



Strong Catholic Families: Strong Catholic Teens

A Two-Part Faith Formation In-Service Program
developed by NFCYM Training In-Services



The research on teens and faith cannot be clearer: parents matter... a lot! So what is the Church doing to engage and partner with parents in supporting them in their rightful role as primary formators of faith for their family? And what can parents do to take ownership for leading their children and teens toward a vibrant faith that embraces discipleship?

To respond to these questions, NFCYM has created a two-part training in-service like no other:

- A full-day (six hour) training for parish/school leaders.
- A separate two-hour parent program specifically designed to model for parish leaders how to engage and partner with parents in the lifelong process of faith formation.
- The complete parent session PowerPoint and Family Faith resources are given to the host diocese with full copyright permission to distribute to parish leaders so they can begin leading parent sessions throughout the diocese.
- An excellent tool for use with all sacramental preparation programs, faith formation events and adult formation gatherings.

Part 1: Parish Leader Program - An Urgent Matter: Engaging Parents as Primary in Faith Formation

A six-hour leadership training program for parish leaders and future parent session trainers

Program Outcomes:

1. To identify the generational shifts and changing territory within the U.S. culture and in the Church's understanding of what is and is not working in faith formation today.
2. To identify the limitations of a "consumer-provider model" of faith formation and how it may be hindering the desired outcomes for faith growth stated in our Church documents.
3. To identify the new vision, models, roles, and relationships required to bring about the change that is necessary to strengthen the Catholic faith of the next generation of believers.
4. To advocate for a fundamental shift within the faith formation system, highlighting the steps necessary for long-term change in how young people are formed in faith.

Part 2: Evening Parent Session - Strong Catholic Families, Strong Catholic Teens: Getting There from Here

A two-hour session for parents which models for local parish/school leaders how to replicate these sessions in their own communities within the diocese. This session may be done prior to Part 1.

Program Outcomes:

1. To communicate the reality of current religious beliefs, attitudes and activities of teens today using contemporary research and to highlight the critical impact of the parents' faith, beliefs and actions on that of their children/teens.
2. To examine the level of partnership between parents and faith formation programs and to listen to parents hopes, needs and concerns concerning the faith formation of their children/teens and how the parish/school can support them in their efforts.
3. To create an urgency for change in both parents and parishes to seek new ways to begin forming children and teens in their Catholic faith.
4. To illustrate some practical ideas, strategies and resources for family faith growth and to assist parents in assessing individual and family faith needs via a family faith formation plan designed to lead them to deeper faith growth and involvement.

Cost: \$1500 plus travel and lodging for presenter – Now Booking Dates for Fall, 2009 - Spring, 2010
To schedule this program in your area, contact Michael Theisen at miket@nfcym.org or 202-674-4209