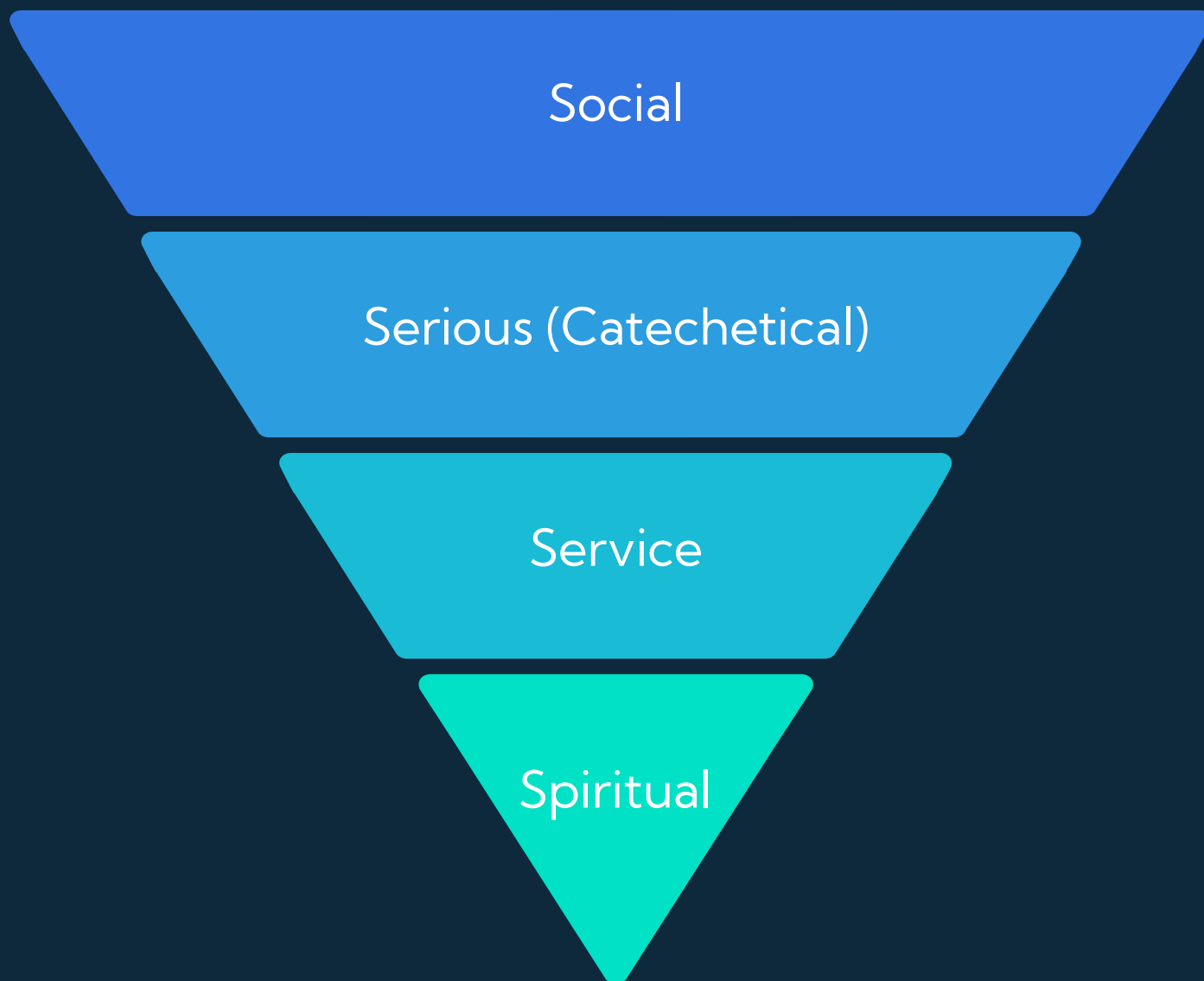


# The Wedge Theory

from Father John Cusick, Archdiocese of Chicago



Note that the majority of people enter the organization through the social components, and the least through spiritual components, so plan accordingly. These needs should thus drive the goals of the events that we are planning.

## Social Needs

Sub-needs	Activities
<b>Connect as many people as possible</b>	Cocktail Party, Ice Cream Social, Superbowl Party (include icebreakers/make it easy to meet people)
<b>Just having fun</b>	Movie nights, Dancing, Listening to music, Beach days
<b>Building community</b>	Athletic events (team play), Game nights, Casual sit-down dinners (make icebreaker questions available if needed)
<b>Sustaining community</b>	Fund-raising event with a social component (car wash, party with raffle/auction)

## Serious Needs

Sub-needs	Activities
<b>New Learning</b>	Book club, Speaker series (e.g., Theology on Tap), Religious Education Congress
<b>Dig Deeper into Faith</b>	Bible study, Book club, Just Faith
<b>Share Reflective Side</b>	Stations of the Cross, Creating a series of reflections (Advent, Lent) created/spoken/sung by members of your ministry (social media, Website, journal)

## Service Needs

Sub-needs	Activities
<b>Serving within your parish</b>	Fixing up parish plant, Working with other parish groups/schools on needed internal projects
<b>Serving community outside your parish</b>	Food drives, Serving the unhoused, children, elderly, sick, imprisoned
<b>Serving as part of a connected team</b>	Habitat for Humanity, Walk-a-thon, Sustainable gardening projects, Hospitality for your parish

## Spiritual Needs

Sub-needs	Activities
<b>Connecting with God in ritual</b>	Mass, Rosary group, Eucharistic Adoration, Taize
<b>Connecting with God through others</b>	Retreats, Small faith-sharing groups, Speaker series with discussion groups
<b>Connecting with God by ourselves</b>	Centering prayer/meditation/contemplation, Silent retreats, Encourage the practice of journaling