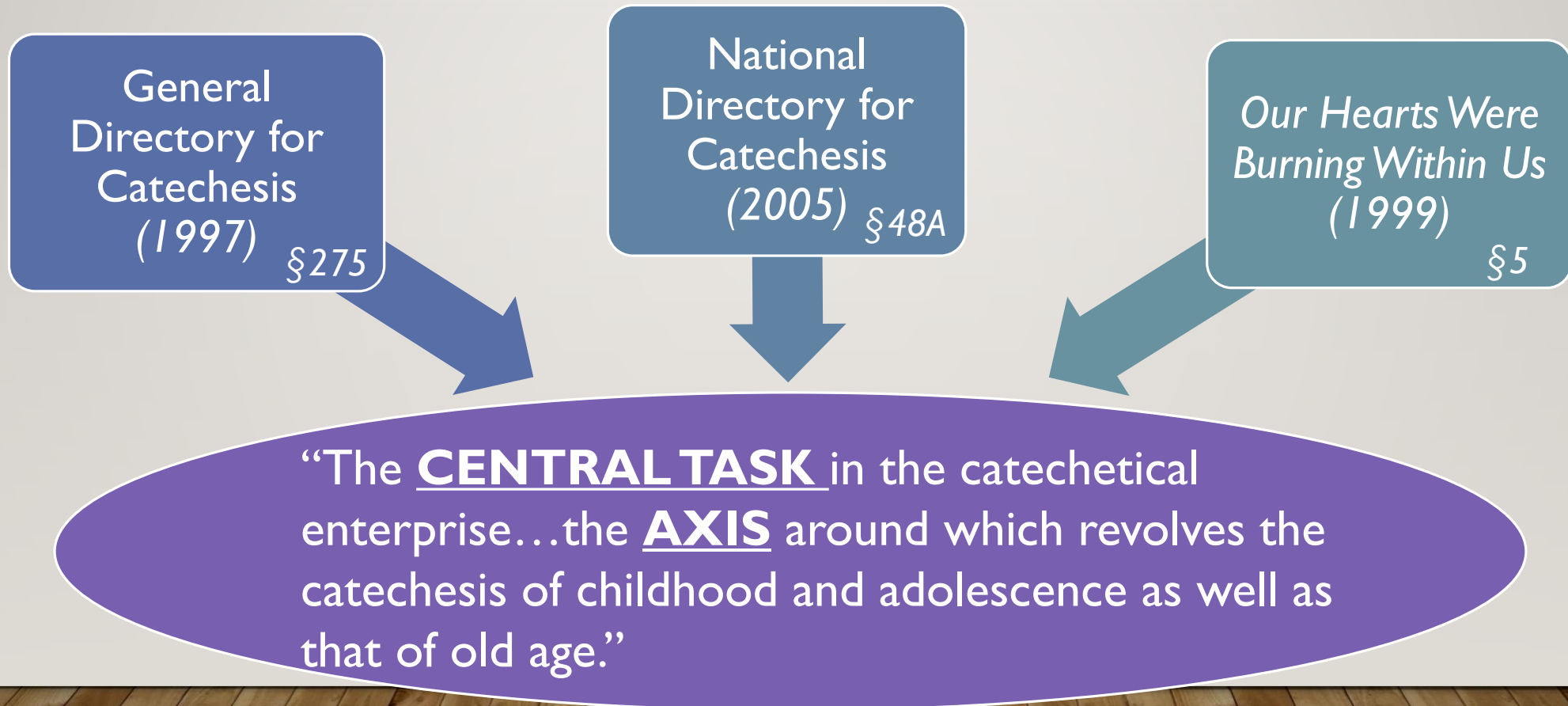


ADULT FAITH FORMATION & ADULTS AS FORMERS OF FAITH

ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW ORLEANS
OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
CATECHETICAL LEADERS DEANERY MEETINGS – FEBRUARY 2017

ADULT FAITH FORMATION PRINCIPLES & HOPES



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- Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults
- Ninth General Synod of the Archdiocese
- Practically every goal of the 21 goals of the Synod is centered on Adult Faith Formation
 - 1, 2: Engage the disengaged in the life of the Church, including those who feel alienated, those who have been hurt and those who do not feel they are effectively cared for in the Body of Christ.
 - 2, 2: Expand parish opportunities to encounter Christ through Bible studies, multi-generational faith formation events, and occasions to reflect upon one's spiritual growth.
 - 4, 1: Nurture awareness within families of God's call to holiness and the need to put our gifts at the service of the community.
 - 5: Be A Voice and Witness for Catholic Social Teaching

PRIMARY GOALS OF ADULT FAITH FORMATION

1. Invite and enable ongoing conversion to Jesus Christ

CENTRAL GOAL OF CATECHESIS:
CONVERSION, DISCIPLESHIP, AND UNION WITH JESUS

“...at the heart of catechesis, we find, in essence, a person, the person of Jesus.”

2. Promote and support full and active participation in the life of the Christian community
3. Empower believers, making them more willing and able to be Christian disciples in the world

[NDC, 48]

HOW DO WE CREATE A DESIRE FOR ADULT FAITH FORMATION?

- Develop or revise a clear vision statement for adult faith formation within your parish
- **“STS. SUCH AND SUCH PARISH AND SCHOOL SEEKS TO PROVIDE ONGOING, DIVERSE OPPORTUNITIES TO ENCOUNTER JESUS CHRIST FOR CONTINUING CONVERSION AND GROWTH TOWARD MATURE DISCIPLESHIP.”**
- Not about just creating programs, but creating opportunities for conversion
- Looking at everything we do as an opportunity for adult faith formation/catechesis
- Our Hearts Were Burning §8: “...like Jesus, join people in their daily concerns and walk side by side with them on the pathway of life. We will ask them questions and listen attentively as they speak of their joys, hopes, griefs, and anxieties.”



IKEA “The Other Letter” Video – Link: https://youtu.be/3dAQ6_gXQy4

HOW DO WE CREATE A DESIRE FOR ADULT FAITH FORMATION?

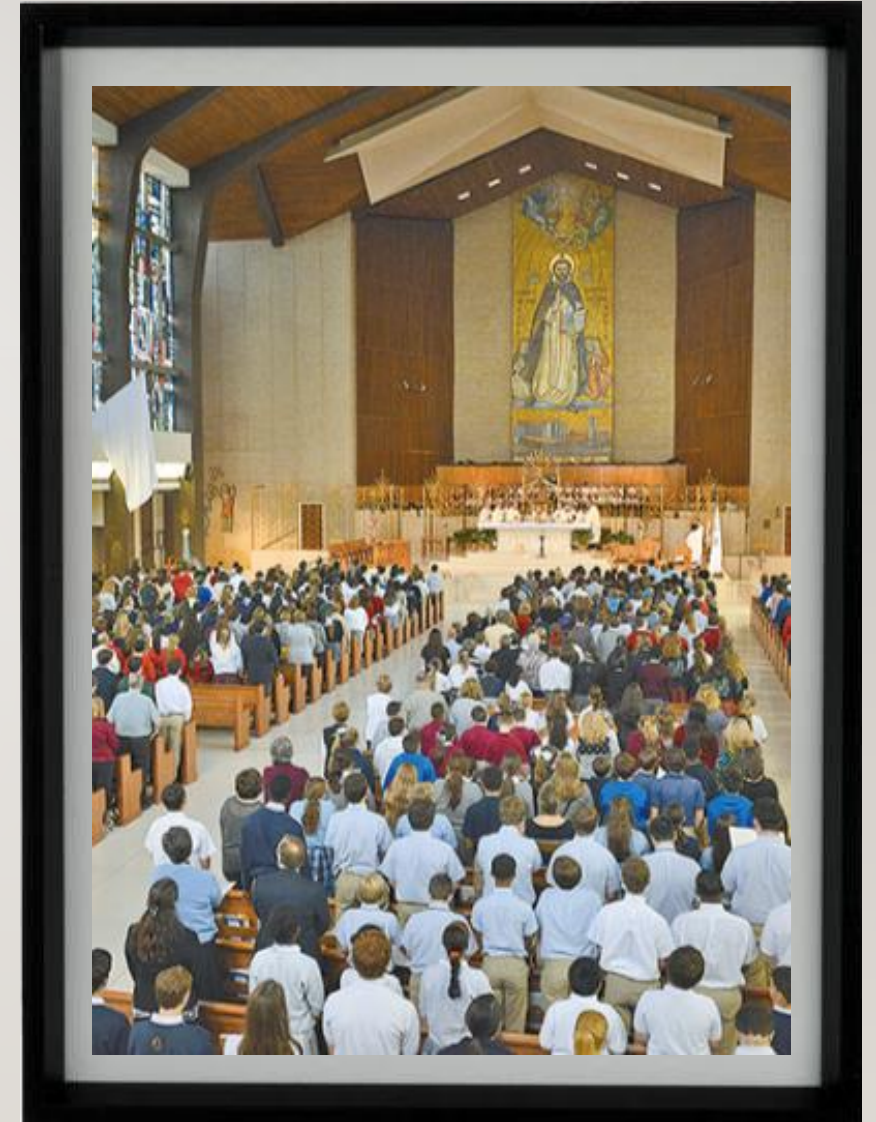
- Remind parents of students of their role as the lifelong primary catechists of their children
 - Remind them of their baptismal vows! Invite them to renew them like they do at Easter.
 - They may think we may “know” our Catholic faith “better than them,” but we don’t know their children better than they do.

5 CONCRETE APPROACHES OF ADULT FAITH FORMATION (FROM *OUR HEARTS*)

- We'll go through each.
- Think about:
 - What does your parish, school, or PSR do to address this approach?
 - What are your challenges? (As a catechist, what are your challenges with parents?)

- Be intentional about the Homily, Music, and Environment
- Ongoing formation for liturgical ministries [including hospitality] so they are aware of their formation role for others
- Encourage and empower congregational for full, active, conscious participation
- Bulletin announcements
- Liturgy Committee (evaluate Sunday experience)
- Communal sacramental celebrations

LITURGY



- Seasonal prayer books
 - Seasonal activities/devotions – e.g., Advent wreath
 - Home blessings /pastoral visits
 - Family-to-family ministry
 - Come, Lord Jesus
-

FAMILY OR HOME-CENTERED ACTIVITIES



- Prayer groups
 - Faith Sharing
 - Support Groups
 - Come, Lord Jesus
 - Service – Theological Reflection
 - Component of Large Group
-

SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES



- Social Events (Saints game, movie night, dance, parish picnic, etc.)
- School/parish staff development and retreats
- Speaker series
- Ministry Fair
- Devotions

LARGE GROUP OPPORTUNITIES



- Parish/school website resources (Saint of the day, daily readings, homilies/reflections, liturgy of the hours, and suggested apps)
- Email blasts
- Bulletin inserts
- Mailings
- Lectio Divina

INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITIES

