

Family Catechesis with

Blest Are We[®]

Faith in Action



Blest Are We Faith in Action

Classroom Model

- Children are taught by teachers or volunteer catechists in grade level groups.
- Classes meet from September to May—weekly for thirty sixty-minute lessons or bi-weekly for fifteen two-hour sessions.

Suggestions for Family/Parish Partnerships

Invite adult family members to join grade-level classes for chapter or unit reviews, using the activities from the **Activities & Projects** booklets.

Enhance and reinforce catechetical formation by inviting families to use **Family Life**, RCL Benziger's virtue-based moral formation program, at home.

Designate one session per month as a Family Faith session. Families can use the **Family Resource** to complete the chapter for that week, or gather families for community faith formation using **Our Family Gathers**.

At Home

- Parents facilitate religious instruction at home following the same curriculum as the classroom model, using the **Family Resource** booklet.
- Families report progress to the parish catechetical leader at the end of each unit.

Ask all adult family members to gather for three meetings per year—introductory, mid-year check in, and end-of-the-year wrap-up. Use the **Director's Resource** for meeting outlines and prayer experiences.

Schedule monthly in-parish gatherings for families around a topical calendar. These sessions can be intergenerational, or adults can attend their own sessions while young people move into grade-level groups for instruction. See **Director's Resource** for an example.

Plan four or five intergenerational gathered sessions through the year, focused either on the liturgical year, using **Our Family Gathers**, or on moral formation, using the **Family Life** Unit-Based Model.

Summer Concentrated Model

The entire curriculum is taught in a ten-day period, four to six hours per day. See **Director's Resource** for a sample plan.

Using **Family Resource** as a guide, add a one-day mini-retreat for families or a parent session at the beginning or end of each day to help families extend the lessons of the day.

Help families stay connected to faith formation throughout the academic year by inviting them to four or five intergenerational gathered sessions exploring the liturgical year, using **Our Family Gathers**, or moral formation, using **Family Life**.



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