

# ENGAGING FAMILIES IN FAITH

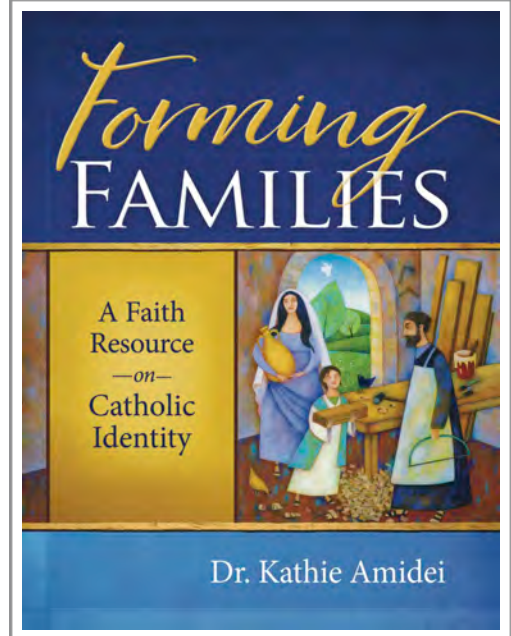
## OUR SUNDAY VISITOR

DR. KATHIE AMIDEI



You have asked to have your child baptized. In doing so you are accepting the responsibility of training him/her in the practice of the faith. It will be your duty to bring him/her up to keep the commandment as Christ taught us, by loving God and our neighbor. Do you clearly understand what you are undertaking?

(Rite of Baptism)



- Why Consider Family Catechesis?
- Why Involve the Family?
- Why a Family Model?

**Important Questions!**

- What is an Integrated Model of Family Catechesis?
- What are the components of Integrated Family Catechesis?
- What makes this model effective?

*Why change? Why should you care?*

Change because of what the wisdom of the Church teaches us about faith and families:

- Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC)
- General Directory for Catechesis (GDC)
- National Directory for Catechesis (NDC)
- Follow the Way of Love

Change because of what research on forming faith reveals:

- Catechesis Through Relationships
- Importance of Intergenerational Connections
- Role of Family in Catechesis
- Focus on Children and Parents



Kathie Amidei  
 Office: 262-691-9170  
 Email: amideik@stanthony.cc

**Our Sunday Visitor**

*Our Sunday Visitor:*  
 Website: osv.com  
 Phone: 800-348-2440



## *Factors to Consider in this Paradigm Shift:*

### WHY?

- Church Teaching
- Research
- The purpose is a change to give something better to our children

### WHAT?

#### Critical Components

- Community/Fellowship component
- Age specific, including adult formation for parents component
- Family Activity: “family intergenerational component”

### HOW?

- Recognize this is a transition
- Communicate with parish leadership and parents-- explain why, what and how
- Visit another parish implementing family faith formation
- Consider how to transition gradually or as an alternative and prepare people

## *A Paradigm Shift...*

*...from Parish and Parents to Partnership with Parents*

### Integrated Family Faith Formation Model

#### *Key Components:*

1. Social/Community Building Time
2. Age-Specific Sessions (including Adults)
3. Family Activity Session (intergenerational session)
  - During the Grade-/Age-Specific Classes, children and youth are taught by catechists using the curriculum covered by grade-specific religion programs
  - During the Family Activity Session, parents are involved in teaching their children faith through active learning curriculum on topics of faith
  - The parish designs, plans and facilitates the intergenerational session
  - Parents are teachers, and parents are learners, in this model