it, celebrates it, lives it, and communicates it in many ways.” (#105)

“This catechetical vision is translated into practice through several key principles.

1 Event-Centered
Lifelong faith formation is developed around the curriculum of the Church. The events of our shared life as Church include Church Year Feasts and Seasons, Sacraments and Liturgy, Prayer and Spirituality, and Justice and Service. The General Directory for Catechesis reminds us, “…it is from the whole life of the Church that catechesis draws its legitimacy and energy” (#168). The beliefs and practices for living the Catholic faith are embedded in the events of Church life. Event-centered catechetical programs prepare all ages and generations to understand the meaning of Church events and participate more actively in the life of the Church. The content for these learning programs are drawn directly from Church events.

2 Systematic
The events of Church life form a spiral curriculum that immerses people more deeply each year into the faith of the Church. The lifelong faith formation curriculum is formed around the natural rhythm and pattern of the faith community’s life as experienced throughout the year. It provides common events and themes that are explored and experienced by all ages and all generations in the faith community.

This lifelong curriculum of Church events systematically and comprehensively presents the Gospel message and Catholic Tradition through six major content areas: Church Year Feasts and Seasons, Sacraments, Justice and Service, Morality, Prayer and Spirituality, and the Creed (see GDC #84-87, 97-115). The General Directory for Catechesis (#115) identifies the significance of these major aspects and dimensions of the Christian message for catechesis.

Church Year Feasts and Seasons: “The history of salvation, recounting the ‘marvels of God’ (mirabilia Dei), what he has done, continues to do and will do in the future for us, is organized in reference to Jesus Christ, the ‘center of salvation history.’” (GDC #115) (See also GDC #85, 97-98, 101-102, 105, 108.)
Sacraments: “The sacraments, which, like regenerating forces, spring from the paschal mystery of Jesus Christ, are also a whole. They form ‘an organic whole in which each particular sacrament has its own vital place.’ In this whole, the Holy Eucharist occupies a unique place to which all of the other sacraments are ordained. The Eucharist is presented as the ‘sacrament of sacraments.’” (GDC #115) (See also GDC 85, 108.)

Justice and Service: “Jesus, in announcing the Kingdom, proclaims the justice of God: he proclaims God’s judgment and our responsibility…The call to conversion and belief in the Gospel of the Kingdom—a Kingdom of justice, love and peace, and in whose light we shall be judged—is fundamental for catechesis.” (GDC #102) (See also GDC #86, 102-104, 108.)

Prayer and Spirituality: “The Our Father gathers up the essence of the Gospel. It synthesizes and hierarchically structures the immense riches of prayer contained in Sacred Scripture and in all of the Church’s life.” (GDC #115) (See also GDC #85, 108.)

Creed: “The Apostles’ Creed demonstrates how the Church has always desired to present the Christian mystery in a vital synthesis. This Creed is a synthesis of and a key to reading all of the Church’s doctrine, which is hierarchically ordered around it.” (GDC #115) (See also GDC #85, 99-100, 108.)

Morality: “The double commandment of love of God and neighbor is—in the moral message—a hierarchy of values which Jesus himself established. ‘On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets’ (MT 22:40). The love of God and neighbor, which sum up the Decalogue, are lived in the spirit of the Beatitudes and constitute the magna carta of the Christian life proclaimed by Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount.” (GDC #115) (See also GDC #85, 97, 104, 108.)

Lifelong faith formation provides intergenerational catechetical programs organized around each of these six major content areas of a lifelong curriculum.

People of Faith—Generations Learning Together includes the following resource books:
- Acting for Justice (available spring 2005)
- Following Jesus (available summer 2005)
- Professing Our Faith (available winter 2005)
- Celebrating the Sacraments (available spring 2006)
- Responding in Prayer (available summer 2006)
- Living the Moral Life (available winter 2006)

Intergenerational
Lifelong faith formation provides event-centered, intergenerational catechetical programs for all ages and generations in the parish community. The General Directory for Catechesis remind us, “…it should not be overlooked that the recipient of catechesis is the whole Christian community and every person in it” (GDC #168). Intergenerational learning provides an opportunity to gather the whole parish to learn, pray, celebrate, and share. It has tremendous benefits for the parish and for individuals.

Intergenerational learning…
• builds community and meaningful relationships across all the generations in a parish.
• provides a setting for each generation to share and learn from the other generations—their faith, stories, wisdom, experience, and knowledge. The parent and grandparent generations pass on the traditions of family and faith to the younger generations; while the younger generations share their faith, energy, and new insights with the parent and grandparent generations.
• provides an environment where new ways of living one’s faith can be practiced.
• provides adult role models for children and youth.
• promotes understanding of shared values and a common faith, as well as respect for individuals in all stages and ages of life.
• helps to overcome the age-segregated nature of our society and church programs.

4 Connected
Lifelong faith formation prepares all ages and all generations for meaningful participation in Church events through intergenerational learning, engages all ages and generations in Church events, and guides them in reflecting and applying the significance and meaning of the events to their lives as Catholics. It is connected catechesis—the catechetical program leads directly to participation in Church life. The intergenerational learning programs draw their content from Church events and lead people toward active, conscious, meaningful participation in Church events.

What the General Directory for Catechesis says about families can be applied to all households of faith throughout the life cycle—the new couple, families with children and teens, families with young adults, single adults, families in later life—and to all configurations of family relationships such as two-parent, single parent, and multigenerational families.

“…The family is defined as a ‘domestic church,’” that is, in every Christian family the different aspects and functions of the life of the entire Church may be reflected: mission; catechesis; witness; prayer etc. Indeed in the same way as the Church, the family is a place in which the Gospel is transmitted and from which it extends.” The family as a locus of catechesis has a unique privilege: transmitting the Gospel by rooting it in the context of profound human values…It is, indeed, a Christian education more witnessed to than taught, more occasional than systematic, more ongoing and daily than structured into periods.” (GDC #255)

Lifelong faith formation provides individuals and families with the resources and tools they need to extend and expand their learning from a parish catechetical program and their experience of the Church event to their daily lives and home life. It provides event-specific home materials to help families and individuals celebrate traditions and rituals, continue their learning, pray together, serve others and work for justice, and enrich their relationships and family life.
1. Correlating Themes

The *General Directory for Catechesis* challenges every parish community to create a lifelong curriculum for all ages and generations. The *Call to Faith* catechetical program is developed around seven key themes that all children in grades K–6 address at the same time during the year at their own developmental level. These themes—Revelation, Trinity, Jesus Christ, Church, Morality, Sacraments, Kingdom of God—*spiral* throughout grades K–6. The *Call to Faith* themes correlate well with the six major themes of a lifelong, event-centered, spiraling curriculum that *People of Faith* is structured around. Here is a correlation chart of events explored through *People of Faith* and the *Call to Faith* themes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>People to Faith Event-Centered Lifelong Themes</th>
<th>Call to Faith Themes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Church Year Feasts and Seasons—Cycles A, B, and C</td>
<td>Revelation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creed</td>
<td>Trinity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creed</td>
<td>Jesus Christ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church Year Feasts and Seasons—Cycles A, B, and C</td>
<td>Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morality</td>
<td>Morality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sacraments</td>
<td>Sacraments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jesus and Discipleship</td>
<td>Kingdom of God</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prayer</td>
<td>Woven through <em>Call to Faith</em> themes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justice and Service</td>
<td>Woven through <em>Call to Faith</em> themes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church History Through Church Year Events</td>
<td>Woven through <em>Call to Faith</em> themes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. Curriculum Examples

There are a variety of ways to integrate children’s catechesis in *Call to Faith* with a lifelong, intergenerational, events-centered approach using *People of Faith*.

*People of Faith* helps you organize and create your parish’s faith formation curriculum to…

- broaden your current learning audiences
- expand the topics being explored
- replace some learning that is being offered

A. Broaden Your Current Learning Audiences

Who are the current learning groupings in your parish community? How could those learning groups, in particular the children’s catechetical programs, be broadened to include others and engage the entire parish in learning?

Use *People of Faith* to include the families of children in the age-specific program. For example, once a month hold a family learning event, using a session from *People of Faith*, in which children and all members of their families come to catechesis. The family learning should not be an “add-on,” but rather included as part of the complete catechetical program, and built into the overall scope and sequence of the program. Each month, use a *People of Faith* session that correlates with the topic(s) the children have been covering in their age-specific classes, and that focuses on an upcoming parish event.

For example, a unit on Jesus Christ in the children’s program could include their families by using a *People of Faith* learning session that focuses on a Church Year Feast or Season or on a Sunday lectionary reading that correlates well with the content on Jesus in the children’s program.

Use *People of Faith* to involve the entire parish community in learning about a common topic to prepare for an upcoming event. Several times during a year, host a parish-wide learning festival.

On a monthly basis it could look like:

**First three weeks of the month:**
- Age-Specific Learning:
  - Children’s Catechesis (*Call to Faith*)
  - Children’s Liturgy of the Word
  - Youth Ministry
  - Adult Faith Formation
  - Sacramental Preparation

**Fourth week of the month:**
- Intergenerational Faith Festival

On an annual basis it could look like:

**September to mid-November**
- Age-Specific Learning
  - Late November
  - Intergenerational Faith Festival

**December to February**
- Age-Specific Learning
  - Early March
  - Intergenerational Faith Festival

**March to April**
- Age-Specific Learning

**May**
- Intergenerational Faith Festival

B. Expand Current Catechetical Topics

*People of Faith* can be used to expand the learning topics explored in *Call to Faith*.

For example, to expand the learning on justice from *Call to Faith*, the *People of Faith* Justice and Morality resources provide a variety of sessions to expand the learning being offered. These sessions also prepare learners for upcoming justice events in the parish. See the sample chart on the following page.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th><strong>Call to Faith</strong> Theme</th>
<th><strong>Expanding the Learning to Include Other Topics by Adding an Intergenerational Session from People of Faith</strong></th>
<th><strong>Justice and Service Event Being Prepared For</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>Revelation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late September to early October</td>
<td>Intergenerational Learning Program: Dignity for the Human Person</td>
<td>Respect Life Sunday</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>Morality</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>Trinity</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>Intergenerational Learning Program: Option for the Poor and Vulnerable</td>
<td>Thanksgiving and Service Projects</td>
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<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>Unit: Jesus Christ</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>Intergenerational Learning Program: Rights and Responsibilities</td>
<td>Poverty Awareness Month and Service Projects (Catholic Campaign for Human Development)</td>
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<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>Unit: The Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>Intergenerational Learning Program: Solidarity</td>
<td>Lent and Justice/Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>February–March</td>
<td>Unit: Sacraments Unit: Kingdom of God</td>
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<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Intergenerational Learning Program: Care for God’s Creation</td>
<td>Earth Day</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
As another example, an intergenerational learning program to prepare learners of all ages to celebrate the Advent season can expand the children’s catechetical learning unit on Jesus to include topics such as preparing for the Messiah, John the Baptist, images of Jesus from the Hebrew Scriptures and Gospels.

Further, if a parish plans to celebrate a special event like their anniversary or the anniversary of the ordination of their pastor, there are intergenerational catechetical sessions in *People of Faith* that will prepare the community for those events.

**B. Replace a Theme from *Call to Faith* with Learning Sessions from *People of Faith***

A parish can choose to replace a theme or unit from *Call to Faith* with an intergenerational program on the same theme, and conducted for the whole community. For example, the unit on sacraments for children can be replaced by multiple intergenerational sessions on sacraments throughout the year for all members of the parish. Or, an intergenerational session on one sacrament can replace one session in the children’s catechetical program. See the sample chart on the following page.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Parish Event</th>
<th>Learning Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September–October</td>
<td>Unit 1: Revelation (3 sessions)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unit 2: Trinity (3 sessions)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Late October–November</td>
<td>Parish Celebration of Anointing of the Sick (November)</td>
<td>Intergenerational Learning Program: Sacrament of Anointing the Sick</td>
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<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>Unit 3: Jesus Christ (3 sessions)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Late November–December</td>
<td>Parish Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Advent)</td>
<td>Intergenerational Learning Program: Sacrament of Reconciliation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>Vocations Week and Sunday Lectionary reading—Call of the Disciples: Sacrament of Orders</td>
<td>Intergenerational Learning Program: Sacrament of Orders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>Unit 4: The Church (3 weeks)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>World Marriage Day: Sacrament of Marriage</td>
<td>Intergenerational Learning Program: Sacrament of Marriage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>Lent: Sacrament of Baptism Parochial Celebration of Baptism at the Easter Vigil and Easter Season</td>
<td>Intergenerational Learning Program: Sacrament of Baptism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February–March</td>
<td>Unit 5: Morality (3 weeks)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Late March</td>
<td>Holy Thursday: Sacrament of Eucharist</td>
<td>Intergenerational Learning Program: Sacrament of Eucharist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Unit 7: Kingdom of God</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>Feast of Pentecost Parish Celebration of Confirmation</td>
<td>Intergenerational Learning Program: Sacrament of Confirmation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Intergenerational learning models are designed in a 2–3 hour timeframe with time for a meal included. The design format for an intergenerational learning model includes six parts.

**Registration and Hospitality**
Upon arrival at the learning program, participants are welcomed by the hospitality team, sign-in for the program, make or receive a name tag, and pick up their home kit and handouts for the session. People receive their learning group or table group assignments for the program. Depending on the time of day, the program may begin or end with a meal.

**Part 1. Gathering and Prayer**
The facilitator or MC for the program welcomes everyone, and provides an overview of the schedule of the learning program and the event and theme that is the focus of the learning program. Sometimes the teaching team leads the group in a community-building activity and forming-groups activity. The prayer and music team lead the opening prayer service focused on the event and the theme of the learning program.

**Part 2. All-Ages Learning Experience**
Each session begins with a multigenerational experience of the theme that all ages share together. All-ages learning experiences equalize the ages, so that listening to music or singing, watching a dramatic presentation, making an art project, watching a video, hearing a story, participating in a ritual, praying together, and so on, are things that different-aged people do at the same time and place in a similar manner. Learning is at a level where all may do it together. Shared experiences are absolutely critical for intergenerational learning.

**Part 3. In-Depth Learning Experience**
These structured learning activities and discussion engage all ages in exploring the meaning of the event and theme, and develop everyone’s ability to participate meaningfully in the event. Each People of Faith intergenerational program includes three sets of learning experiences: families with children, adolescents, and adults.

In-depth learning experiences can be designed in one of three formats. The learning format can vary from event to event. There is no need to set one format for an entire year. Let the event, the theme, the learning program content and activities, and your parish facility guide you in selecting the in-depth learning format you will use.

- **Age Group Format**: learning in separate, parallel groups organized by ages
- **Whole Group Format**: learning in small groups or table groups with the whole group assembled in one room
- **Learning Activity Centers Format**: learning organized into all ages or age-appropriate activity centers

The **Age Group Format** provides age-appropriate learning for groups at the same time. Though age groups are separated, each one is focusing on the same topic—utilizing specific learning activities that are designed for their life cycle stage: families with children, adolescents, and adults. You can organize age groups in a variety of ways. The number of groups will vary depending on the size of your parish and facility. For example, if there are a small number of teens in grades 6–12 you can group them together for large group presentations and activities and then divide them into groups of grade 6–8 and 9–12 for reflection and discussion.

The **Whole Group Format** provides a series of facilitated learning activities for everyone using small groups or table groups. Groups can be organized in one of two ways: intergenerational (mixed ages in a group) or age-groups (e.g., separate groups for families with children,
teens, young adults, and adults). There is a lead facilitator or team which guides the entire group through an integrated learning program—giving presentations, leading activities, etc. All presentations and activity instructions are given to the whole group. The age-appropriate learning activities are conducted in table groups. Where needed, catechists and small group leaders facilitate the work of the table groups.

The Learning Activity Center Format provides structured learning activities at a variety of stations or centers in a common area. Learning activity centers are usually facilitated by a leader, with background reading, instructions for the activity, and materials for engaging in the activity. Tables and chairs (or floor space) are essential so that individuals and families can learn, create, and discuss. For example: an Advent-Christmas intergenerational preparation program includes all-ages activity centers such as an Advent Wreath center or a Jesse Tree center or an Advent service projects center, and age-appropriate activity centers such as an adult faith-sharing center focused on the Infancy Narratives or a family-with-children center focused on making an Advent calendar.

Part 4. Whole Group Sharing of Learning Reflections and Home Application
The whole group regathers and each group briefly shares what they have learned and/or created in their in-depth experience. Whole group sharing provides an opportunity for each generation to teach each other. Groups can share the project or activity they created, a verbal summary or symbol of their learning, a dramatic presentation, etc. Whole group sharing can also be conducted in intergenerational groups, sharing learning in small groups, rather than using presentations to the entire group.

To conclude the program, participants have the opportunity to reflect on what they learned and to prepare for applying their learning to their daily lives. This part of the intergenerational learning program is designed to send people home ready to participate in the event and utilize the home activities. The facilitator/MC reviews the Generations of Faith magazine and additional home kit activities, such as prayers, rituals, service projects, family enrichment activities, and learning activities. The facilitator/MC reviews the reflection activities and how the participants can use them to identify and apply what they have learned from the session and participation in the event. Individuals and families now have time to create an at-home action plan for using the home kit.

Part 5. Closing Prayer Service
The session ends with a prayer service on the theme of the event that is the focus of the intergenerational learning program.
Taking It All Home

Each learning session from People of Faith has a corresponding People of Faith magazine to extend and expand the learning from the parish catechetical session to the home. When all the generations are gathered to learn, it is natural to invite them into further conversation or ritual or activity around the chosen theme when you send them home.

The People of Faith magazine contains:

Feature Articles
These articles are informative and seek to share with the reader what the Church teaches about important topics. The articles raise awareness about Catholic beliefs and practices, and challenge the reader to find ways to live as a Catholic in today’s world.

Something for Everyone
Throughout the magazine, you’ll find activities to spark conversation, build community, and grow in faith. These activities will help households to nurture relationships, pray, learn, celebrate a ritual, and serve others.

Did You Know
In this magazine feature the reader will find interesting facts about the Church, life today as a Catholic, models of faith, and more.

Consider This
These short reflections provide for a moment of quiet in our otherwise hectic days. They offer readers the chance to consider their thoughts and feelings on Scriptural themes and topics pertinent to their life.

Simple Ritual
These simple ritual ideas warm the heart and soul with engaging prayer experiences that will bring the reader and their loved ones closer together.

Act On It
The Act On It ideas challenge readers to put their faith into action at home, at school, and at work. Act On It contains specific suggestions for making one’s home a “domestic Church” and getting involved in one’s parish, neighborhood, and world communities.
Take a moment to imagine the following parish scenario.

The faith formation team at All Saints Parish is preparing all ages and generations to experience the Lenten season through *liturgy and prayer* (Ash Wednesday, the Sunday liturgies, Holy Week, Stations of the Cross), through *justice and service* (food and clothing collection, Operation Rice Bowl), through *community life activities* (Lenten meals), and through *household faith formation*—Lenten rituals, table prayers and daily Scripture reading, service projects, and learning activities.

The team has designed a variety of ways to prepare all of the generations for their participation, focusing on the theme: “The Three Practices of Lent: Fasting, Praying, and Almsgiving.” Intergenerational catechetical programs guide people of all ages to understand the meaning of Lent, to appreciate the significance of the three practices in our Catholic tradition, to participate actively in the Lenten season, and to live the three practices at home and in the world.

The week before Ash Wednesday—on a Wednesday night, Friday night, and Saturday morning—all ages and generations, from families with children through older adults, arrive at the parish center for a light dinner or continental breakfast, followed by the featured session—learning how to live the three practices of praying, fasting, and almsgiving. The program involves several carefully planned activities.
The Session

• Everyone gathers together for a meal—a great time to build community.

• The program begins with prayer and song inspired by the Lenten season and the three practices. Music from the Lenten liturgies is utilized in the prayer service. The focusing Scripture is from Matthew 6—the Ash Wednesday Gospel reading.

• An all-ages opening experience introduces everyone to the three practices of Lent through story, drama, and media.

• The in-depth learning component of the program helps everyone to explore the meaning of Lent through age-appropriate learning groups. Families with children explore the Lenten practices through three activity centers—praying, fasting, and almsgiving/service. Adolescents explore the Lenten practices and create contemporary ways to live the three practices today. For adults, a guest speaker presents an overview of the Lenten Lectionary and a contemporary interpretation of the Lenten practices.

• The entire group regathers to share their learning with each other—in intergenerational groups or through presentations to the entire group.

• One of the leaders reviews how to use the Lenten Home Kit which provides resources for families and individuals to experience Lent at home: a Lenten Calendar with daily activities and Scripture passages; a Lenten Journal for teens with daily readings, prayers, and activities; a daily Lenten Prayer Guide for adults; placemats with weekly table prayers; suggested local service projects and Operation Rice Bowl; several learning activities on Lenten themes; and a copy of the parish’s Lenten calendar.

• Each person develops a Lenten Pledge to live the three practices at home and in the world.

• The program closes in prayer and song—once again inspired by the music and Lectionary readings of Lent.

The story of All Saints Parish is typical of what hundreds of parishes are currently doing today to bring all the generations together to learn. They are using an intergenerational model of learning. Robert White defines intergenerational religious education as “two or more different age groups of people in a religious community together learning/growing/living in faith through in-common experiences, parallel learning, contributive-occasions, and interactive sharing” (Intergenerational Religious Education, Birmingham, AL: Religious Education Press, 1988).
For Further Information

To learn more about Generations of Faith and how to develop lifelong, events-centered, intergenerational faith formation, go to www.generationsoffaith.org.

To view samples of *People of Faith* and its accompanying magazines, visit …

For more information and ordering, call 1.800.922.7696 or go online at, www.harcourtreligion.com/onlinecatalog

Notes for Excerpts from the General Directory of Catechesis

1. LG7.
2. CCC 196; cf. GE 3c.
4. DCG (1971) 41.
5. CCC 1211.
7. St. Cyril of Jerusalem affirms with regard to the Creed: “This synthesis of faith was not made to accord with human options but rather what was of the greatest importance was gathered from all the Scriptures, to present the one teaching of the faith in its entirety. And just as a mustard seed contains a great number of branches in a tiny grain, so too the summary of faith encompassed in a few words the whole knowledge of the true religion contained in the Old and New Testaments.”
8. St. Augustine presents the Sermon on the Mount as the “perfect charter of the Christian life and contains all the appropriate precepts necessary to guide it.” (De Sermoni Domini in Monte 1, 1; PL 34, 1229–1231); cf. EN 8.
9. Cf. LG#11; cf. AA#11; FC#49.
10. EN 71.
11. Cf. GS 52; FC 37a.