

on a faith journey. It also enhances their self esteem, in that they learn that it is okay when you don't know something. To help in such a situation this is a list of resources where you can go to find answers: (most of these texts are available in the WPC office)

- The Catechism of the Catholic Church
- The Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church
- The United States Catholic Catechism for Adults
- The Catholic Source Book
- The Catholic Youth Handbook
- Outlines of the Catholic Faith
- The Catholic Youth Bible
- A Bible Concordance

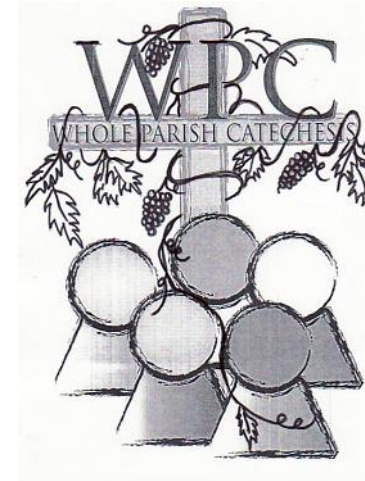
Online sources: There are many online sights for Catholic families. We have listed but a few below for you to investigate. Some are sights for adults to use as resources of information. Others are sights where parents can find faith related activities for children.

Adult Resource Websites:

- [www.](#) (WPC website will be listed here)
- www.diometuchen.org: click on Links and checkout all of the interesting sites listed there
- www.catholicapologetics.org: what does the Roman Catholic Church teach about and why
- www.newadvent.org: good source of Catholic Links
- www.catholicmom.com: Celebrating Catholic Motherhood: great parental support site
- www.sacredspace.ie: Source of daily meditations, readings and prayers
- www.recongress.org/resources/linksh.htm#Fun: A list of Catholic resources online
- www.recongress.org/resources/games.html: A list and review of Catholic computer games for kids
- www.zenit.com: Vatican website
- www.catholictradition.org: prayers, chaplets, novenas, images

Catholic Websites for Children's Activities:

- www.cptryon.org/prayer/child/sign.html: site where children learn to pray
- www.sacredspace.ie: At the bottom of the home page click on the kid link: Daily bible story activities for kids along with prayers.
- www.catholicmoms.com: also a source for faith related activities for kids
- www.sadlier.com/sacraments/: great home activities : surf the site for other links for activities for children
- www.webelieve.web.com/home_proclaiming_faith.cfm: activities and discussions on the Liturgy
- www.mhschool.com/benziger/activity/index.html: more faith related activities for kids
- www.rclweb.com: surf the sight to find many links for activities
- www.faithfirst.com: again, surf the sight to find many links for activities



Saint Patrick's Church Whole Parish Catechesis

FaithWork Handbook

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FaithWork Handbook

All of us, having been students and now raising children who are students, are well versed in how to successfully complete homework. As a result we automatically hear the word "homework" and we fall into the "homework" routine. This handbook is designed to differentiate between homework and the work assigned at WPC. From now on we will call the WPC assignments FaithWork. The reason for this special title is because we need to think of FaithWork in a new way. Faithwork must be addressed differently than homework.

- When learners are assigned homework, it is almost always a review of what has been taught in the classroom and sometimes it is a preview of what is to be discussed in class. This is not so with FaithWork. FaithWork is an assignment that involves information that has not been previously taught. These assignments are meant to expand the content material being taught. This is necessary because we meet only every other week. FaithWork is new material to be covered in the weeks that WPC does not meet. It is new information. Therefore, as parents, you are the instructor responsible for teaching the material and making sure that mastery has occurred. As a result, we can't just say, "Go and do your work and I'll check it when you are done". That's what works well with homework but not so with FaithWork. Adults need to stay with the learners and guide and assist them through the task at hand. There needs to be dialogue about and during the assigned work. With that in mind, we are going to provide some tips that will help to make your task easier and perhaps improve your child's understanding of the material.

Time and Environment

Set up a specific time when FaithWork will be done.

In the interim week of WPC you should address FaithWork on the same evening that you meet for WPC and at the same time. For example, if you meet for WPC on a Monday evening at 6:00 then you should plan to do FaithWork on Monday evening at 6:00. Be sure not to schedule any other activity for that time. Think of it as always having Religious Education on Mondays at 6 no matter what.

Set a time limit for FaithWork.

Taking into consideration your child's age, do not continue working longer than their attention span allows. If this is not a sufficient

amount of time to complete the assignment then you should revisit the assignment again during the course of the week.

Spending time on the material more than once a week, is preferable for attaining mastery.

Find the right place for working on FaithWork.

Designate a place in your home where you will always address the FaithWork. You know best where you can accommodate all of the learners where there is plenty of room to work and you can have access to anyone who needs your assistance. Be sure to use this place each time you sit down to do FaithWork.

Be sure that the atmosphere is conducive to praying and learning.

The environment should be peaceful, allowing for both prayer and learning.

FaithWork Routine and Ritual

Keep to a routine.

Be sure to keep the routine established above. The more you stick to the routine, it will become a habit and easier to affect each week.

Set up a ritual for FaithWork.

Just as WPC follows the same ritual each week, FaithWork should have its own ritual. Here is a recommended sample:

- Begin with a prayer (a good way to practice prayers).
- Break Open the Word—use question of the week to faith share.
- Discuss the topic of the chapter to discover what information is already known.
- Read the chapter together, stopping to ask questions and opinions to be sure everyone understands what is being read. Supply background information when possible.
- Let the learner answer the written work and then go over it together. Assist in going back to look for correct answers when the child answers incorrectly.
- When the work is finished or the session is finished for the evening, end with a prayer. Let everyone name special intentions when praying the closing prayer. (Let the student make up an impromptu prayer to practice dialoguing with the Lord.)

Use Other Resources

- Often, when going over material we find ourselves forgetting what we once knew or coming upon things we never knew. It is always okay to tell our children that we don't know an answer or can't explain something. What is appropriate is to search for answers together. This lets children know that no one is perfect and that we are always

