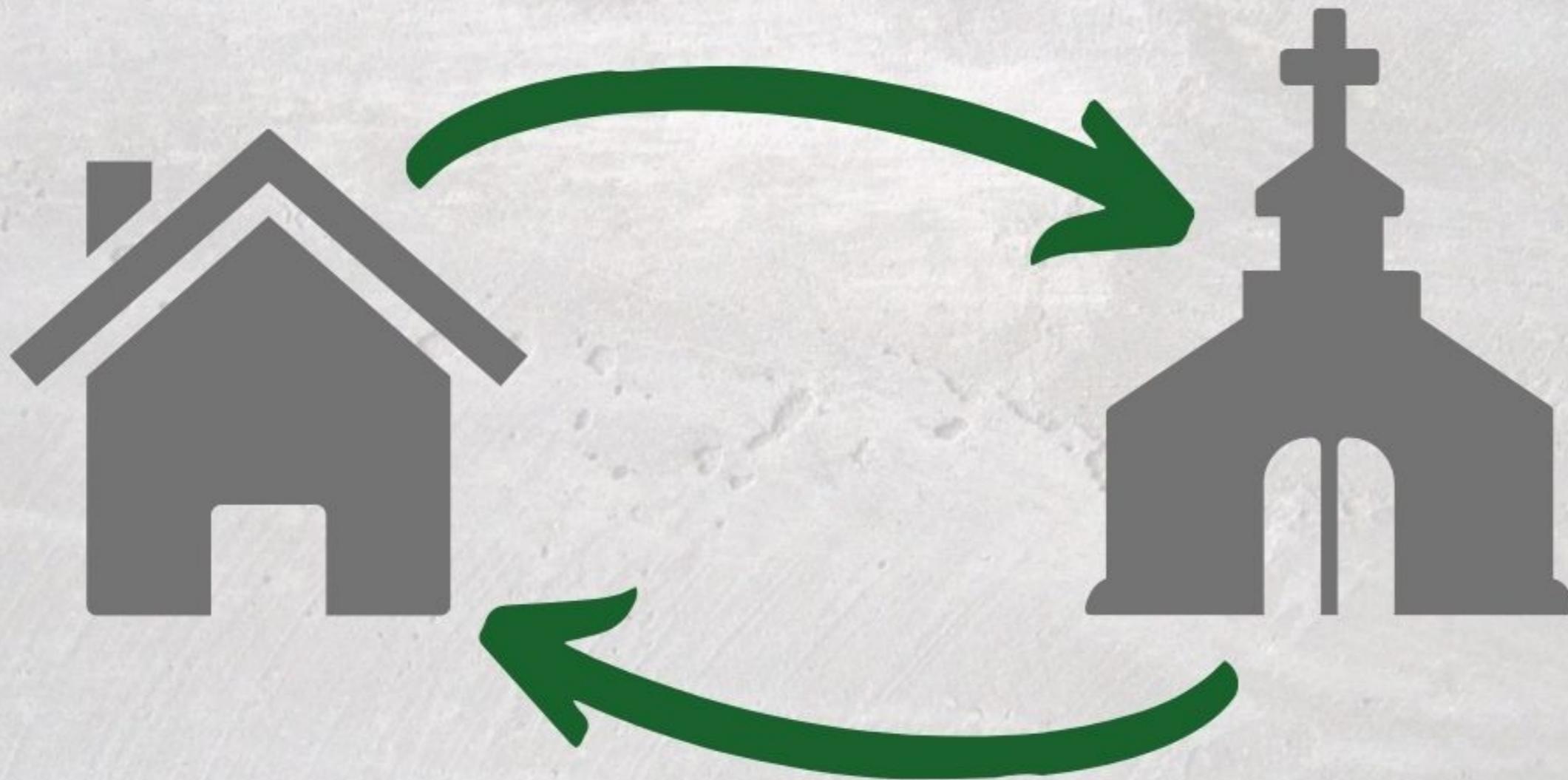


2020 Edition



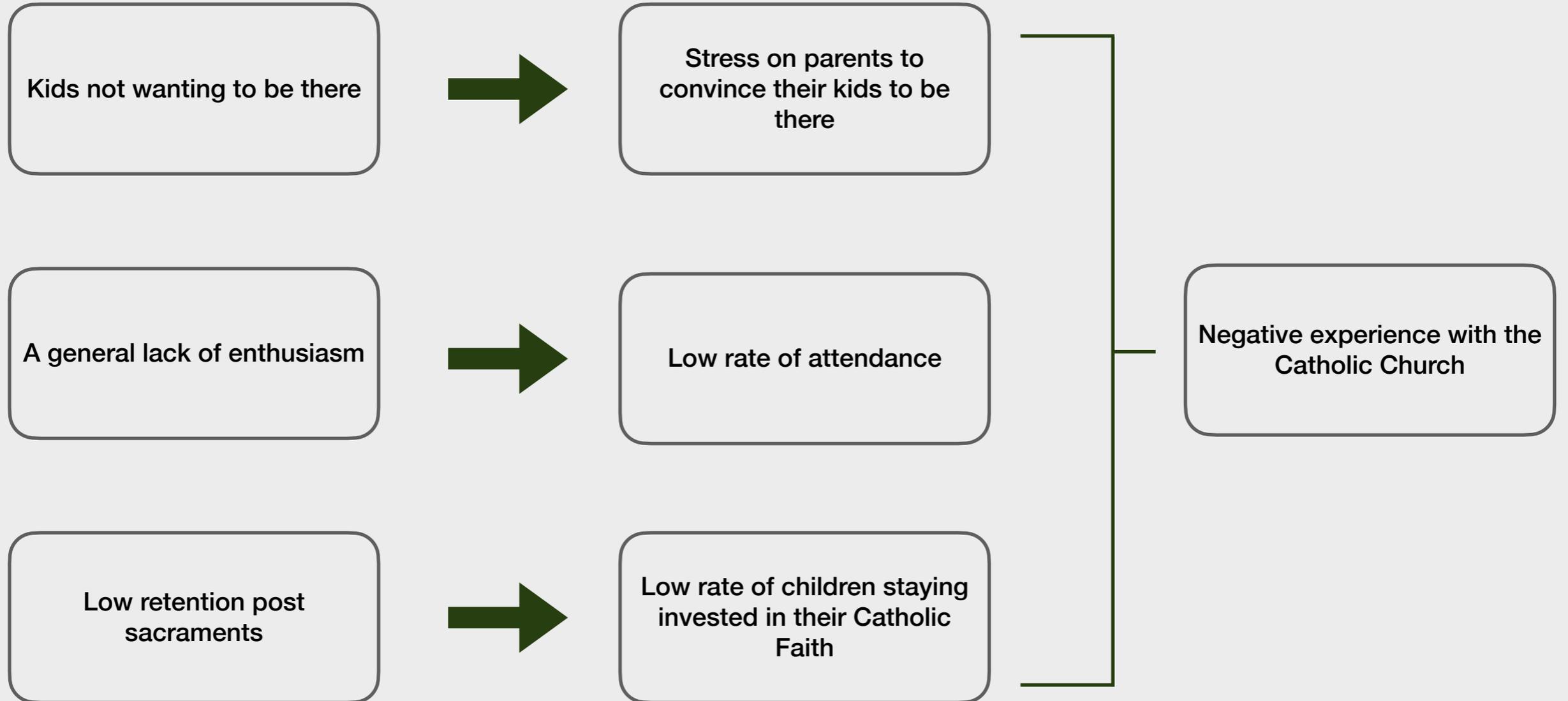
Family of Faith

Saint Michael Family Faith Formation

Section 01

HISTORY

FALL 2017: Full Classroom Model



Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs

In order for children to get to a place of learning, we needed to start with trust and relationship building. This began the transition out of the classroom model to the discussion based learning model, which eventually transitioned us to where we are today with the family-based model.

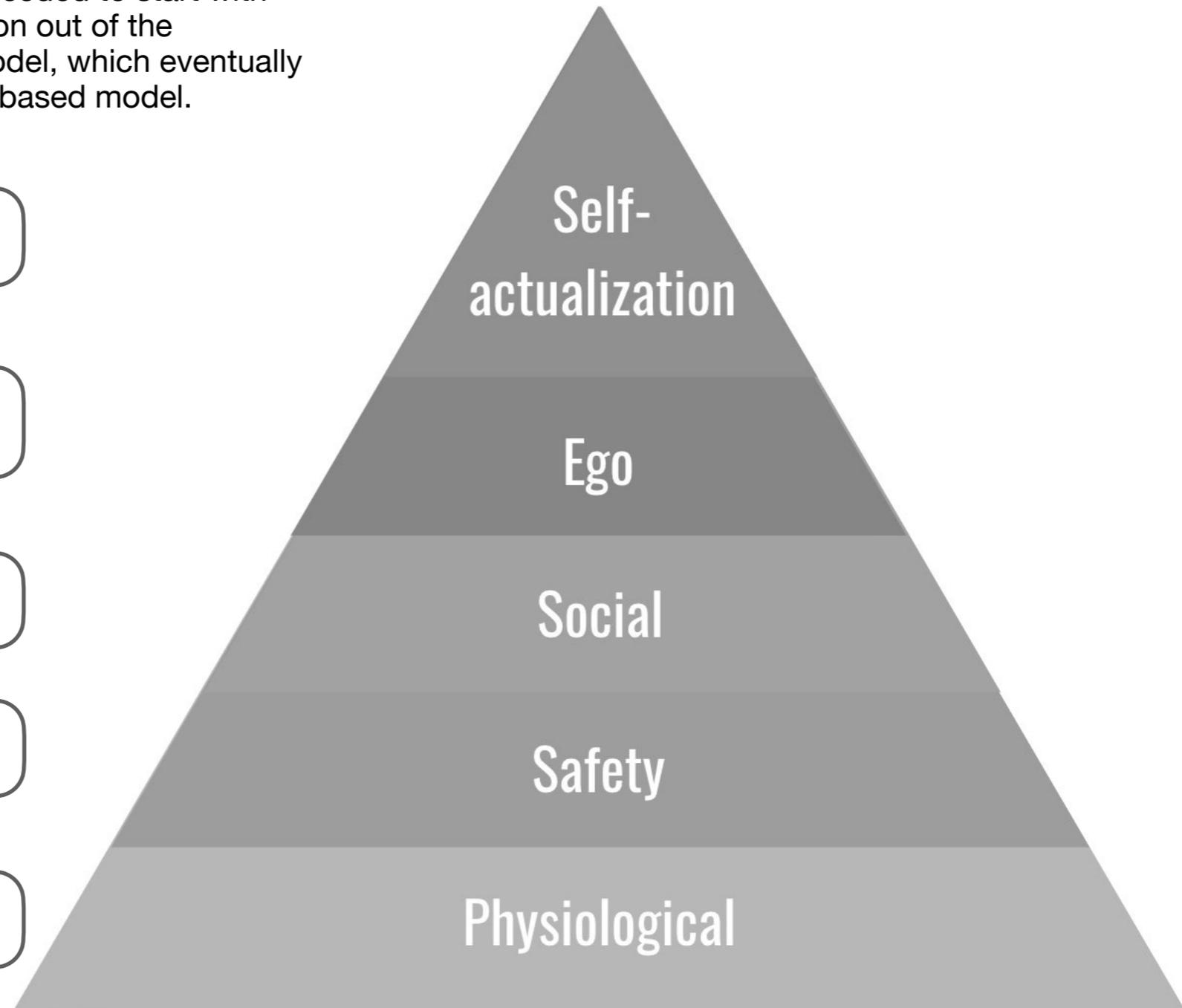
Student is available to learn

Positive Classroom Culture Present (Positive feedback and time for reflection, encouragement to take risks)

Forming Relationships
(Adult role models and peer friendships)

Emotional and Physical Safety
(clear routines and rules)

Basic needs are met



Spring 2018: Beginning of Discussion-based group learning

Our starting place for our transition out of classroom based learning was middle school because the age children decide if they want to be a practicing Catholic is **13** years old.

To begin the transition out of the classroom-based learning, we started small scale with once a month discussion-based learning with 6th-8th grade. We took them out of the classroom for community time, a faith content talk, discussion groups, and activations on how to live their faith in their middle school lives.

Fall 2018- Spring 2019: Summit Launched for 6th/7th grade

Summit was our 6th/7th grade program that took our students completely out of a classroom for their entire year. It mimicked the discussion-based learning from semester before with community time, a faith content talk, discussion groups, and activations on how to live their faith in their middle school lives. The goal of this program was to begin to break down the negative stigma many of the middle schoolers had about the Catholic Church and give them a place to start building community around a faith-based organization. We prioritized community time and discussion groups for students to begin to find a place of belonging in the Church. The result of the model was we were beginning to have middle school students who wanted to come to class and a community was beginning to be built.

Our finding from our previous year was that it wasn't only middle schoolers who felt unenthusiastic about class, but even our little children too. We recognized that if we didn't want to spend most of our time rebuilding relationship with our middle schoolers, then we needed to fundamentally change the way that we teach the faith starting from Kindergarten.

Fall 2019: Family Catechesis Model

While doing our research on other options for faith formation models, we found multiple church documents that stated the importance of family-based faith formation models that didn't simply say that families were important but depended upon the reality of families living and teaching the faith in their homes. From there, family catechesis nights were created. The Family Catechesis Night model brought families together once a month through a talk on a faith-based series, which was delivered in different breakout sessions to teach the content at age-appropriate levels, and then brought the family together for a faith experience through prayer and reflection during Eucharistic Adoration. The remainder of the month, all students were learning more detailed content based on the month's overarching topic. Our middle schoolers remained in a community discussion-based learning model throughout that time. This past year was a transition year to the full family-based model that we are launching this year.

02

VISION

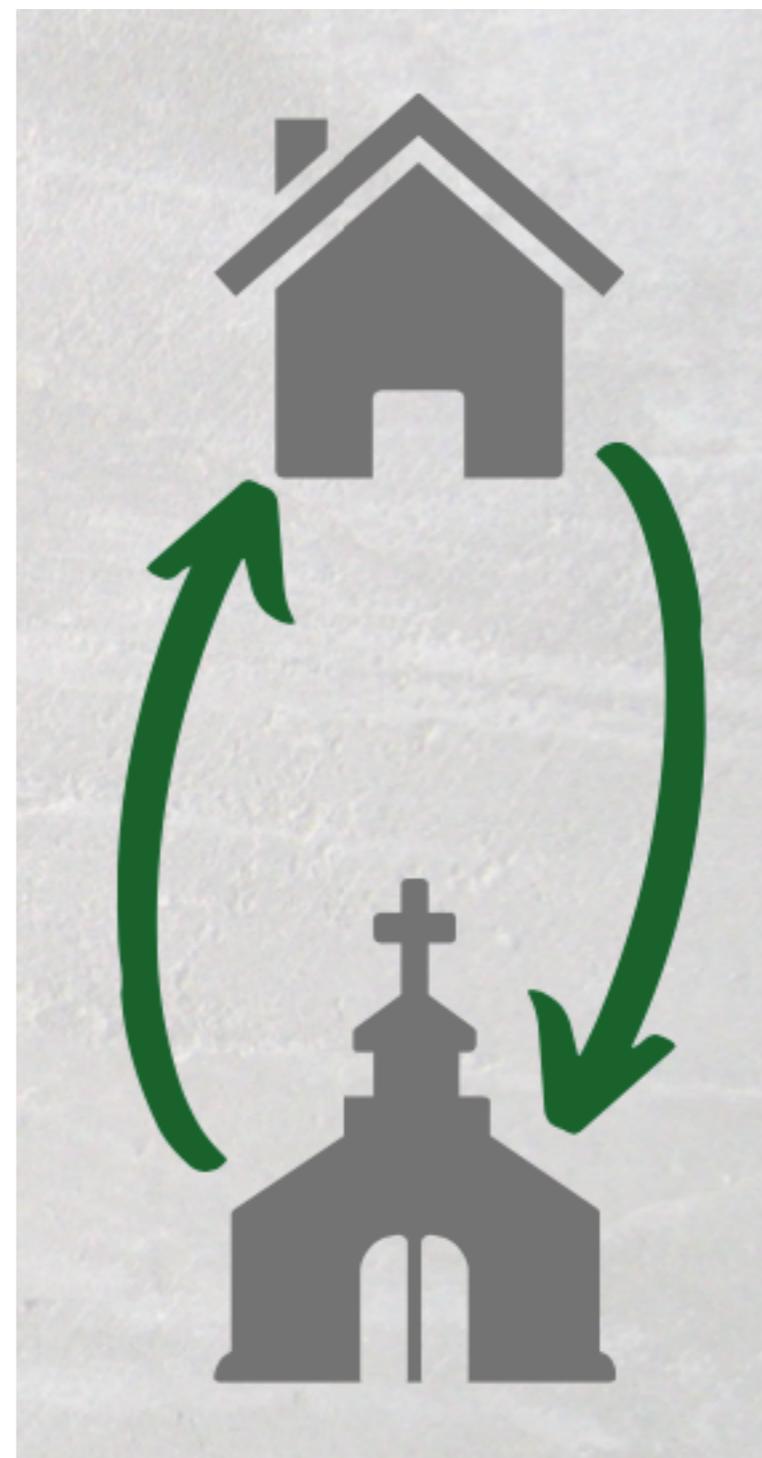
Family Faith Formation Model

This year, we are excited to announce our full transition into our family faith formation model. This model is recommended by St. John Paul II in his apostolic letter, *Catechesis Tradendae*.

“Family catechesis therefore precedes, accompanies and enriches all other forms of catechesis...Thus, there cannot be too great an effort on the part of Christian parents to prepare for this ministry of being their own children's catechists and to carry it out with tireless zeal.”
—Pope Saint John Paul II, *Catechesi Tradendae*

The family faith formation model is also supported through research. Pew Research Forum has stated that 80% of kids who grew up in a home that regularly practice the faith and talked about faith in the home remained Catholic into adulthood. It's not enough to just go through the motions to keep a child in the faith. Faith needs to be discussed in the home! Family faith formation models prepare and equip parents with activities, questions, and more to do that. Faith no longer becomes something children experience in a church and a classroom for two hours a week, but rather a lifestyle and lens from which they view their everyday life.

“The role of parents in education is of such importance that it is almost impossible to provide an adequate substitute...Through the grace of the sacrament of marriage, parents receive the responsibility and privilege of evangelizing their children...Education in the faith by the parents should begin in the child's earliest years.”
—Catechism of the Catholic Church 2221, 2225, 2226



03

LOGISTICS

Family of Faith

One parent catechesis session is held once a month, to help parents know their faith more deeply. Both parents are encouraged to attend—one is necessary.

Two home-lessons that are completed each month with activities to help integrate the faith into your family's life.

Four activities are required (two per lesson with the storybook activity being required as 1 of the 4 each month).

Two reflection forms (one per lesson) for the family to complete on google forms each month.

One phone call from the Catechesis and Evangelization Team per month to check in, support, and encourage your family.

Upcoming after COVID:

One monthly Family Fellowship meeting is held for the whole family to help us know, love, and serve one another here at our parish.



A FAMILY OF FAITH

*Family Catechesis
for Our Parish*

Parent Guide Orientation

Monthly Overview

Explains what your family will learn this month, questions your family will explore during this month, words your children should know at the end of each month, concepts, a Scripture verse and references to the *Catechism*.

“Your Catholic Home”

Gives you one easy way to bring the Faith into your home

Lesson Overview

Lists out the activities to choose from, alongside recommended age levels and times

Lesson Icons

Each activity has an icon to denote what type of activity it is.

Scissors: Activities based on creative activities/crafts

Trees: Activities that take the family outside

Blue Bible: Activities based on Scripture

Apple: Activities based on direct instruction

Family: Activities based on family discussion

Purple Book: Required family storybook activity

Parent Guide Orientation

Storybook Activity

At each adult meeting, you will learn about key parts of the Catholic Faith. One of these is that each and every person and each and every family is absolutely a part of God's marvelous plan. We will be learning this year about events that took place thousands of years ago. But the story of Salvation History that we will study is not just in the past. It continues to take place in our lives in a deeply personal way.

In the beginning, God created the universe out of nothing and God continues to create throughout all ages each and every time a human person is conceived. God determined to create you! You were created His image and likeness. As God spoke to our fathers in faith and showed them His plan of salvation, God still speaks to you and calls you to become part of the story of His saving love. The story of faith that we will study this year is indeed our story as well. These are not distant truths to be memorized but rather life giving truths to be lived each day. God has called us each by name this is the story of salvation history. This is the story of salvation history. This is our story!

Throughout the year, the activities we will work on will all go into your storybook (scrapbook).

Saint of the Month

Tells the story of saints whose feast days we celebrate throughout the year. Saints are wonderful models of holiness and we can ask them to pray for us

Wrap-up Summary

Summarizes the main ideas in each month's lessons is provided and some space to reflect on how your family is learning

COVID-19 Protocol

Please wear a mask at all times

Wash your hands frequently

Observe social distancing out of extreme charity for the other

Stay home if you are ill or experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19

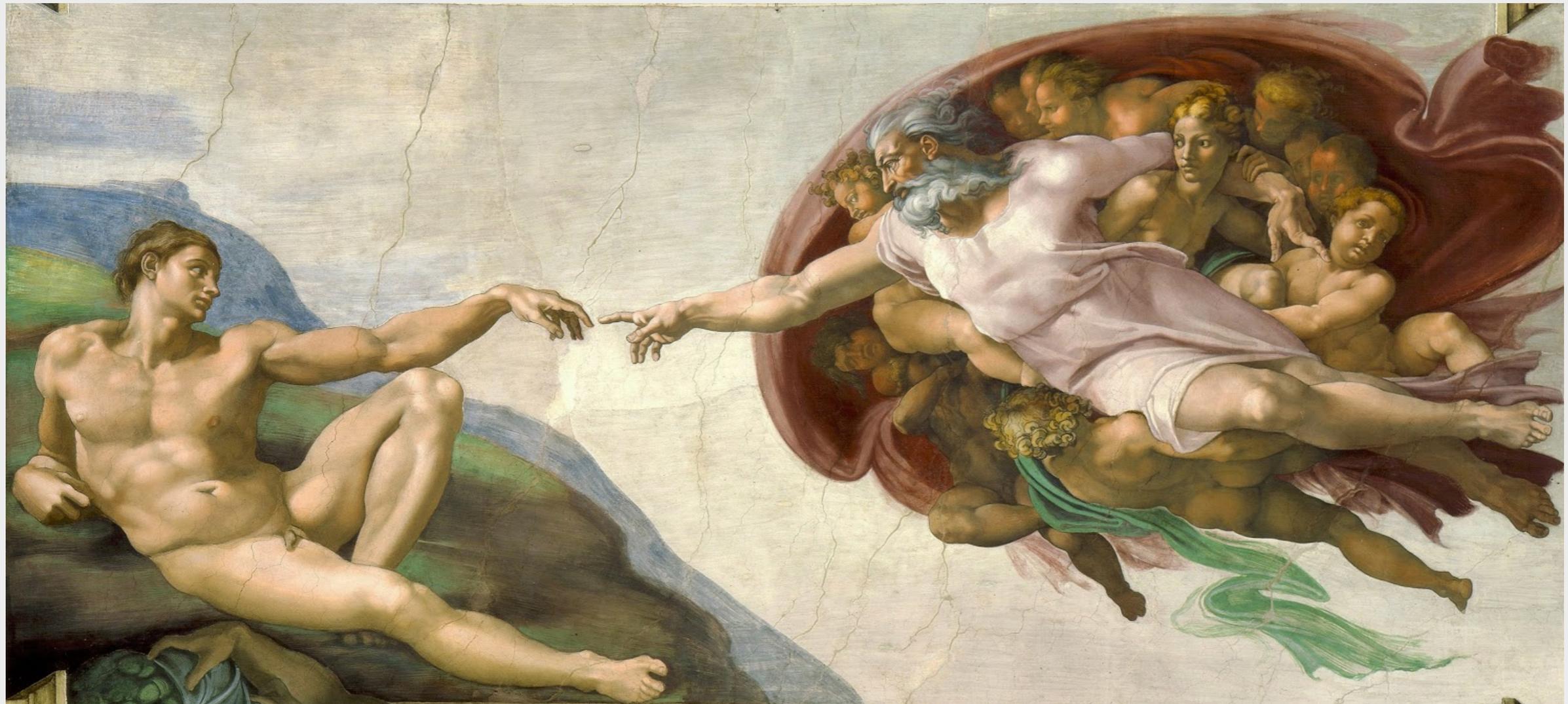
The best way to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic is to adhere to basic health directives, wear a mask, wash your hands, practice smart social distancing, and continue to support those assisting the most vulnerable (the elderly, the poor, the isolated).

-Diocese of Columbus Website 10/2/2020 <https://columbuscatholic.org/coronavirus-response>

04

OCTOBER CONTENT

Reason, Revelation and Faith



Reason

Unlike any other creatures, human beings are made in the image of God.

This means we are created with _____, _____, and the capacity to _____.

Revelation

To know who God is, we need _____.

God reveals himself directly to the human race.

Revelation begins with the Old Testament patriarchs and prophets. God fully reveals himself in _____.

The central mystery to our faith is _____.

God is ____ God in _____ divine persons, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

The Trinity answers the questions of:

- Who is God?
- What kind of relationship does He invite us to?
- Where does everything come from?
- What is the purpose of life?

Faith

Entering into relationship with God

By merit of your _____ you have the theological virtue of faith.

Faith is:

- gift from God
- Necessary for salvation and requires that we follow God's commandments
- Summarized in the Apostles' Creed

Prayer: The Sign of the Cross



Prayer: The Sign of the Cross

Words *and* Actions call to mind two essential mysteries:

_____ and _____

Ex opere operato VS ex opere operantis

Practical Ways to incorporate The Sign of the Cross into your daily routine:

- Sign of the Cross when driving past a Catholic Church
- Kiss the family crucifix
- Gaze upon the crucifix for one minute

05

MEET THE TEAM

05 MEET THE TEAM



Maggie Maurer graduated from The Ohio State University in 2018 with a Bachelors of Science in Athletic Training. She is currently in her last year of Franciscan University of Steubenville's Masters Degree Program specializing in Catechetics and Evangelization. After encountering the love of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist she decided to live her life on a mission to share that love! That led her to St. Michael's where she has worked for the past three years as our Director of Catechesis. Maggie got married in April of 2019 to her wonderful husband, Isaac.



Katie Roden is in her fourth year at St. Michael's. She graduated from The Ohio State University in 2017 with a Bachelors of Science in Middle Childhood Education. As our Director of Evangelization, Katie has a passion for outreach and bringing all souls to Christ. She is engaged to be married this upcoming May. Please pray for her and her fiancé, Matthew!



David Szolosi is in his third year at St. Michael's serving as our Youth Ministry Coordinator. He graduated from The Ohio State University in 2019 with a Bachelor's Degree in International Studies. He found his passion for our youth while serving as a camp counselor at Catholic Youth Summer Camp for the past three summers. He leads our High School Youth Group every Sunday night at the parish. All high school students are welcome!