Parish Catechetical Program Inventory
2019-2020

The Office of Catechesis of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee conducted a survey of parish religious education programs during July 2020. The purpose was to gather information on what our parishes were doing in the way of catechesis, sacramental preparation and youth ministry. Information will be used to identify trends, to review and update policies, to plan resources and professional development, and to share with parishes for their own assessment and planning.

Responses were received for 144 of 193 parishes (75%). These responses came from 133 catechetical leaders, some of whom served more than one parish. They identified themselves by name, title, and parish(es) served. This document reports on their responses to the questionnaire.[1]

Contents

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[1] Responses in this report will not always total 133 because: (1) many questions asked respondents to check all areas that apply, and (2) not everyone responded to all questions or parts of a question. Percentages are rounded and sometimes do not total 100%.

Parishes and Catechetical Leader Roles

Parishes and Catechetical Programs
Responses represented 105 distinct catechetical programs. Some programs served more than one parish, whether in a multi-parish community or through a collaborative arrangement.   Of the catechetical programs reported, 73% served a single parish, 14% of the programs served two parishes, 12% served 3 or more parishes.

Number of Parishes involved in program	Number of programs	Total number of parishes
1 Parish	77	77
2 Parishes	15	30
3 Parishes	8	24
4 Parishes	2	8
5 Parishes	1	5
Other[2]	2	-
Total	**105**	**144**

Total Respondents: 133

Best Suited Position Title
Respondents were asked to choose the title that best suits their position. 44 respondents (34%) indicated their job title was Director of Religious Education (DRE), the most frequent title.

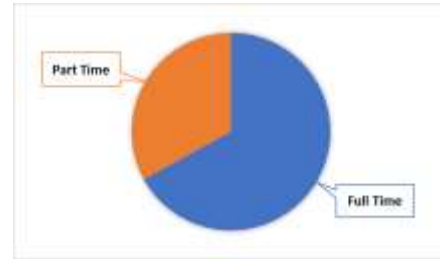| Job Title	% of responses	# of responses
Director of Religious Education (DRE)	34%	44
Religious Education Coordinator	14%	18
Director of Child Ministry/Child Minister	10%	13
Director of Faith/Life Long Faith/Christian/Catholic Formation	9%	12
Director of Youth Ministry/Youth Minister	9%	12
Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry	6%	8
Director of Child & Youth Ministry	5%	6
Child Ministry Coordinator	5%	6
Youth Ministry Coordinator	4%	5
Pastoral Associate	2%	3
Director of Family Ministry	1%	1
Director of Evangelization	1%	1
Director of Hispanic Ministry	0%	0

Total Respondents: 129

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[2] A special needs program and an academy-based program each served children from several parishes in their geographic areas.

Full or Part Time Position

When asked if their position was full or part-time, two-thirds of the respondents (67%) reported holding full time positions.

Status of position	% of responses	# of responses
Full time	67%	86
Part time	33%	43

Total Respondents: 129

Deaneries

Respondents were asked in which deanery is the parish(es) they serve.

Deanery	# of responses		Deanery	# of responses
DGWSH	20		OZMIL	14
FDLSH	13		RACINE	8
KENSH	8		WALWR	8
MILNW	12		WAUKE	16
MILSE	15		WAUKW	11
MILSW	6			

Total Respondents: 131

Catechesis Responsibilities
Respondents were asked for which age levels they were responsible. There were 37 different combinations reported (e.g., PreK-12; K-Adult; 1-8; 6-12; 6-YA; 9-12).

95 respondents had responsibility for elementary-aged students. Of these, 53% included Pre-school, 33% started with Kindergarten, and 13% started at 1st grade.
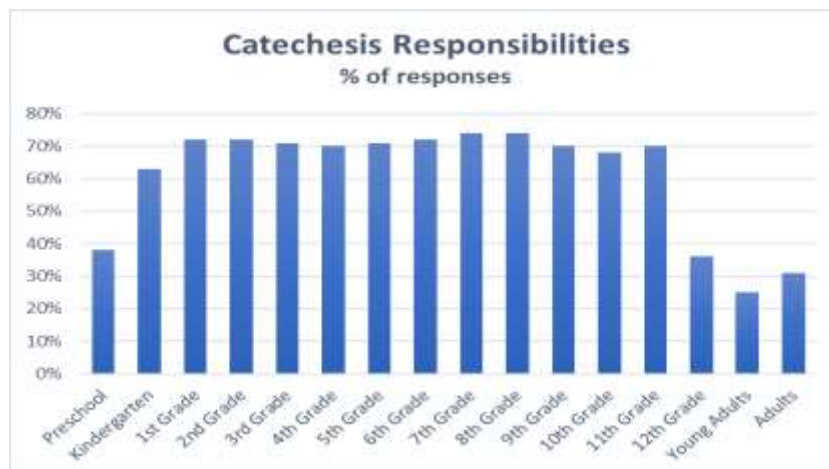
For those responsible for middle and/or high school level, but not elementary (32 respondents), 47% started with 6th grade, 25% started at 7th grade, 25% started at 9th grade, and 3% (1) started with 5th grade. Of this middle and high school category, 34% were also responsible for young adult ministry.

Of all respondents, 31% (41) were responsible for adult formation. Of these, 71% were responsible for elementary through adult, 7% for elementary and adult, 10% youth through adult, and 12% adults only.

Of all the respondents, 22% were responsible for catechesis for all age groups, elementary through adult, sometimes referred to as "womb to tomb."

Catechesis Responsibility	% of responses	# of responses
Preschool	38%	50
Kindergarten	63%	83
1st Grade	72%	95
2nd Grade	72%	95
3rd Grade	71%	94
4th Grade	70%	93
5th Grade	71%	94
6th Grade	72%	95
7th Grade	74%	98
8th Grade	74%	98
9th Grade	70%	92
10th Grade	68%	90
11th Grade	70%	92
12th Grade	36%	48
Young Adults	25%	33
Adults	31%	41

Total Respondents: 132

Specific Areas of Responsibility

Respondents were asked to check all the areas that applied. The table shows areas, in addition to overall catechesis, for which respondents were responsible. 72% of the respondents identified that they were responsible Sacramental Preparation for Children, 60% were responsible for Confirmation Preparation and 48% were responsible for Youth Ministry.

Specific areas of responsibility	% of responses	# of responses
Sacramental Preparation for children	65%	87
Confirmation Preparation	63%	84
Family Formation	56%	75
Youth Ministry	54%	72
Children's Liturgy of the Word	33%	44
Safe Environment Coordinator	31%	41
Other Parish Ministries	27%	36
RCIA	26%	35
Baptism Preparation	22%	29

Total Respondents: 133

Association Membership

Respondents were asked to what professional associations they belong. Of all respondents, 35% (47) said they belonged to one or more of the associations listed. 29% belonged to Mareda. 23% belonged to NCCL. 21% stated they belonged to multiple associations.

Associations	# of responses
Mareda	39
NCCL	30
NFCYM	8
NALM	4
NCEA	2
PMMA	1
Other[3]	7

Total Respondents: 47

Mareda – Association of Catechetical Leaders in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee
NCCL – National Conference of Catechetical Leadership
NFCYM – National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry
NALM – National Association for Lay Ministry
NCEA – National Catholic Educational Association
PMMA – Pastoral Ministers of the Milwaukee Archdiocese

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[3] Other responses included: CGSUSA – United States Association for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (3); NCPD – National Catholic Partnership on Disability (1); AGPIM– Association of Graduate Programs in Ministry (1); LifeTeen (1); Sophia, Wisdom, Micah (1).

Response to Onset of Covid-19 Pandemic

Respondents were asked, "In Spring 2020, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, how did you handle faith formation under the Safer-at-Home order?"

Response	% of responses	# of responses
We gave families access to online resources (videos, activities, prayers, etc)	60%	80
We sent packets or textbooks home for parents to do with their children.	33%	44
We switched to virtual/online classes and meetings.	32%	42
We ended our faith formation programs.	24%	32
Our program was already finished.	8%	10
Other	26%	35

Total Respondents: 133

Most "other" responses included combinations or variations on the options above – ending sessions, sending materials, and/or switching to virtual meetings.
Some specific responses:
- Offered a middle school youth group on-line
- Facebook presence and email
- Weekly emails with family prayers and activities
- Developed online Baptism class
- Sent discussion guides for Sunday liturgy to families
- Resources for families in parish bulletin
- Catechetical leader was laid off

Catechetical Program Information

Number of Participants in Catechetical Programs
Respondents were asked for a count of participants in their programs, by grade level. The total numbers for each grade level are shown in the chart below.[4] The total number of participants in programs varies greatly, from one program with total of 14 to another parish with 505 participants.

Grades	PreK	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
Total # participants	409	696	1250	1647	1182	1178	1175	1110	1193	1132	1556	1659	2062	166
Largest Grade Size	50	50	86	104	50	50	50	50	50	50	65	76	123	24
Average Grade Size	10	9	14	19	13	13	13	12	13	12	18	20	24	6
# of responses	42	76	89	88	90	92	90	93	91	91	87	85	85	30

Annual Contact Hours
Respondents were asked for their annual contact hours, by grade level. The average number of hours for each grade level is shown in the chart below.[5]

Grades	PreK	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
Average contact hours	26	28	29	30	29	29	29	29	29	30	29	29	33	29
Range of hours	13-58	13-64	15-64	14-64	15-64	14-64	14-64	14-64	16-64	16-72	9-72	9-72	9-89	9-72
Median	25	26	28	30	28	28	28	28	28	28	30	30	30	30
# of respondents	41	72	85	87	85	87	86	87	90	90	85	83	80	26

Assessments
Respondents were asked what assessments they used. 40 percent said they used tests provided by their textbook publisher.

Assessment	% of responses	# of responses
None	36%	39
Tests provided by textbook publisher	35%	38
Assessments created by Catechist	30%	33
Assessments created by Formation Staff	20%	22
Archdiocesan Religion Assessments	17%	18

Total Respondents: 109

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[4] Not all respondents answered this question and some did not report participants at every grade level.
[5] Not all respondents answered this question and some did not report contact hours at every grade level.

Elementary Level Programs

Respondents were asked if their position covers elementary level and/or 1st reconciliation/1st communion programming. 89 respondents (67%) answered yes.

Models of Religious Education
When asked to indicate what models of religious education they employed and to check all that applied, 62 percent said they offered a weekly catechetical program.

Models of religious education[6]	% of responses	# of responses
Weekly catechetical program	62%	55
Summer vacation bible school	35%	31
Biweekly or twice monthly catechetical program	28%	25
Retreats	28%	25
Family-centered program	24%	21
Home schooling religious education	24%	21
RCIA for children	21%	19
Service Learning	20%	18
Lectionary-based program	11%	10
Intergenerational program	10%	9
Programs for children/teens with special needs	9%	8
Scripture study/reflection	8%	7
Catechesis of the Good Shepherd	8%	7
Monthly catechetical program	4%	4
Summer catechetical program	4%	4
Mini-course program	1%	1

Total Respondents: 89

Kindergarten Textbooks/Series
Respondents were asked what textbook or series they used for Kindergarten. Parishes reported 8 different series by major Catholic publishers. Some used other published materials or produced their own. Five parishes (7%) used Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, which does not employ a textbook.

Kindergarten Textbooks	% of responses	# of responses
Christ Our Life: God Loves Us, Loyola Press	14%	10
Finding God: Our Response to God's Gifts, Loyola Press	14%	10
Pflaum Gospel Weeklies: What the Church Believes & Teaches	14%	10
Blest Are We Faith in Action Kindergarten, RCL Benziger	10%	7
Stories of God's Love, RCL Benziger	8%	6
Allelu! Growing and Celebrating with Jesus, Our Sunday Visitor	6%	4
I am Special, Our Sunday Visitor	4%	3
We Believe, William H. Sadlier, Inc.	4%	3
We DO NOT USE a published program	13%	9
OTHER	15%	11

Total Respondents: 71

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[6] Two (2%) noted their program meets three times a month, rather than the weekly or biweekly options.

Grades 1-6 Textbooks/Series

Respondents were asked what textbook or series they used for 1st-6th grade catechesis. Parishes reported using 14 different series by major Catholic publishers. Numbers of parishes using particular series are listed below. A few do not use a basal series, but use other published materials or produce their own. There were two grade levels with significant variation in books used. In 2nd grade, some respondents (15) indicated that they use only sacramental preparation books, not the 2nd grade text in the basal series. For 6th grade, several parishes used middle school materials such as Catholic Connections for Middle Schoolers, St Mary's Press (7) and Edge by LifeTeen (7). Two parishes reported using Catechesis of the Good Shepherd which does not employ a textbook.

Grades 1-6 Textbooks	1st Grade		2nd Grade		3rd Grade		4th Grade		5th Grade		6th Grade	
Finding God: Our Response to God's Gifts, Loyola Press	19%	16	13%	11	19%	16	17%	14	18%	15	13%	11
Pflaum Gospel Weeklies: What the Church Believes Teaches, Pflaum Pub.Group	12%	10	7%	6	12%	10	11%	9	13%	11	14%	12
Christ Our Life: New Evangelization Edition, Loyola Press	11%	9	7%	6	11%	9	11%	9	11%	9	9%	8
Blest Are We: Faith in Action, RCL Benziger	9%	8	7%	6	11%	9	11%	9	10%	8	8%	7
Alive In Christ, Our Sunday Visitor	11%	9	8%	7	10%	8	10%	8	11%	9	6%	5
We Believe: Catholic Identity, William H. Sadlier, Inc.	5%	4	8%	7	6%	5	8%	7	6%	5	3%	3
Discover: Finding Faith in Life, St. Mary's Press	4%	3	4%	3	5%	4	5%	4	4%	3	3%	3
Call to Faith, Our Sunday Visitor	2%	2	5%	4	5%	4	5%	4	4%	3	5%	4
Be My Disciples, RCL Benziger	4%	3	5%	4	4%	3	4%	3	4%	3	3%	3
Creemos / We Believe, William H. Sadlier, Inc.	1%	1	0%	0	1%	1	1%	1	1%	1	0%	0
Faith Fusion: Knowing, Loving, Serving Christ, OSV	0%	0	0%	0	1%	1	2%	2	2%	2	1%	1
Encontrando a Dios / Finding God, Loyola Press	1%	1	1%	1	1%	1	1%	1	1%	1	1%	1
Christ In Us, Our Sunday Visitor	1%	1	1%	1	1%	1	1%	1	1%	1	0%	0
Spirit of Truth, Sophia Institute Press	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	1%	1
We DO NOT USE a published program	8%	7	6%	5	5%	4	5%	4	5%	4	8%	7
OTHER[7]	13%	11	27%	23	10%	8	10%	8	11%	9	25%	22
Respondents	85		84		84		84		84		88	

Total Respondents: 103

[7] Other responses included: Faith and Life, Ignatius Press; A Family of Faith, Sophia Institute Press; Family Formation, Church of St. Paul; Rose Kennedy Fitzgerald curriculum; Baltimore Catechism; Children's Worship Bulletin; Encounter, Ascension Press.

Programs for Children with Special Needs
Respondents were asked how they serve children with Special Needs. A majority of respondents stated that they treat each child and situation individually as needed.

Response to Special Needs	% of responses
Treat each child and situation individually as needed	60%
Mainstream children with extra assistance from catechists or aides	43%
Special Program (SPRED, Vine & Branches, Arise, Journey, Risen)	16%
Catechist or tutor works one-on-one or in special group	14%
Use Adaptive Textbook	8%
Nothing	10%

Total Respondents: 90

Class Times
Respondents were asked when they held classes. The largest number offered classes on a Sunday morning (61%), followed by Wednesday evening (34%).[8]

When classes are held	% of responses	# of responses
Sunday Morning	61%	54
Wednesday Evening	34%	30
Monday Evening	12%	11
Saturday Morning	10%	9
Sunday Evening	9%	8
Weekday Right After school	8%	7
Tuesday Evening	6%	5
Summer Weekday	4%	4
Sunday Midday	2%	2
Saturday Evening	2%	2
Thursday Evening	0%	0

Total Respondents: 89

Scheduling Alternatives
When asked if they offered more than one scheduling option for a particular level, 23 percent said yes; 77 percent said no. Total respondents: 87.

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[8] Percentages total more than 100% because some parishes offer one class schedule for lower grades and another for upper grades and some offer more than one class option.

Parent Involvement

When asked how they involved parents in catechetical programs, most indicated they use emails to parents (90%), take-home materials (66%), and/or parent meetings (64%).

Methods of parent involvement	% of responses	# of responses
Emails to Parents	90%	79
Take-home materials	75%	66
Parent Meetings	64%	56
Family sessions	47%	41
Special programs for parents	40%	35
Homework to be completed with parent	36%	32
Parent/Child Sessions	36%	32
Work with children in the classroom	23%	20
Use an app (eg, Remind or Parish App)	15%	13

Total Respondents: 88

Annual Fees

Respondents were asked whether and how much they charge for their religious education programs. 93 percent said they charge a fee. The table below shows their data.

	One child	Two children	Three children	Maximum
Lowest fee	$10	$20	$20	$20
Highest fee	$200	$380	$570	$590
Average fee	$91	$163	$222	$238
Median fee	$85	$160	$205	$210
Number of respondents	80	79	75	72

Additional Programs for Children

Respondents were asked to indicate additional programs that are offered at their parishes for children. Almost 60% offered a children's choir. About half of the respondents offered both Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts at their parish.

Additional Programs	% of responses	# of responses
Children's Choir	59%	39
Boy Scouts	50%	33
Girl Scouts	42%	28
Athletics	44%	29
Retreats	29%	19
Grief Support Program/Rainbows for All Children	2%	1
American Heritage Girls	2%	1
Little Flowers Girl Group	2%	1
Other (please specify)	2%	1

Total Respondents: 66

"Other" responses included: Christmas Pageant, Shadow Stations of Cross, Trail Life, Lent and Advent Family Activities.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Respondents were asked whether their parish offered Children's Liturgy of the Word during Sunday Mass, and what time of year they offered it. Over one third of respondents stated that they offer it during the school year.

Frequency of CLoW	% of responses	# of responses
School Year	37%	28
Parish does not offer	36%	27
All Year	21%	16
Lent	3%	2
Advent	3%	2

Total Respondents: 75

Children's Liturgy of the Word - Frequency

Respondents were also asked, if their parish offered Children's Liturgy of the Word during Sunday Mass, to indicated how often they offer it. 42% of respondents stated that they offer it weekly.

Frequency of CLoW	% of responses	# of responses
Weekly	42%	28
Parish does not offer	34%	23
Bi-weekly	13%	9
Monthly	10%	7

Total Respondents: 67

Children's Liturgy of the Word - Ages

Respondents were asked, if their parish offered Children's Liturgy of the Word during Sunday Mass, what was the youngest age of attendees and what was the oldest age of attendees (not including helpers). The graph below shows the ages reported.

Attendee Age	Youngest Age	Oldest Age
Average Age	4	10
Range of Ages reported	2 - 6	6 - 18
Median Age	4	10

Total Respondents: 48

Sacramental Preparation

Sacramental Preparation - Number of Participants
Respondents were asked how many participants they had for preparation for First Communion and First Reconciliation.
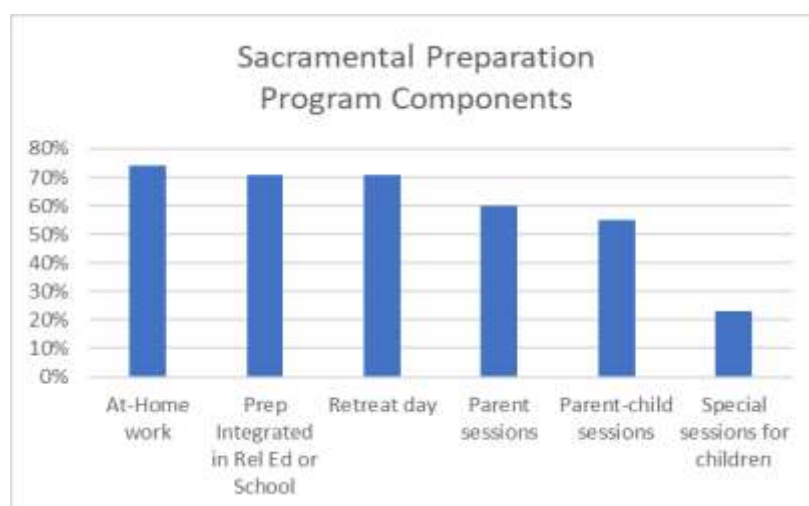
Program	First Reconciliation	First Reconciliation
Smallest class	1	2
Largest class	127	127
Average	27	29
Total	2348	2464
# of respondents	86	86

Sacramental preparation – program elements included
Respondents were also asked what program elements were included in their Sacramental programs. "At-home work" received the largest number of mentions with 74 percent, with "Preparation integrated in religious education or school classes" and "Retreat day" at 72 percent.

Sacramental programs	% of responses	# of responses
At home work	74%	64
Preparation integrated in Religious Ed or School classes	71%	62
Retreat day	71%	62
Parent sessions	60%	52
Parent-child sessions	55%	48
Special sessions for the children	23%	20

Total Respondents: 87

Sacramental Preparation Program Components

Textbooks used for Sacramental preparation

Respondents were asked to indicate what textbooks they used for First Reconciliation and First Communion.

First Reconciliation in Grade 2 - Textbooks	% of responses	# of responses
Blessed: First Reconciliation, Dynamic Catholic	25%	21
God's Gift: Reconciliation (Primary), Loyola Press	19%	16
Encounter with Christ: Reconciliation, Our Sunday Visitor	7%	6
Reconciliation: Pardon and Peace (Primary), RCL Benziger	6%	5
Together in Jesus: First Reconciliation, Pflaum Publishing Group	6%	5
Believe Celebrate Live: Reconciliation (Primary), William H. Sadlier, Inc.	5%	4
Don de Dios, la Reconciliación, Loyola Press	2%	2
Go Seek Find: Reconciliation, Saint Mary's Press	1%	1
Creer, Celebrar, Vivir Reconciliación, Primaria, William H. Sadlier, Inc.	1%	1

Total Respondents: 84

Other responses included Call to Celebrate, OSV; Signs of Grace, Sophia Institute; and Growing Up Catholic. Several parishes used the regular second grade religion textbook. Others indicated they used a locally prepared program or a variety of supplemental materials.

First Reconciliation for Older Children - Textbooks	% of responses	# of responses
God's Gift: Reconciliation (Intermediate), Loyola Press	12%	10
Reconciliation: Pardon and Peace (Intermediate), RCL Benziger	7%	6
Believe Celebrate Live: Reconciliation (Intermediate), William H. Sadlier	4%	3
Encounter with Christ: Reconciliation, Our Sunday Visitor	6%	5
Don de Dios, la Reconciliación, Loyola Press	2%	2
Together in Jesus: First Reconciliation, Pflaum Publishing Group	1%	1
Celebrate and Remember: Reconciliation, Saint Mary's Press	1%	1

Total Respondents: 84

First Communion in Grade 2 - Textbooks	% of responses	# of responses
Blessed: First Communion, Dynamic Catholic	22%	18
God's Gift Eucharist (Primary), Loyola Press	20%	16
Encounter with Christ: Eucharist: Our Sunday Visitor	6%	5
Together in Jesus: First Eucharist, Pflaum Publishing Group	6%	5
Eucharist: We Give Thanks and Praise (Primary), RCL Benziger	6%	5
Believe Celebrate Live: Eucharist (Primary), William H. Sadlier, Inc.	4%	3
Don de Dios, la Eucaristía, Loyola Press	2%	2
Go Seek Find: Eucharist, Saint Mary's Press	1%	1

Total Respondents: 82

Other responses included: Growing Up Catholic, Call to Celebrate, the grade-level religion textbook, locally prepared or customized programs, and supplemental materials.

First Communion for Older Children - Textbooks	% of responses	# of responses
God's Gift: Eucharist (Intermediate), Loyola Press	11%	9
Believe Celebrate Live: Eucharist (Intermediate), William H. Sadlier, Inc.	5%	4
Eucharist: We Give Thanks and Praise (Intermediate), RCL Benziger	5%	4
Encounter with Christ: Eucharist: Our Sunday Visitor	5%	4
Together in Jesus: First Eucharist, Pflaum Publishing Group	2%	2
Don de Dios, la Eucaristía, Loyola Press	2%	2
Celebrate and Remember: Eucharist, Saint Mary's Press	1%	1

Total Respondents: 82

Sacramental Preparation Fees
Respondents were asked about fees they charge for sacramental preparation. 30% had no fee for First Reconciliation preparation; 22% had no charge for First Communion preparation. The chart below reports on those parish programs who charge fees for sacramental preparation.

	First Reconciliation	First Communion
# that charge a fee	55	67
Lowest fee	$10	$10
Highest fee	$100	$100
Average fee	$27	$31
Median fee	$25	25

Middle School Ministry

Respondents were asked if their position covers middle school programing. 90 respondents (68%) answered yes. The information below is from those responsible for middle school ministry.

Models of Religious Education
When asked to indicate what models of religious education they used for middle school and to check all that applied, just over half said they used a weekly catechetical program, another 36 percent offer a biweekly or twice monthly program. 40 percent offer retreats and 36 use service learning.

Models of religious education	% of responses	# of responses
Weekly catechetical program	51%	46
Retreats	40%	36
Biweekly or Twice monthly catechetical program	36%	32
Service Learning	33%	30
Family-centered program	21%	19
Home schooling religious education	17%	15
RCIA for children	16%	14
Intergenerational program	13%	12
Scripture study/reflection	13%	12
Lectionary-based program	8%	7
Programs for children/teens with special needs	8%	7
Monthly catechetical program	7%	6
Summer catechetical program	4%	4
Mini-course program	2%	2

Total Respondents: 90

Class Times
Respondents were asked when they held classes. The largest number held classes on a Sunday morning (51%), followed by Wednesday evening (32%).[9]

When classes are held	% of responses	# of responses
Sunday Morning	51%	46
Wednesday Evening	32%	29
Sunday Evening	14%	13
Monday Evening	14%	13
Saturday Morning	6%	5
Summer Weekday	3%	3
Saturday Evening	2%	2
Weekday Right After school	1%	1
Sunday Midday	1%	1
Tuesday Evening	1%	1
Thursday Evening	1%	1

Total Respondents: 90

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[9] Numbers add up to more than 100% because some parishes offer more than one class option.

Scheduling Alternatives
When asked if they offered more than one scheduling option for a particular level, 26 percent said yes; 74 percent said no. Total respondents: 90

7th & 8th Grade Catechetical Textbooks/Series
There was a great diversity of materials used at the middle school level, with over 14 different textbooks or published programs used, along with supplemental and locally produced materials.

7th & 8th Grade Textbooks	7th Grade		8th Grade	
Pflaum Gospel Weeklies: What the Church Believes and Teaches, Pflaum Publishing Group	12%	12	11%	11
Catholic Connections for Middle Schoolers, Saint Mary's Press	12%	11	11%	11
Edge, LifeTeen	9%	9	9%	9
Finding God,Loyola Press	9%	9	9%	9
Blest Are We: Junior High, RCL Benziger	5%	5	5%	5
Christ Our Life: The New Evangelization Edition, Loyola Press	5%	5	4%	4
Alive In Christ, Our Sunday Visitor	4%	4	3%	3
Call to Faith, OSV Curriculum	3%	3	3%	3
Faith and Life, Ignatius Press	3%	3	3%	3
We Believe, We Live Our Faith, William H. Sadlier, Inc.	3%	3	3%	3
Be My Disciples, RCL Benziger	2%	2	2%	2
Faith Fusion: Knowing, Loving, and Serving Christ in the Catholic Church, Our Sunday Visitor	1%	1	1%	1
We DO NOT USE a published program	12%	12	12%	12
OTHER[10]	15%	15	29%	17

Total Respondents: 97

Catechesis with Young People with Special Needs
Respondents were asked how they serve youth with Special Needs. Over two-thirds of respondents stated that they treat each child and situation individually as needed.

Response to Special Needs	% of responses
Treat each child and situation individually as needed	57%
Mainstream children with extra assistance from catechists or aides	39%
Special Program (eg, SPRED, Vine & Branches, Arise, Journey, Risen)	15%
Catechist or tutor works one-on-one or in special group	8%
Use adaptive textbook	6%
Nothing	9%

Total Respondents: 87

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[10] Other responses included: The Bible; Alpha; Live It, St Mary's Press; Theology of the Body, Ascension Press; Family of Faith, Sophia; Baltimore Catechism; Discovering, St Mary's; Image of God, Ignatius Press; Altaration, Ascension Press.

Parent Involvement
When asked how they involved parents in catechetical programs, most indicated they use emails to parents (89%), take-home materials (67%), and/or parent meetings (58%).

Methods of parent involvement	% of responses	# of responses
Emails to Parents	89%	78
Take-home materials	67%	59
Parent Meetings	58%	51
Special programs for parents	32%	28
Intergenerational/family sessions	28%	25
Parent/Child Sessions	26%	23
Homework to be completed with parent	24%	21
Work with children in the classroom	23%	20
Use an app (eg, Remind or Parish App)	18%	16

Total Respondents: 88

Annual Fees
Respondents were asked whether and how much they charge for their religious education programs. 93 percent said they charge a fee. The table below shows their data.

	One child	Two children	Three children	Maximum
Lowest fee	$10	$20	$30	$35
Highest fee	$190	$380	$570	$570
Average fee	$94	$172	$235	$250
Median fee	$90	$160	$225	$240
# of respondents	81	80	80	75

Additional Programs for Middle Schoolers
Respondents were asked to indicate additional programs that are offered at their parishes for middle schoolers. Almost 65% offer retreats.

Additional Programs	% of responses	# of responses
Retreats	60%	44
Children's Choir	49%	36
Athletics	41%	30
Boy Scouts	37%	27
Youth Rally	37%	27
Girl Scouts	26%	19
De Sales Days/Vocation Camp	7%	5
American Heritage Girls	1%	1
Little Flowers Girl Group	1%	1
Grief Support Program/Rainbows for All Children	0%	0
Other (please specify)	18%	13

Total Respondents: 73

"Other" responses included: Mission trip and local work camp (5), youth group (4), Nun Run/Girl's vocation event, Servers guild, Youth fellowship before class.

High School/Youth Ministry

Respondents were asked if their position covers high school and/or confirmation programming. 83 respondents (62%) answered yes.

Models of Religious Education
When asked what models of religious education they used and to check all that applied, almost two-thirds said they offered retreats, and 59%offered a biweekly-or-twice-a-month catechetical program.

Models of religious education	% of responses	# of responses
Retreats	65%	53
Biweekly or Twice monthly catechetical program	59%	48
Service Learning	45%	37
Weekly catechetical program	29%	24
Scripture study/reflection	21%	17
RCIA for youth	16%	13
Intergenerational program	13%	11
Family-centered program	12%	10
Home schooling religious education	12%	10
Monthly catechetical program	12%	10
Programs for children/teens with special needs	9%	7
Mini-course program	5%	4
Summer catechetical program	5%	4
Lectionary-based program	2%	2

Total Respondents: 82

High School Catechetical Textbooks/Series
Respondents were asked what textbook series or resource they used for their 9-12th grade catechesis (excluding Confirmation preparation). The table shows books or programs reported by more than one respondent. There were at least 20 other resources used by just one parish each.

High School Catechetical textbooks/series	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
Chosen, Ascension Press	10	15	12	3
The Catholic Faith Handbook, St. Mary Press	9	9	2	
Life Teen	7	7	4	1
Decision Point, Dynamic Catholic	6	8	9	1
Live It!, St. Mary's Press	4	4	2	1
Alpha Youth	4	3	4	
Pflaum Gospel Weeklies – Vision	4	1		
Called to be Catholic, Loyola Press	3	3		
Didache series, Midwest Theological Forum	3	2	2	
YDisciple	2	2	4	1
Spirit, Good Ground Press	2	3	2	
Inspirio program	2	2	2	
Youth Ministry Access, CMD	2	2	1	
Total Catechesis, St Mary's Press	2	2	1	
Altaration, Ascension Press	2	2		
Theology of the Body, Ascension Press	0	3		
Total Respondents	85	83	68	27

Catechesis for Teens with Special Needs
Respondents were asked how they serve children with Special Needs. About two-thirds of respondents stated that they treat each teen and situation individually as needed.

Response to Special Needs	% of responses
Treat each teen and situation individually as needed	66%
Mainstream teens with extra assistance from catechists or aides	29%
Special Program (SPRED, Vine & Branches Arise, Journey, Risen)	18%
Catechist or tutor works one-on-one or in special group	6%
Use adaptive textbook	5%
Nothing	11%

Total Respondents: 80

Class times
Respondents were asked when they held classes. The largest number held classes on a Sunday morning (45%), followed by Sunday evening (33%) and Wednesday evening (23%).[11]

When classes are held	% of responses	# of responses
Sunday Morning	45%	37
Sunday Evening	33%	27
Wednesday Evening	23%	19
Monday Evening	7%	6
Sunday Midday	5%	4
Saturday Morning	5%	4
Summer Weekday	2%	2
Thursday Evening	2%	2
Tuesday Evening	1%	1
Saturday Evening	1%	1

Total Respondents: 82

Scheduling Alternatives
When asked if they offered more than one scheduling option, 20 percent said yes; 80 percent said no.

Parent Involvement
When asked how they involved parents, most indicated they send parents regular e-mail or newsletter (80%) or had parents chaperone for mission trip, retreat, service, and so on. (72%).

Methods of parent involvement	% of responses	# of responses
Regular e-mail or newsletter	80%	66
Chaperone for Mission Trip/Retreats/Service/Etc	72%	59
Take-home materials	52%	43
Small Group Leaders	50%	41
Sessions with teens in the class	27%	22
Family Session	24%	20
Special programs for parents	24%	20
Use an App (eg, Remind or Parish App)	20%	16
Intergenerational/family sessions	22%	18
District Parent/Teen Events	13%	11

Total Respondents: 82

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[11] Percentages total more than 100% because some parishes offer a different schedule for different grades and some offer more than one class option.

Annual Fees

Respondents were asked whether and how much they charge for their religious education programs. 90 percent said they charge a fee. The table below shows their data.

	One child	Two children	Three children	Maximum
Lowest fee	$10	$20	$30	$50
Highest fee	$270	$500	$600	$765
Average fee	$100	$189	$252	$261
Median fee	$100	$160	$215	$230
# of respondents	72	71	69	64

Spiritual Development Opportunities

Respondents were asked what spiritual development opportunities their parish offered teens. Offsite events were reported by 66 percent and retreats were mentioned by 59 percent of those responding.

Spiritual development program	% of responses	# of responses
Offsite Events: ARISE, St. John Bosco Day, WCYR, NCYC, Stubenville etc	66%	54
Retreat (besides confirmation)	59%	48
Eucharistic adoration	43%	35
Youth-friendly liturgy	34%	28
Prayer or faith-sharing group	21%	17
Scripture study	18%	15
Spiritual direction	7%	6

Total Respondents: 82

Justice and Service Opportunities

Respondents were asked what service opportunities their parish offered teens. Service opportunities within the parish were mentioned by 98 percent of those responding. Other opportunities reported by more than 50 percent of respondents included direct service to the needy (77%), collecting/ fundraising for a cause (67%), and summer mission trips (58%).

Justice and service program	% of responses	# of responses
Service opportunities within the parish (e.g., committees, liturgical roles, catechist aide)	98%	79
Direct service to the needy (meal programs, shelters)	77%	62
Collecting or fundraising for a cause	67%	54
Summer mission trips	58%	47
Projects chosen and designed by youth	27%	22
Reach Out Reach In	19%	15
Advocacy, letter-writing, awareness raising	12%	10

Total Respondents: 81

Leadership Opportunities

Respondents were asked what leadership opportunities their parish offered teens. Youth involvement in parish ministries (82 percent) was the most common leadership opportunity offered to teens.

Leadership Opportunities	% of responses	# of responses
Youth Involvement in Parish Ministries	82%	53
Youth involvement on parish committees	31%	20
Mission Trip Leadership Team	29%	19
Retreat Team	18%	12
Youth Ministry Team	18%	12
Youth leadership training	12%	8
Youth advisory board	8%	5
Bible Study Leader	6%	4

Total Respondents: 65

"Other" responses included: catechist aides, Confirmation leaders, youth rep to pastoral council.

Other Youth Ministry Opportunities

Respondents were asked whether they offer specific opportunities to their teens.

Youth Opportunities	% of responses	# of responses
WCYR - Wisconsin Catholic Youth Rally	59%	43
St. John Bosco Youth Day @ Holy Hill	55%	40
NCYC - National Catholic Youth Conference	33%	24
San Damiano Encounter	27%	20
Reach Out Reach In	26%	19
CYM Sports - volleyball, basketball	25%	18
Boy Scouts	23%	17
NET team - National Evangelization Team	22%	16
Steubenville Youth Conference	21%	15
SPIRITUS team	19%	14
Girl Scouts	15%	11
De Sales Days	8%	6
Lifeteen Summer Camp	4%	3
American Heritage Girls	1%	1

Total Respondents: 73

"Other" responses included: World Youth Day, Nun Run/Girls Vocation Trip, Encounter with the Archbishop.

Confirmation Preparation

Relationship between Confirmation Program and other Catechetical Programs
Respondents were asked about the relationship between their parish confirmation program and other catechetical programs. Almost half (49%) of the respondents said the confirmation program corresponds to 11th grade and is the only catechetical program for 11th graders. Other options received fewer responses.

Program relationships	% of responses	# of responses
Confirmation program corresponds to 11th grade and is the only catechetical program for 11th graders	49%	41
Confirmation program takes place during the 11th grade, but we also offer a religious ed program during the 11th grade year	22%	18
Confirmation program overlaps the 10th and 11th grade years; we offer religious ed during part of 11th grade	13%	11
Confirmation program overlaps the 11th and 12th grade years; we offer religious ed during part of 11th grade	4%	3
Other (please specify)	12%	10

Total Respondents: 83
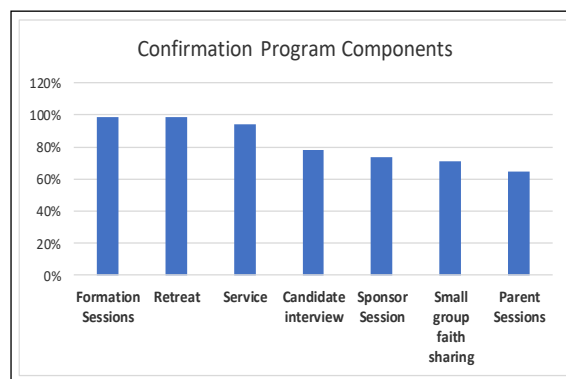
Number of Confirmation Candidates
Respondents were asked about the size of their confirmation class. The total number of confirmation candidates reported was 2,021. Class sizes ranged from 1 to 123, with the average class size of 25. 82 respondents answered this question.

Confirmation Program Components
Respondents were asked what program elements are included in their parish confirmation program. The top three cited were formation sessions (99%), retreat (99%), and service (94%).

Program elements	% of responses	# of responses
Formation Sessions	99%	81
Retreat	99%	81
Service	94%	77
Candidate interview	78%	64
Sponsor Session	74%	61
Small group faith sharing	71%	58
Parent Sessions	65%	53

Total Respondents: 82

Confirmation Program Components

Confirmation Program Contact Hours
Respondents were asked the approximate number of contact hours for their confirmation program (not including the retreat). Based on the 78 responses, the average number of contact hours was 29 hours. The median number was 26. The number of hours ranged from 7 to 100.

Confirmation Textbook/Program

Respondents were asked what textbook or program they used for confirmation preparation. The table lists resources reported by more than one respondent.

Confirmation textbook/program	% of responses	# of responses
Chosen: Your Journey Toward Confirmation, Ascension Press	34%	28
Decision Point, Dynamic Catholic	13%	11
Confirmación, RCL Benziger	4%	3
The Catholic Faith Handbook, St. Mary Press	4%	3
Confirmed in the Spirit, Loyola Press	2%	2
Anointed in the Spirit, Saint Mary's Press	2%	2
Confirmation: Receiving the Gift of the Spirit, Pflaum	2%	2

     Total Respondents: 82

Confirmation Sponsor Involvement

Respondents were asked how sponsors were engaged in the confirmation preparation program. The largest number of respondents cited confirmation rehearsal (93%), requiring candidates and sponsors to meet on their own (61%), and sponsor-candidate sessions (59%).

Sponsor engagement	% of responses	# of responses
Confirmation rehearsal	93%	76
Require candidates and sponsors to meet on their own	61%	50
Sponsor-candidate session(s) during the program	59%	48
Sponsor handbook or other materials	46%	38
Sponsor orientation session	32%	26
Candidate Commitment Liturgy with Sponsors & Parents	24%	20
Sponsorgrams	2%	2

     Total Respondents: 82

Confirmation Parent Involvement

Respondents were asked how parents were engaged in the confirmation preparation program. The largest number of responses were email materials or e-newsletter (87%), parent meetings (78%), and having parents write letters to their candidate (74%).

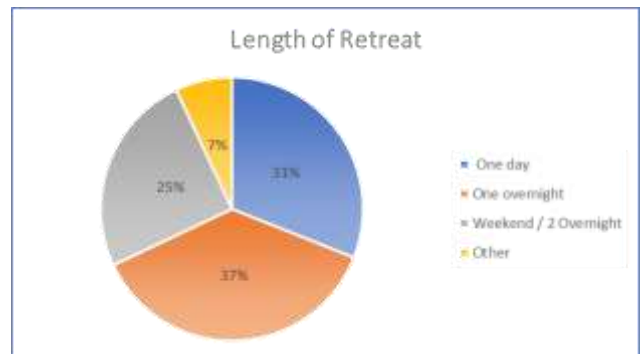| Parent engagement	% of responses	# of responses
E-mail materials or e-newsletter	87%	71
Parent meeting(s)	78%	64
Parent Written Letters to Candidates	74%	61
Take-home materials	54%	44
Invite to participate in service projects	51%	42
Parent-candidate session	49%	40
Help on Retreat	44%	36
Parent Sessions	16%	13
Intergenerational Sessions	12%	10

     Total Respondents: 82

Confirmation Retreat
Respondents were asked about the length, location and leadership of their confirmation retreat.

Length of retreat:

Length of Retreat	% of responses	# of responses
One day	31%	25
One overnight	37%	30
Weekend / 2 overnights	25%	20
Other	7%	6

 Total Respondents: 81

Length of Retreat

Other responses included: 2-day retreats that did not have an overnight included (3).

Retreat Leadership: Parish personnel – either the director of youth ministry or a parish team – conducted the confirmation retreat in 63% of the responses.

Retreat Leadership	% of responses	# of responses
Parish DYM	34%	26
Parish team	29%	22
SPIRITUS team	18%	14
Guest presenter/director	10%	8
NET team	3%	2
OTHER	6%	5

 Total Respondents: 77

Location of retreat:

Location of Retreat	% of responses	# of responses
At our parish	28%	22
At another parish	10%	8
St. Vincent Pallotti Retreat Center	9%	7
Mount Tabor Center	9%	7
Camp Whitcomb/Mason	9%	7
Daniel Soref Retreat Center	4%	3
Holy Hill Guest House	3%	2
Schoenstatt Retreat Center	1%	1
Saint Francis de Sales Seminary	1%	1
Green Lake Conference Center	1%	1
OTHER	23%	18

 Total Respondents: 78

"Other" responses included: Camp Edwards (1), Camp Gray (3), Camp Minikani (2), Camp Timber-lee (2), Cedar Valley Retreat Center (1), Inspiration Center (1), Redemptorist Retreat Center (1), Ross Lodge-Whitnall Park (1), Siena Retreat Center (1), St. Lawrence Seminary (1).

Number of Confirmation Retreats
Respondents were asked how many retreats or retreat options they offered candidates. 82 percent of the respondents said they offered one retreat for all candidates.

Number of retreat options	% of responses	# of responses
One retreat for all	82%	67
Two options	16%	13
Three	2%	2
More	0%	0

Total Respondents: 82

Service Component of Confirmation Preparation
Respondents were asked what strategies were used to engage candidates in Christian service during their confirmation preparation. More than half of respondents indicated each of the following: they require a certain number of service hours (70%); they discuss service during the confirmation interview (63%); they involve candidates in serving alongside adult parishioners (56%); or they offer a catalog of service opportunities (51%).

Service strategies	% of responses	# of responses
Require a certain number of service hours	70%	57
Discuss service during confirmation interview	63%	52
Involve candidates in serving alongside adult parishioners	56%	46
Offer a catalog of service opportunities for candidates	51%	42
Assign group service projects	32%	26
Offer a service journal for reflection on the experience	30%	25
Help candidates identify needs and design service projects	29%	24
Facilitate group reflection on service experiences	24%	20

Total Respondents: 82

Some respondents noted that they require candidates to complete service in specific categories (e.g., liturgy, parish fundraiser, family, and community; or family, school, parish, community).

Cost for Confirmation Preparation
Respondents were asked what they charge for their confirmation program and retreat.

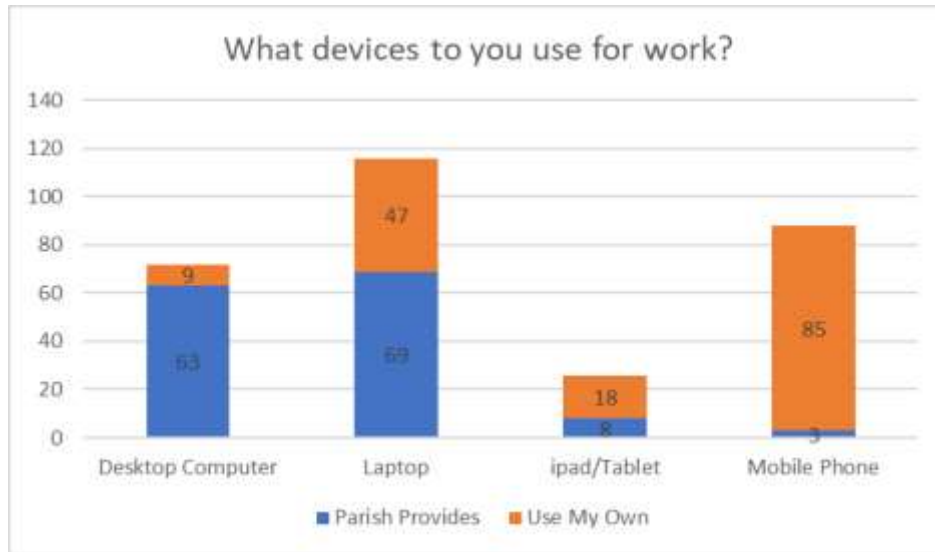|	Confirmation fee	Retreat fee	Total
Lowest fee	$15	$25	$15
Highest fee	$300	$185	$380
Average fee[12]	$115	$103	$166
Median fee	$105	$100	$165
# of respondents with fee	66	40	73

Total Respondents: 80

There were 3 respondents who did not charge anything for confirmation preparation. 8 respondents said they charged just a retreat fee while 40 charged only a confirmation program fee. 33 respondents charge both a confirmation program and a retreat fee.

[12] The Average & Median fees are based only on programs that charge fees.

Technology in Faith Formation

Devices Used
Respondents were asked what devices they used for work and if the parish provided the device or if they used their own. Laptops (99 respondents; 116 laptops) are the most used device. Mobile phones are used for work by 77% of respondents, but only 3% stated that the parish provided them with one. Desktop computers, though fewer in number than laptops, are used by 61% (70 respondents; 72 computers).

	Desktop Computer		Laptop		iPad/Tablet		Mobile Phone	
Parish Provides	55%	63	61%	69	7%	8	3%	3
Use My Own Device	8%	9	41%	47	16%	18	75%	85

Total Respondents: 114

Parish Email Address
Respondents were asked if their parish provided them with an email address and if so which type. Almost 4 out of 5 (79%) of the respondents used a parish email address with a parish domain (@stanyone.org). Eight percent report that their parish does not provide them an email address.

Parish Email Address	% of responses	# of responses
Yes, I use a parish email address with a parish domain (@stanyone.org)	79%	90
Yes, I use an archmil email address	8%	9
Yes, I use a parish provided generic email address (@gmail.com, etc.)	5%	6
No, I use a personal email	8%	9

Total Respondents: 114

Remote Access
Respondents were asked if they were able to access files and/or email remotely. 94 percent of respondents had access to email remotely, and 61% also had access to files. This is a significant increase in remote access over survey responses two years earlier.

Remote Access	% of responses	# of responses
Yes, I have access to only email remotely	33%	38
Yes, I have access to all files and email remotely	61%	69
No, I have no remote access	6%	7

Total Respondents: 114

Equipment Available for use in Religious Education Program
Respondents were asked if what equipment is available for use in the religious education program at their parish. 86% of respondents stated that they have Wi-Fi available.

Equipment Available	% of responses	# of responses
WiFi	86%	95
DVD Player	84%	92
Portable Projector(s)	75%	83
Flat Screen TV	56%	62
Mounted Screen(s)	55%	61
Portable Screen(s)	47%	52
Mounted Projector(s)	37%	41
Smartboard	35%	39
Smart TV	35%	38
Bluetooth Speakers	25%	27
Blue-ray Player	15%	16
Wireless Display	13%	14

Total Respondents: 110

Technology in the Formation Program
Respondents were asked how they use technology in their formation programs. 94 percent of respondents stated that they showed videos or powerpoint, and 81 percent use technology for their communication with parents, catechists, youth, etc.

Technology Used	% of responses	# of responses
Show Videos or Powerpoint	94%	104
Communication with Parents, Catechists, Youth, etc.	81%	90
Use Smartboard	26%	29
Gaming/Interactive apps	23%	25
Virtual classes or group meetings	23%	25
Post past class materials (make up work or parent viewing)	22%	24
Blended learning - Part Online/Part In Person	12%	13
Flipped Classroom - Instructional Content at Home/Activities in Class	5%	5
Asynchronous group discussion or sharing	3%	3

Total Respondents: 111

Catechetical Program Database

Respondents were asked if the catechetical program use the same database as the parish. 70 percent of respondents said yes.

Same Database as Parish	% of responses	# of responses
Yes	70%	77
No	30%	33

Total

Respondents: 110

Program Data & Registration Management

Respondents were asked how they manage their Religious Education program data & registration. The software most used by respondents was Excel (41%) followed by Parish Data System (33%). Many reported more than one method.

Program Data & Registration Management	% of responses	# of responses
Excel	37%	41
Parish Data System (PDS)	33%	36
Google Docs/Sheets	29%	32
Paper	29%	32
Parishsoft	18%	20
ACS	6%	7
WeShare	7%	8
Access	5%	5
PSREnroll	0%	0
Realm	0%	0

Total Respondents: 110

"Other" responses included: Gabrielsoft (2), FACTS Management (1), Servant Keeper (1), Jotform (1).

Information Posted on Parish Website

Respondents were asked what information is posted on their parish website.75 percent of respondents have all the following on the parish website: Mass Schedule, Office Hours, Bulletin, Calendar and Staff Directory (including formation staff). 54 percent of respondents have their Formation Program Schedule, Information and Forms all on the parish website.

Information on Parish Website	% of responses	# of responses
Mass Schedule	99%	109
Bulletin	97%	107
Staff Directory (Including Formation Staff)	94%	103
Calendar	89%	98
Office Hours	85%	94
Online Giving	79%	87
Formation Program Schedule	77%	85
Formation Program Information	71%	78
Formation Program Forms	61%	67
Formation Program Online Registration	54%	59
Newsletters	25%	28
Formation Handbook	22%	24
Formation Program Class Materials	13%	14

Total Respondents: 110

Management of Content on Parish Website
Respondents were asked if they, as catechetical staff, have access to manage their content on the parish website. Only 29 percent of respondents manage their own web content for their program(s).

Information on Parish Website	% of responses	# of responses
No, I must submit a request for changes to another staff member	35%	40
Yes, I manage web content for my program(s)	29%	33
No, but our administrative assistant can manage content	25%	28
No, I have no input regarding the website	6%	7
No, I must contact a volunteer webmaster	4%	5

Total Respondents: 113

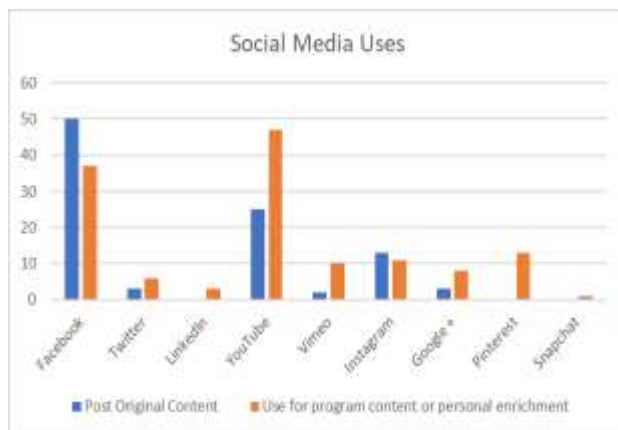**Separate Website for Formation/Youth Ministry**
Respondents were asked if they have a formation/youth ministry website separate from the parish site (different domain name). 12% of respondents have their own site for their program.

Separate Website for Formation/Youth Ministry	% of responses	# of responses
No	88%	100
Yes	12%	13

Total Respondents: 113

Social Media Used in Ministry
Respondents were asked what social media they use in their ministry. The graphs below what social media respondents used to post original content vs use for program content or personal enrichment. The second graph shows if the parish has an account vs the formation program has an account. Facebook is the most used social media platform across the board.

Social Media Used in Ministry (cont.)

	Facebook	Twitter	LinkedIn	YouTube	Vimeo	Instagram	Google +	Pinterest	Snapchat
Post Original Content	50	3	0	25	2	13	3	0	0
Use for program content or personal enrichment	37	6	3	47	10	11	8	13	1
Parish Has an Account	88	9	2	46	4	13	5	2	0
Formation Program Has an Account	19	1	0	6	1	8	2	0	0

Total Respondents: 101

Learning and training on new technology

Respondents were asked how they learn about and train on new technology. Almost 80 percent of respondents indicated they were self-taught. Other common means of learning were webinars (45%), the Gigs, Geeks and God Conference (43%), YouTube videos (43%), and websites (43%).

Learning New Technology	% of responses	# of responses
Self Taught	79%	86
Webinars	45%	49
Gigs, Geeks & God Conference	43%	47
YouTube Videos	43%	47
Websites	43%	47
Find the youngest person on staff	17%	19
Outside Training	17%	18
Ask my students	14%	15
Books	12%	13
Blogs	12%	13
In house sessions	8%	9

Total Respondents: 109

Other answers included: Administrative assistant (2), training through former jobs (2), my children or grandchildren (3), university, spouse, friend.

Family Involvement

Participation in Family Perspectives
Respondents were asked if their parish has participated in Family Perspectives sponsored by Office of Catechesis. 44% of respondents have participated in the program.

Participated in Family Perspectives	% of responses	# of responses
No	56%	62
Yes	44%	49

Total Respondents: 111

Parish Situation
Respondents were asked to choose the statement that best describes their parish situation. 75% of parishes include family engagement to some degree.

Parish Situation	% of responses	# of responses
We offer a "traditional" Religious Education Program with some Family events	53%	60
We only offer a "traditional" Religious Education Program	25%	28
We offer two distinct programs: a Family/Intergenerational Program and a Traditional Religious Education Program	14%	16
We only offer a Family / Intergenerational Program	8%	9

Total Respondents: 113

Components of Family/Intergenerational Program
Those with a family/intergenerational program were asked about components or aspects of their program.
Two-thirds of respondents who have an Intergenerational/Family Program stated they have an intergenerational activity as well as age specific sessions and adult formation as part of their program.

Family Program Aspects	% of responses	# of responses
Adult Formation	86%	18
Age specific session	76%	16
Intergenerational Activity	71%	15
Meal/Snack	67%	14
Service Opportunities	67%	14
Learning Centers	29%	6
Other (please specify)	10%	2

Total Respondents: 21

Family Program Times

Respondents were asked when they offer their family program. Over three-fourths of those with family programing hold it on Sunday morning.

Family Program Times	% of responses	# of responses
Sunday Morning	76%	16
Wednesday Evening	24%	5
Sunday Midday	14%	3
Monday Evening	10%	2
Sunday Evening	5%	1
Saturday Evening	5%	1

Total Respondents: 21

Family Program Scheduling Option

Respondents were asked if they offer more than one scheduling option for this particular program. One-third of those who have family programing offer more than one schedule option.

Family Program Scheduling	% of responses	# of responses
No	67%	14
Yes	33%	7

Total Respondents: 21

Program Sessions

Respondents were asked how many sessions they offered per year. The average number of sessions was 12. They were also asked the number of hours per session and the number of hours per session (not including meal time). The average was 2.2 hours per session, 1.7 hours excluding time for meals.

Number of Sessions	
Average Number	12
Range of Sessions	8 - 28
Median	12
# of respondents	19

Hours per Session	Total Hours	Formation Hours per Session (Not including meal time)
Average Number	2.2	1.7
Range of Hours	1 - 3	1 - 3
Median	2	2
# of respondents	18	18

Family Program Fee Structure

Respondents were asked how they charge families in their programs. Most charged per family based on the number of children in the program.

Family Program Fee Structure	% of responses	# of responses
Per Family based on # of Children in Program	65%	13
Per Person	15%	3
Other	20%	4

Total Respondents: 20

Respondents described varied ways of addressing the cost: Same per-child fee as for traditional program; Fee per child plus a family fee; No charge for intergenerational events, only for children's classes; Goodwill offering for meals; or Families volunteer to provide food.

RCIA for Children

RCIA for Children – Number of Participants
Respondents were asked how many participants were in RCIA for Children this year. Of the 82 that answered, 31 had participants during 2019-2020.

RCIA for Children	Number of candidates
Smallest groups	1
Largest group	10
Average	3
Total	97

Total respondents: 82

Sacramental preparation – program elements included
Respondents were also asked what program elements were included in their RCIA for Children. Preparation integrated in Religious Ed or School classes received the largest number of mentions with 58 percent followed by Special sessions for the children with 44 percent.

Sacramental preparation components	% of responses	# of responses
Preparation integrated in Religious Ed or School classes	58%	26
Special sessions for the children	44%	20
Parent sessions	36%	16
Parent-child sessions	36%	16
At home work	27%	12
Retreat day	18%	8

Total Respondents: 45

Textbooks
Respondents were asked to indicate what textbooks or resources they used for RCIA for children. There was no consensus among the 34 respondents who reported on material they used for RCIA for children. The most used resource is *Journey of Faith* by Liguori Publications (3).   Other responses included catechisms or books that present a summary of the Catholic faith, textbooks used in the regular religious education program, sacramental preparation texts for intermediate grades, children's or youth Bibles, self-created lessons, and mixed resources. The diversity of materials partially reflects the diverse ages, needs and situations of the young candidates.

Sacramental Preparation Fee
Respondents were asked about fees they charge for RCIA for children. The chart below reports on those parish programs that charged fees for RCIA for children.

	RCIA for Children
# that charged a fee	17
Lowest fee	$25
Highest fee	$100
Average fee	$59
Median fee	$55
# of Respondents	41

Catechists and Assistants

Catechists - Demographics

Respondents were asked how many catechists they have, how many have completed training for basic religious education certification, and their years of service. Respondents reported numbers ranging from 1 to 76 catechists. 51 respondents indicated they had one or more certified catechists.

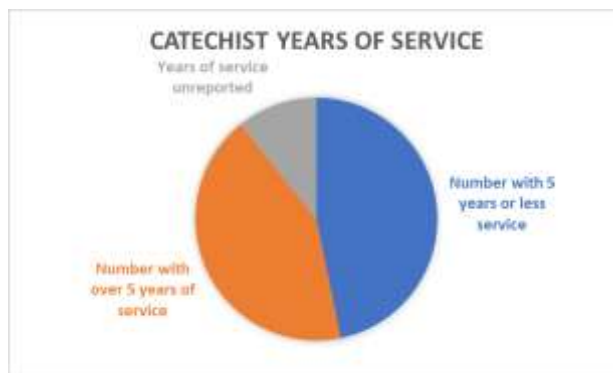|	
Total Number of catechists reported	1799
Number Grades K-6 Catechists	951
Number Grades 7-8 Catechists	266
Number Grades 9-12 Catechists	582

Total Respondents: 107

Number of catechists with certification	298	28%

Total Respondents: 67[13]

Number with 0-5 years of service	660	47%
Number with over 5 years of service	599	42%
Years of service unreported	152	11%

Total Respondents: 87[14]

CATECHIST YEARS OF SERVICE
Years of service unreported · Number with 5 years or less service · Number with over 5 years of service

Catechists and lesson planning

Respondents were asked which of the following best describes their approach to lesson plans for Catechists, and to choose no more than two.

Lesson planning approaches	% of responses	# of responses
Catechists are given a text and create own lesson plans, having flexibility to use additional resources, with director's approval.	67%	71
Director creates lesson plans for each catechist in advance of each class.	30%	32
Director creates plans for the year and gives to catechists at beginning of year; with weekly updates or supplements as needed.	24%	25
Catechists work with co-catechist or team with whom they alternate lesson planning.	16%	17
Catechists periodically meet with Director to do lesson planning together.	12%	13
Catechists are given a text and create own lesson plans, sticking strictly to the text.	5%	5

Total Respondents: 106

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[13] Reported figure is compared to total number of catechists (1057) reported by the same 67 respondents.

[14] Reported figures are compared to total number of catechists (1411) reported by the same 87 respondents.

Catechist Formation

Respondents were asked what kind of formation they provide for their catechists. Individual orientation was most often mentioned (68 percent of respondents). Over half also offered in-service training, sharing of reading materials, and sharing of resources (video, websites, etc).

Formation opportunities	% of responses	# of responses
Individual orientation	68%	70
In-service training	60%	62
Sharing reading materials	57%	59
Share resources (video, websites, etc.)	57%	59
Catechist group sharing	47%	48
Funding for conferences/courses	38%	39
Speakers/adult education	36%	37
District catechist day	25%	26
Forming the Catechetical Spirit program	16%	16
Mentor program	8%	8
Echoes of Faith 3.0	3%	3

Total Respondents: 103

Other responses include: Archdiocesan Catechetical Conference, archdiocesan workshop for small group leaders, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd training, Missionary Discipleship Institute, programs offered at Cardinal Stritch University.

Adults Serving in Religious Education Program

Respondents were asked in what ways adults serve in their religious education program other than as catechists.

Service	% of responses	# of responses
Substitute catechists	83%	86
Catechist aides, regularly in the classroom	62%	64
Service/Retreat Leaders	56%	58
Religious Education Committee	53%	55
Vacation Bible School Volunteer	44%	46
Children's Liturgy of the Word Leader	42%	44
Presenters on special topics	38%	40
Field trip chaperones	38%	40
Hall monitors and greeters	36%	37
Craft and project assistants	28%	29
Assistants for children with special needs	28%	29
Office assistants	27%	28
Special event team	19%	20
Set-up/equipment assistants	14%	15

Total Respondents: 104

Faith Formation Committees

Faith Formation Committee/Commission
Respondents were asked whether they had a functioning Formation Committee/Commission. Of 109 respondents, 70 percent (76) reported that they had a Formation Committee/Commission, while 30 percent (33) did not.

Faith Formation Committee Membership
Respondents were asked which types of members serve on the committee.

Committee member types	% of responses	# of responses
Faith formation staff (DRE, DYM, DFF, etc)	91%	71
Catechist	82%	64
Liaison from Pastoral Council	79%	62
Parent of student	74%	58
Parishioner at large	72%	56
Priest	27%	21
Other parish staff (Liturgy, Pastoral Associate, Communications)	19%	15
Deacon	12%	9
Catholic school representative	9%	7

Total Respondents: 78

Formation Committee Functions
Respondents were asked what functions their committee performed.

Committee functions	% of responses	# of responses
Assess needs and interests of parishioners	74%	56
Advise staff on development of policies and programs	62%	47
Report to, advocate, consult with the Pastoral Council	60%	45
Develop evangelization and adult formation initiatives	47%	36
Conduct evaluation of programs	46%	35
Engage in committee formation	45%	34
Participate in budget process as requested	25%	19
Assist in recruitment and training of catechists and other volunteers	24%	18
Aid in hiring formation staff (identify priorities, shape job description)	13%	10

Total Respondents: 76