Raising Up 6th-12th Grade Missionary Disciples

"In order to achieve its goals, catechesis pursues several interconnected tasks that are inspired by the way in which Jesus formed his disciples: he got them to know the mysteries of the Kingdom, taught them to pray, proposed to them gospel values, initiated them into the life of communion with him and among themselves and into mission… The faith, in fact, demands to be known, celebrated, lived, and turned into prayer."
—Directory for Catechesis, n. 79

For catechesis to be transformational, the whole person—heart, mind and senses—must be brought to a true encounter with the person of Jesus Christ (cf. *Directory for Catechesis*, n. 76). The path that leads to this encounter is guided by what the Church calls the "tasks of catechesis," which are directly inspired by the way in which Jesus formed his own disciples. In brief, these tasks consist of: leading to knowledge of the faith, initiating into the celebration of the Christian Mystery, forming for life in Christ, teaching prayer, and introducing people into community life and mission (cf. *Directory for Catechesis*, n. 79-89).

Although there is always room for improvement in both what is offered and how we make the most of what is available, we are very blessed in the Diocese of Evansville to have a variety of opportunities for our middle school and high school youth to encounter Christ, to deepen in their relationship with him and with their Catholic faith and to engage intentionally as witnesses and missionary disciples within their communities.

Below is a list of opportunities currently available to the 6th-12th grade youth of our diocese. While the list is not exhaustive, it does provide a fairly comprehensive overview.* Each item is followed by the task(s) of catechesis that it primarily focuses on. These tasks are abbreviated as follows:

- Knowing and Proclaiming Our Faith (KP)
- Sacramental Life (SL)
- Life in Christ (LC)
- Christian Prayer (CP)

If we are to be intentional about evangelizing catechesis, we must seek a shift from *maintenance* to *mission*. Otherwise, many of our youth may be at best "sacramentalized," but not necessarily evangelized. It is not so much a question of new programs, but rather about how we help our youth to encounter Christ and in turn equip and empower them to take greater ownership of and to assume more active roles in sharing their faith with others. The sooner and younger we do that, the better.

*In terms of parish programs, please see the list of *Preferred Resources for Diocesan Catechesis* (www.evdio.org/resources2.html).

6th Grade

Ordinary Religious Education/Youth Ministry Opportunities

• Rote Prayers / • Eucharistic Adoration / • Sacrament of Reconciliation • Examination of Conscience / • Moderated Discussions of Ethical Topics / • Service Projects facilitating the Works of Mercy / • Participation in Eucharistic Processions • Stations of the Cross / • Divine Mercy Chaplet / • The Rosary / • Lectio Divina / • Liturgy of the Hours / • Bible Study / • Weekday Mass / • Spiritual Communion Prayer / • Reverent Use of Sacramentals / • Celebration of the Liturgical Calendar / • Engaging with Liturgical Music / • Liturgical Ministries Training / • Grade-Level Specific Theology of the Body Supplements / • Volunteering / • Devotional Prayers / • Litanies / • Novenas

Extraordinary Opportunities outside the Parish

- Savio (13-18yo) (KP, LC, CP)
- Siena (13-18yo) (KP, LC, CP)

Retreats

- NET Retreats (KP, LC, CP)
- Holy Fire (annual) (SL, CP)
- Savio Father–Son Retreat (13-18yo) (LC, CP)
- Rock Your Faith, Dubois County (KP, LC, CP)

Summer Programs

- CYSC Camp Damascus, Centerburg, OH (SL, LC, CP)
- Camp Gaspar River, Bowling Green, KY (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- CYO Camp Rancho Framasa, Nashville, IN (LC, CP)

Mission Trips

- Summer Days of Service, Holy Redeemer Parish, Evansville, IN (SL, LC, CP)

7th Grade

Ordinary Religious Education/Youth Ministry Opportunities

• Rote Prayers / • Eucharistic Adoration / • Sacrament of Reconciliation • Examination of Conscience / • Moderated Discussions of Ethical Topics / • Service Projects facilitating the Works of Mercy / • Participation in Eucharistic Processions • Stations of the Cross / • Divine Mercy Chaplet / • The Rosary / • Lectio Divina / • Liturgy of the Hours / • Bible Study / • Weekday Mass / • Spiritual Communion Prayer / • Reverent Use of Sacramentals / • Celebration of the Liturgical Calendar / • Engaging with Liturgical Music / • Liturgical Ministries Training / • Grade-Level Specific Theology of the Body Supplements / • Volunteering / • Devotional Prayers / • Litanies / • Novenas

Extraordinary Opportunities outside the Parish

- Savio (13-18yo) (KP, LC, CP)
- Siena (13-18yo) (KP, LC, CP)

Retreats

- Source & Summit (13+) (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- NET Retreats (KP, LC, CP)
- Holy Fire (annual) (SL, CP)
- Savio Father–Son Retreat (13-18yo) (LC, CP)
- Rock Your Faith, Dubois County (KP, LC, CP)

Summer Programs

- CYSC Camp Damascus, Centerburg, OH (SL, LC, CP)
- Camp Gaspar River, Bowling Green, KY (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- CYO Camp Rancho Framasa, Nashville, IN (LC, CP)

Mission Trips

- Summer Days of Service, Holy Redeemer Parish, Evansville, IN (SL, LC, CP)

8th Grade

Ordinary Religious Education/Youth Ministry Opportunities

• Rote Prayers / • Eucharistic Adoration / • Sacrament of Reconciliation • Examination of Conscience / • Moderated Discussions of Ethical Topics / • Service Projects facilitating the Works of Mercy / • Participation in Eucharistic Processions • Stations of the Cross / • Divine Mercy Chaplet / • The Rosary / • Lectio Divina / • Liturgy of the Hours / • Bible Study / • Weekday Mass / • Spiritual Communion Prayer / • Reverent Use of Sacramentals / • Celebration of the Liturgical Calendar / • Engaging with Liturgical Music / • Liturgical Ministries Training / • Grade-Level Specific Theology of the Body Supplements / • Volunteering / • Devotional Prayers / • Litanies / • Novenas

Extraordinary Opportunities outside the Parish

- Savio (13-18yo) (KP, LC, CP)
- Siena (13-18yo) (KP, LC, CP)

Retreats

- Source & Summit (13+) (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- NET Retreats (KP, LC, CP)
- Holy Fire (annual) (SL, CP)
- Savio Father–Son Retreat (13-18yo) (LC, CP)
- Rock Your Faith, Dubois County (KP, LC, CP)

Summer Programs

- CYSC Camp Damascus, Centerburg, OH (SL, LC, CP)
- Camp Gaspar River, Bowling Green, KY (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- CYO Camp Rancho Framasa, Nashville, IN (LC, CP)

Mission Trips

- Summer Days of Service, Holy Redeemer Parish, Evansville, IN (SL, LC, CP)
- Days of Service, St Isidore Parish, Celestine, IN (KP, SL, LC, CP)

9th Grade

Ordinary Religious Education/Youth Ministry Opportunities

• Rote Prayers / • Eucharistic Adoration / • Sacrament of Reconciliation • Examination of Conscience / • Moderated Discussions of Ethical Topics / • Service Projects facilitating the Works of Mercy / • Participation in Eucharistic Processions • Stations of the Cross / • Divine Mercy Chaplet / • The Rosary / • Lectio Divina / • Liturgy of the Hours / • Bible Study / • Weekday Mass / • Spiritual Communion Prayer / • Reverent Use of Sacramentals / • Celebration of the Liturgical Calendar / • Engaging with Liturgical Music / • Liturgical Ministries Training / • Grade-Level Specific Theology of the Body Supplements / • Volunteering / • Devotional Prayers / • Litanies / • Novenas

Extraordinary Opportunities outside the Parish

- Savio (13-18yo) (KP, LC, CP)
- Siena (13-18yo) (KP, LC, CP)

Catholic High School Opportunities

• Bible Studies / • Divine Mercy Chaplet / • Adoration / • Confession / • Mass

Retreats

- Source & Summit (13+) (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- NET Retreats (KP, LC, CP)
- NCYC (every 2 years) (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- Savio Father–Son Retreat (13-18yo) (LC, CP)
- High School Class Retreats (KP, LC, CP)

Summer Programs

- CYSC Camp Damascus, Centerburg, OH (SL, LC, CP)
- Camp Gaspar River, Bowling Green, KY (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- CYO Camp Rancho Framasa, Nashville, IN (LC, CP)
- Steubenville Youth Conferences (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- Notre Dame Vision (KP, SL, CP)
- Diocesan Youth Day (KP, SL, LC)

Mission Trips

- Days of Service, St Isidore Parish, Celestine, IN (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- Mission Evansville (every other year) (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- Catholic Heart Work Camp (LC, CP)
- Indiana State March for Life (LC, CP)

10th Grade

Ordinary Religious Education/Youth Ministry Opportunities

• Rote Prayers / • Eucharistic Adoration / • Sacrament of Reconciliation • Examination of Conscience / • Moderated Discussions of Ethical Topics / • Service Projects facilitating the Works of Mercy / • Participation in Eucharistic Processions • Stations of the Cross / • Divine Mercy Chaplet / • The Rosary / • Lectio Divina / • Liturgy of the Hours / • Bible Study / • Weekday Mass / • Spiritual Communion Prayer / • Reverent Use of Sacramentals / • Celebration of the Liturgical Calendar / • Engaging with Liturgical Music / • Liturgical Ministries Training / • Grade-Level Specific Theology of the Body Supplements / • Volunteering / • Devotional Prayers / • Litanies / • Novenas

Extraordinary Opportunities outside the Parish

- Savio (13-18yo) (KP, LC, CP)
- Siena (13-18yo) (KP, LC, CP)
- World Youth Day (every 2-4 years) (KP, SL, LC, CP)

Catholic High School Opportunities

- Bible Studies / • Divine Mercy Chaplet / • Adoration / • Confession / • Mass

Retreats

- Source & Summit (13+) (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- Teens Encounter Christ (16+) (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- One Bread One Cup Liturgical Conference, Saint Meinrad (16+) (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- NET Retreats (KP, LC, CP)
- NCYC (every 2 years) (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- Savio Father–Son Retreat (13-18yo) (LC, CP)
- High School Class Retreats (KP, LC, CP)

Summer Programs

- CYSC Camp Damascus, Centerburg, OH (SL, LC, CP)
- Camp Gaspar River, Bowling Green, KY (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- CYO Camp Rancho Framasa, Nashville, IN (LC, CP)
- Steubenville Youth Conferences (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- Missionary Disciples Institute, Marian University (KP, SL, CP)
- Notre Dame Vision (KP, SL, CP)
- Diocesan Youth Day (KP, SL, LC)

Mission Trips

- Days of Service, St Isidore Parish, Celestine, IN (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- Mission Evansville (every other year) (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- Catholic Heart Work Camp (LC, CP)
- Indiana State March for Life (LC, CP)

11th Grade

Ordinary Religious Education/Youth Ministry Opportunities

• Rote Prayers / • Eucharistic Adoration / • Sacrament of Reconciliation • Examination of Conscience / • Moderated Discussions of Ethical Topics / • Service Projects facilitating the Works of Mercy / • Participation in Eucharistic Processions • Stations of the Cross / • Divine Mercy Chaplet / • The Rosary / • Lectio Divina / • Liturgy of the Hours / • Bible Study / • Weekday Mass / • Spiritual Communion Prayer / • Reverent Use of Sacramentals / • Celebration of the Liturgical Calendar / • Engaging with Liturgical Music / • Liturgical Ministries Training / • Grade-Level Specific Theology of the Body Supplements / • Volunteering / • Devotional Prayers / • Litanies / • Novenas

Extraordinary Opportunities outside the Parish

- Savio (13-18yo) (KP, LC, CP)
- Siena (13-18yo) (KP, LC, CP)
- World Youth Day (every 2-4 years) (KP, SL, LC, CP)

Catholic High School Opportunities

- Bible Studies / • Divine Mercy Chaplet / • Adoration / • Confession / • Mass

Retreats

- Source & Summit (13+) (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- Teens Encounter Christ (16+) (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- One Bread One Cup Liturgical Conference, Saint Meinrad (16+) (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- NET Retreats (KP, LC, CP)
- NCYC (every 2 years) (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- Savio Father–Son Retreat (13-18yo) (LC, CP)
- High School Class Retreats (KP, LC, CP)

Summer Programs

- CYSC Camp Damascus, Centerburg, OH (SL, LC, CP)
- Camp Gaspar River, Bowling Green, KY (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- CYO Camp Rancho Framasa, Nashville, IN (LC, CP)
- Steubenville Youth Conferences (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- Missionary Disciples Institute, Marian University (KP, SL, CP)
- Notre Dame Vision (KP, SL, CP)
- Diocesan Youth Day (KP, SL, LC)

Mission Trips

- Days of Service, St Isidore Parish, Celestine, IN (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- Mission Evansville (every other year) (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- Catholic Heart Work Camp (LC, CP)
- Indiana State March for Life (LC, CP)

12th Grade

Ordinary Religious Education/Youth Ministry Opportunities

• Rote Prayers / • Eucharistic Adoration / • Sacrament of Reconciliation • Examination of Conscience / • Moderated Discussions of Ethical Topics / • Service Projects facilitating the Works of Mercy / • Participation in Eucharistic Processions • Stations of the Cross / • Divine Mercy Chaplet / • The Rosary / • Lectio Divina / • Liturgy of the Hours / • Bible Study / • Weekday Mass / • Spiritual Communion Prayer / • Reverent Use of Sacramentals / • Celebration of the Liturgical Calendar / • Engaging with Liturgical Music / • Liturgical Ministries Training / • Grade-Level Specific Theology of the Body Supplements / • Volunteering / • Devotional Prayers / • Litanies / • Novenas

Extraordinary Opportunities outside the Parish

- Savio (13-18yo) (KP, LC, CP)
- Siena (13-18yo) (KP, LC, CP)
- World Youth Day (every 2-4 years) (KP, SL, LC, CP)

***Catholic High School* Opportunities**

- Bible Studies / • Divine Mercy Chaplet / • Adoration / • Confession / • Mass

Retreats

- Source & Summit (13+) (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- Teens Encounter Christ (16+) (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- One Bread One Cup Liturgical Conference, Saint Meinrad (16+) (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- NET Retreats (KP, LC, CP)
- NCYC (every 2 years) (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- Savio Father–Son Retreat (13-18yo) (LC, CP)
- High School Class Retreats (KP, LC, CP)

Summer Programs

- CYSC Camp Damascus, Centerburg, OH (SL, LC, CP)
- Camp Gaspar River, Bowling Green, KY (KP, SL, LC, CP)
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- Steubenville Youth Conferences (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- Missionary Disciples Institute, Marian University (KP, SL, CP)
- Notre Dame Vision (KP, SL, CP)
- Diocesan Youth Day (KP, SL, LC)

Mission Trips

- Days of Service, St Isidore Parish, Celestine, IN (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- Mission Evansville (every other year) (KP, SL, LC, CP)
- Catholic Heart Work Camp (LC, CP)
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