

I. Philosophy of Faith Formation

Articulate your Philosophy of Faith Formation within the context of your current role in approximately 500 words. Consider the following questions as you prepare. You do not need to respond to each individual question but should use these questions as a starting point or guide as you begin to articulate your Philosophy of Faith Formation.

What is faith formation? How were you formed in the Catholic faith? What was most memorable/effective in your experience? What was least effective in your experience? What value does faith formation have in building God's Kingdom? Who is responsible for faith formation? What role does faith formation play in the life of the individual? of the Church? What is the relationship between academic theology and faith formation? between catechesis and evangelization? In what ways is faith formation experienced in the parish? Who does the parish have a responsibility to form? What contributes to "effective" faith formation? How do the identity, background, and culture of the individuals and the community affect the process of faith formation? How do the identity, background, and culture of the catechist affect the process of faith formation?

II. Goals and Strategies

Identify and explain two professional goals that address the following areas: 1) a way that you hope to grow in your own professional development, and 2) a way you hope to enhance or improve one of your ministries, programs, or events. You are welcome to identify more than two goals, but remember to be realistic!

- 1. State your goal.** Consider the ways in which you'd like to develop as a professional this year and the needs of your ministry.
- 2. Name the standard or competency associated with this goal.** Professional goals should be based on professional standards or competencies for your catechetical apostolate (e.g. *National Certification Standards for Lay Ecclesial Ministers**).
- 3. Explain your rationale for choosing this goal.** In what ways will accomplishing your goal help you to grow as a professional? How does your goal meet a need within your parish?
- 4. List the specific strategies that you will engage in order to accomplish this goal.** Describe the clear, measurable, attainable steps that will allow you to meet your goal.
- 5. Identify resources.** What Church documents, websites, articles, books, and people will serve as resources for you as you work to achieve this goal?

III. Accountability

- 1. How will you be held accountable for the completion of your goals?** Consider sharing your goals with your supervisor or a mentor.
- 2. Specify when you will meet to review your progress.** We recommend meeting at least mid-year and at the end of the year, but you may find it helpful to meet more regularly throughout the year.
- 3. In what ways do you anticipate needing additional support to accomplish your goals?**