



DIOCESE OF SIOUX CITY

Office of Evangelization, Discipleship and Family Life

Guidelines for Preparing children and young people to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation, and First Eucharist

If students have an awareness and understanding of the following, they should be ready for First Reconciliation and the Sacraments of Initiation. As such, the following list represents the general scope and sequence expectations of parish faith formation programs for young people. The depth of instruction should keep in mind the age and developmental stages of each child, and the needs and pastoral considerations of each parish community. The Office of Evangelization, Discipleship and Family Life is available to assist parishes and families to ensure children and young people develop knowledge, understanding, and the ability to apply in their daily lives, the following goals:

- A familiarity with the Gospel message; with that, an experience and realization of the love of God at work in their lives.
- Knowledge of what the Sacraments are and the important role they play in our lives.
- An understanding of Baptism and how this Sacrament relates to our identity in Jesus Christ. (e.g. our call to be a disciple and share the Gospel with joy).
- That we receive the Holy Spirit in Baptism and are strengthened through Confirmation.
- Knowledge of the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit and the ability to recognize them in the lives of others, and possession of a basic awareness of the Gifts in their own lives.
- Understand, believe, and profess that Christ is fully present in the Eucharist and have a strong desire to receive Him.
- A strong desire to be faithful to God's commandments, knowing they are given out of love.
- A sense of and desire for prayer; and an awareness of the need for God in their daily lives.
- A desire to build a life-long relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Experience with Lectio Divina (praying with Scripture) is expected.