

## **Handout 4 - Six Elements of a Parent & Family Faith Formation Plan**

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**At each stage of life faith formation incorporates programs, activities, resources, and relationships that are developmentally appropriate and responsive to the diverse religiosities of parents and families – Active Believers, Believers, and Inactive Believers.**

### **Forming the faith of the family at home – faith practices at home**

- ✓ reading the Bible
- ✓ praying
- ✓ serving, working for justice, caring for creation
- ✓ eating together
- ✓ having family faith conversations
- ✓ providing moral instruction
- ✓ celebrating Church year feasts and seasons
- ✓ liturgical formation
- ✓ milestones rituals

### **Forming the faith of the family in the parish – engagement in parish life**

- ✓ Sunday Mass
- ✓ parish sacramental celebrations
- ✓ celebration of Church year feasts and seasons through the year
- ✓ parish-wide service projects to those in need
- ✓ parish-wide gatherings

### **Equipping parents with practices and skills appropriate to each life stage**

- ✓ knowledge about the growth and development at each life stage
- ✓ knowledge and effective practices and skills for parenting at each life stage
- ✓ practices and skills for developing quality relationships with children and adolescents
- ✓ family life skills

### **Equipping parents to be faith formers of their children and adolescents**

- ✓ faith formation (theological and biblical) for parents
- ✓ skills and practices for forming faith of children and teens

### **Providing family catechesis for the entire family**

- ✓ family learning programs
- ✓ family workshops
- ✓ Church seasons family festivals
- ✓ family-centered sacramental preparation

### **Fostering intergenerational relationships**

- ✓ connecting families with other generations in worship and parish gatherings and events
  - ✓ intergenerational faith forming experiences that incorporate the whole family
  - ✓ intergenerational mentoring for parents, e.g., Baptism mentors
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