

Managing the High School Curriculum Change

Introduction

Introducing an entirely new curriculum is a large undertaking but it can be successfully done by breaking the large project into smaller manageable sections.

The 6 Steps to Success

Get the “Big” Picture	Be sure to read the entire implementation document
Assemble Materials	Register at CMD and purchase CFH books
Discuss & Question	Attend regional meetings or scheduled webcasts
Adjust for Parish Needs	Adjust calendars to meet local requirements
Prepare the Catechists	Give catechists time to review and prepare
Inform the Community	Inform parents and the larger community



Continue

See details for each step below.

Get the "Big" Picture

- **View the Curriculum Overview video** on the Diocese of Erie YouTube Channel:
<http://youtu.be/byxD16AGERI> (copy to your browser)
- **Read "Implementing the US Bishops' Doctrinal Framework for High School Catechesis Adapted for Parishes"** document which outlines the entire process for our Diocese
http://www.eriercd.org/re_curriculum.htm
see "High School Curriculum for Parishes"
- **Diocesan Yearly Curriculum Plans:** Print and copy the 9th, 10th and 11th grade calendars as needed from the webpage noted above
- **Review materials and options with the pastor**

Assemble Materials

- **Enroll yearly with Center for Ministry Development**
 - Enter "Center for Ministry Development" in your search engine.
 - Look for "Youth Ministry Access" or the "Store" to subscribe.
 - "Sr. High Edition" is required - others are your choice
- **Review materials online:** Decide to either download materials directly from CMD or purchase the Binder from the Religious Education Department
- **Download Lessons or Purchase Binder** - form is available on the webpage noted above
- **Order *Catholic Faith Handbook for Youth*** (Third Edition) from St. Marys Press for high school catechists and for each high school student. <http://www.smp.org>
Note: Students use this book all three years.

**NOTE
IMPORTANT DATES**

Discuss & Question

- **Regional Gatherings of RE Leaders** will describe the new HS Curriculum in February
- **A webcast explaining the High School Curriculum** will take place Thur. February 27th at 7pm or Saturday March 1st at 9:30am
 - Invite your pastor and catechists to attend the webcast
 - Join the webcast with a group of religious education leaders or attend at your own computer
- **Take a "Tour" of the CMD website hosted by CMD.** March 12th at 1pm Eastern time; March 20th at 7pm Eastern time or March 22nd at 11am Eastern time. To register for your choice of session please email dee@cmdnet.org. There is a limit of 25 per session so sign up early to assure your spot.

Adjust for Parish Needs

- **Incorporate parish traditions** into the diocesan plan for each HS year
 - Consider your existing opportunities for
 - **worship**
 - **service**
 - **and community**
- **Lesson scheduling is flexible** in order to allow for parish traditions and celebrations
 - **Please Note:** To say that lessons are flexible is not the same as saying they are expendable. These lessons have been carefully chosen to meet the requirements of the US Bishops' Framework so take care that important concepts are not lost.

Prepare Catechists

- **Meet with high school catechists**
 - Inform them about the new curriculum
 - Review sample of lesson plans with them
 - Review the calendar and inform them how adjustments for parish events will be handled
- **Train them to adjust each lesson to meet their time requirements**
 - Review *Catholic Faith Handbook for Youth* with them so they understand that its role is as a supplement to the CMD lessons

Inform the Community

- **Notify parents of the new curriculum**
 - Host a Parent Meeting
 - At the very least send a letter home
- **Notify the parish community** through bulletin inserts or announcements