



# Secretariat FOR Evangelization AND Catechesis

ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

## COVID19 Part 2 #8

May 6, 2020

## **Pope Francis' Prayer to Virgin Mary for Protection**

**O Mary,  
you always shine on our path  
as a sign of salvation and of hope.  
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,  
who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm.  
You, Salvation of the Roman People,  
know what we need,  
and we are sure you will provide  
so that, as in Cana of Galilee,  
we may return to joy and to feasting  
after this time of trial.  
Help us, Mother of Divine Love,  
to conform to the will of the Father  
and to do as we are told by Jesus,  
who has taken upon himself our sufferings  
and carried our sorrows  
to lead us, through the cross,  
to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.**

**Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.**



**SPONSORED BY THE ASIAN AND PACIFIC CATHOLIC NETWORK (APCN)  
IN COLLABORATION WITH THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS  
SECRETARIAT OF CULTURAL DIVERSITY IN THE CHURCH**



# OUTLOOK Reminder

- As you know, the Diocese of Brooklyn has moved our email system from DioNet (First Class) to Microsoft Office 365 – Outlook. If you have not done so already, please take the time today to log into OUTLOOK and set up your email account.
- Bishop DiMarzio has mandated that all pastors, administrators, priests, and parish staff cooperate with this important initiative.
- The use of DioNet (First Class) will end soon.

*The Seed is the  
Word of God  
Curriculum  
Guide --What to  
Teach and  
When?*

# *The Seed is the Word of God Curriculum Guide*

Diocese of Brooklyn

<https://dioceseofbrooklyn.org/get-involved/secretariat-for-evangelization-and-catechesis/the-seed-is-the-word-curriculum-guides/>

## **Kindergarten through Grade Two**

Read and tell Bible Stories (Creed)

Begin to explain the Sacraments (Sacraments)

Teach private and public prayers (Prayer)

Demonstrate how Jesus is the model of Christian Living (Morality)

## **Grade Three through Grade Five**

Link family stories to Bible stories (Creed)

Foster ongoing sacramental understanding (Sacraments)

Discuss and use different forms of prayer (Prayer)

Recognize and honor the dignity of every human person (Morality)

## **Grades Six through Grade Eight**

Teach about Sacred Scripture (Creed)

Prepare candidates for the Sacrament of Confirmation (Sacraments)

Demonstrate how to integrate prayer into one's life; especially the Mass (Prayer)

Explore how to recognize and confirm the face of Christ in others (Morality)

# Youth Ministry Resources for Non-CYMI Parishes

Many excellent resources assist in the work of evangelizing and catechizing our young people, their parents, family members, and those who aid in their education and formation. The Secretariat compiled a list of approved and recommended resources that assist in the implementation of the six goals identified in the *So Be Bold! Diocesan Youth and Young Adult Outreach Plan* at <https://dioceseofbrooklyn.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/FINAL-So-Be-Bold-09-18-2018.pdf>:

- United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB's) *Strong Catholic Families Initiative* <https://nfcym.org/programs/strong-catholic-families/leader-parent-resources/>
- RENEW International's *ARISE/LEVANTATE and Why Catholic?* <https://new.renewintl.org/>
- Fr. Spitzer's *Credible Catholic Initiative* <https://www.crediblecatholic.com/>
- *USCCB's High School Curriculum Framework* <http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/how-we-teach/catechesis/upload/high-school-curriculum-framework.pdf>
- *The Joy of Adolescent Catechesis*, A Publication of the Partnership on Adolescent Catechesis, 2017
- *Christus Vivit* [http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost\\_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco\\_esortazione-ap\\_20190325\\_christus-vivit.html](http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco_esortazione-ap_20190325_christus-vivit.html)
- *Renewing the Vision*, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 1997 <http://www.usccb.org/about/laity-marriage-family-life-and-youth/young-adults/renewing-the-vision.cfm>

# Young Adult Outreach

*"There are many opportunities to touch the lives of young adults, and these should be seen as moments for evangelizing outreach. Some of these may require a change in the way we approach evangelization so our outreach is more dynamic, taking the Church into the community where young adults gather rather than waiting for these men and women to come to us."*

-Sons and Daughters of the Light

<http://www.usccb.org/media/blogs-and-columns/entre-amigos/index.cfm>





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<https://bustedhalo.com/>

**bustedhalo**

#DAILYJOLT

APRIL 20, 2020

We all survive more than  
we think we can.

-- JOAN DIDION, WRITER

**TODAY'S #MICROCHALLENGE**

TODAY, SAY A PRAYER FOR THE WORLD, AND FOR HEALING -- THAT WE MAY GET THROUGH THIS PANDEMIC TOGETHER IN A SPIRIT OF TEAMWORK, PERSEVERANCE, AND HOPE.

# How to end this current catechetical term

## *Some Guiding Principles for Consideration*

1. Determine how long the program will continue for this year.
2. Do some basic assessment to determine what worked well and what needs adjustment.
3. Be sure to have complete contact information for all family members.
4. Prepare materials for your web site.

April 29, 2020



# Planning for the start of a new catechetical year

## *Some Guiding Principles for Consideration*

1. Digital registration be done for 2020-2021?
2. Register only once and renewable each year?
3. Budget for online curriculum and/or e-book and textbook.
4. Catechists trained for different teaching styles?
5. Parents and family members be trained and supported?
6. Determine best plan for your parish.
7. Consider all social distancing and other policies, including safe environment policies.
8. Pray and consult.

April 29, 2020

# Holy Spirit Institute for Service and Leadership ONLINE

## ***NEW FOR 2020-2021***

1. Decision will be made by June 1, 2020 regarding current applications. Applications will continue to be accepted until July 1, 2020.
2. New cohort will begin in September of 2020.
3. Old cohorts will continue online in September of 2020.
4. Access to computer and phone is required.
5. Courses and Go To Meetings will be held weekly throughout the year.
6. Please consult Joann Roa for more information.

April 29, 2020

# Reminders and Suggestions

## *Thank you to those who already ...*

1. Completed the transition to OUTLOOK. Contact IT at 718-965-7300, ext. 1910 if you have not been able to do so thus far.
2. Completed the survey form.
3. Made resources on our web site at <https://dioceseofbrooklyn.org/get-involved/religious-education-resources/> available to parents and family members.
4. Considered end-of-this-catechetical year processes.
5. Considered online registration process for 2020-2021.
6. Considered communication systems for 2020-2021.
7. Considered alternative methods for religious education programming for 2020-2021.

April 29, 2020

# Frequently Asked Question #1

**Where can I find recommended evangelization and catechetical resources to use and promote during these days of home study?**

All recommended resources are found on the Diocesan web site at <https://dioceseofbrooklyn.org/get-involved/religious-education-resources/> and are updated daily. Please share selected resources with your community.

# Frequently Asked Question # 2

## **How and when should I bring this year's parish religious education program to a close?**

While each parish program is different, generally speaking parish religious education programs normally end sometime in late May or June. We recommend that catechetical leaders provide an end date for formal instruction but continue to communicate with parents and adult family members on a continuing basis. Some parishes may plan to provide resources during the summer and may even experiment with a summer program to provide additional opportunities for formation. All of this should be communicated clearly to every parent and adult family member through email with some form of a response to indicate the parent or adult family member has seen the memorandum.

# Frequently Asked Question # 3

## **How do I register or re-register families for the catechetical year 2020-2021 and is online registration recommended?**

It is highly recommended that all parish registration and re-registration is done using an online registration system. Many parishes use one already. If your parish does not already make use of one, options are available and will be posted on the Resource page. Keep in mind that registration information should only be collected initially upon entrance into the program, and then updated each year. It is common now throughout the United States that once a family is enrolled in religious education, the expectation is that they participate each year and are automatically registered for the next year's class. Now is a great time to implement that plan.

# Frequently Asked Question # 4

## **How should we plan for the 2020-2021 catechetical year?**

As of today, we are still uncertain about when we can get to the 'new normal'. It is probable that social distancing and other measures will be in place for a while. In addition, we may have a re-occurrence of the coronavirus in the fall or winter. It is highly recommended that every program of religious education has a formalized online option, either using the digital components of one of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) approved series or the Faith and Life Program provided on the Catholic Faith Technologies (My Catholic Faith Delivered) platform. Simply put, every program should make parents aware when they register that the religious education program may be done online with their assistance. In the case that programs can meet at some point, an alternative plan should be developed by parish leaders implementing all safety and health guidelines as well as any guidelines provided by the Diocese of Brooklyn. As things progress, more information will follow.

May 6, 2020



# Frequently Asked Question # 5 Part 1

**What about other programs like the Holy Spirit Institute for Service and Leadership, RCIA, Youth Ministry, Young Adult Ministry, Small Faith Sharing Groups, Pre-Cana, Living and Leading by Faith, etc.?**

As you know, the Diocese of Brooklyn is blessed by having many partners that assist us in many and varied ways. These partners assist us by providing free or greatly reduced resources that have enabled us to continue to provide services during this out-of-the-office period. In addition, our Secretariat staff is available each day to provide you with any assistance you might need regarding our programs.

The Holy Spirit Institute for Service and Leadership continues to accept applications until June 1, 2020. Instruct anyone interested in applying to go to <https://www.bqonlineformation.org/> and click on the Holy Spirit Institute box for application in English and Spanish. **For the foreseeable future, the Holy Spirit Institute will conduct all courses online and use GO TO MEETING for class meetings throughout the year.**

The RCIA and RCIA Adapted for Children is still on hold until we receive further guidance. We'll update you as soon as possible. However, several RCIA groups are meeting virtually and continuing the journey until such time that they can be received into the Church.

May 6, 2020

# Frequently Asked Question # 5 Part 2

Youth Ministry and Young Adult Ministry is continuing remotely using different formats depending on the local situation. A Diocesan Digital Event is being planned for the end of May. More information will follow.

RENEW'S Small Faith Sharing Groups should continue to make use of digital means such as Go To Meeting and connect with their excellent resources at <https://new.renewintl.org/>

Couples interested in Pre-Cana should be directed to the web site at <https://www.bqonlineformation.org/> and click on the Pre-Cana/Marriage Prep box.

Living and Leading by Faith Catechetical Leader and Catechists Formation Program continues totally online at <https://www.bqonlineformation.org/> Note that there are several free or reduced courses available during this time. Just last month nearly 200 people participated in some online course.

More information can be found on the Resource page at <https://dioceseofbrooklyn.org/get-involved/religious-education-resources/>

# Spring and Summer 2020 Events Update

- **Annual Recognition Mass and Celebration** – Certificates will be sent this month to those who were to receive an award on May 14, 2020. A special online “thank you” presentation for all catechists and catechetical leaders will be made at a day and time to be determined.
- **Annual Mass of the Neophytes with Presentation and Lunch** – Postponed.
- **Catholic High School Confirmations** – Postponed and may be combined.
- **Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass** – Postponed and may be combined with next year’s Mass. Certificates may be presented.
- **Annual Catechetical Leaders Retreat** – Limited to an afternoon online; date and time to be determined.
- **Steubenville Catholic Youth Conference NYC 2020** – Cancelled. Please go to [http://lifeteen.com/events/files/2020/05/May-1-Life-Teen-Letter-to-Parents.Steubenvilles.pdf?goal=0\\_ae8b20d6a2-f4a89601ba-314542304&mc\\_cid=f4a89601ba&mc\\_eid=f9297971f1](http://lifeteen.com/events/files/2020/05/May-1-Life-Teen-Letter-to-Parents.Steubenvilles.pdf?goal=0_ae8b20d6a2-f4a89601ba-314542304&mc_cid=f4a89601ba&mc_eid=f9297971f1) for a Letter to Parents from LifeTeen.

May 6, 2020

# Parent Video Resources to be distributed

- [A Call to Family Catechesis](#) – by Christian Rada
- [Eat family meals together!](#) – by Christian Rada
- [Faith Formation Tips and Prayer](#)—by Deacon Matt Halbach
- [Making Your Home a Prayerful Place](#)—by Deacon Matt Halbach

May 6, 2020

# Next Meeting

- Wednesday, May 13, 2020 from 1:00 to 2:15 PM