

PROJECTED PROGRAM FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN THE AREA OF
SAULT STE. MARIE

OBJECTIVES - GOALS

- A. Religious education is for everyone. A truly living faith is vital and we must strive to communicate this vitality of belief to all whatever their age or circumstance maybe.

to teach people, in the ways best suited to their needs, the "wonderful works" that God in his love has done for sinful mankind throughout sacred history, above all in the life, death and resurrection of Christ, and to elicit their response of love and gratitude;

to teach them that all these "wonderful works" continue, represented in the liturgy and above all in the Mass, and how to take part in it intelligently, appreciatively and whole-heartedly, as the focus of their lives and work;

to teach them doctrinal formulations of what God has done, is doing and will do for mankind, and its implications, so that they can better understand and respond to his love.

to teach them to live their daily lives in obedience to God's love so that they may continue in communion with him and one another, and make their lives and actions such as will witness to God's love and be offered with Christ's offering at Mass.

to teach them how the saints have responded to God's love through the centuries of the Church's history in so many different ways, so as to inspire students to do the same in their own fashion

Present involvement - lay personnel trained to take over the program with a coordinator of the program initially responsible.

B. Geographic Area

Sault Ste. Marie, Bay Mills, Rudyard, Barbeau, Brinley

C. Parishes

Sault Ste. Marie
St. Mary (center)
St. Joseph
Nativity
St. Isaac Jogues
Newman Center

Rudyard-Barbeau
St. Joseph (R)
Holy Family (B)

Brinley
St. Francis Xavier

D. Personnel

Six Sisters acting in the capacity of coordinators for the various levels of the areas of concentration. Involvement will include some teaching as well as coordinating - principals, contact persons.

E. Areas of Concentration

- I. Pre-school to grade 12
- II. Adult
- III. Pastoral
 - A. High Rise
 - B. Long term sick (hospital)

F. Grade School

1. Pre-school through 8
2. Primary
3. Intermediate
4. Junior High

G. Basic Principles and Program (Christian Awareness)

I. Basic Principles

Today's high school students receive a sophisticated education and are greatly influenced by the communications media of our day. If the message of Jesus Christ is to reach them in a meaningful way, it needs to be spoken in such a way that the high school student will accept it as credible. The Church speaks to men in a language which they will understand, and this is true of all men of all ages.

For this reason religious education of the high school student is undergoing a thorough re-examination. Catechesis, or religious education, is meant to be a clarification of existence, the clarification which we have received Jesus Christ. If the religious education only considers existence without reference to the light of Jesus it is incomplete. If it speaks of the Good News of Jesus without reference to life situations it is also incomplete. It needs to speak to the students in a meaningful way of the meaning of their life and their relationship to the Father, Son and Spirit.

Considering the needs of the high school students of our diocese we realize that in different places in the diocese there are different needs and different stages of readiness for the newest catechetical methods. Therefore, knowing that our students have certain needs that have to be met in this area, we have chosen a program that we hope will help them to grow in the Christian life. A program that can be applied to their everyday living and also indentify with this living.

II. Program

Students meet twice a month

Monday:

Text: eg. Christian Awareness

1st

(Freshman - Christianity - The Person of Christ

Freshman - Sophomore

3rd

(Sophomore - Revelation - How Christ makes Himself known

(Junior - Social - Relationships

2nd

Junior - Senior

(Senior - Eschatology - Looking to the future - Hope

4th

Teachers meet weekly. Every other session is a teacher training session.

III. Program Enrichment - Living witness showing coorelation in real life situations.

A. Cultural - Encounters - Socials (group)

B. Spiritual - COR Week-ends - Twilight Retreats 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Christians on Retreat (40 limit) TEC

C. Apostolic - Volunteer opportunities for youth

H. Educational:

1. Teacher Training Areas

- a. General Principles of Catechetics
- b. Person-Revelation (Faith-Church)
- c. Adolescent Psychology
- d. Openness - group dynamics
- e. Morality
- f. Sacraments
- g. Old Testament
- h. New Testament
- i. Lesson planning organization (how to read a manual)

Teacher training will begin in March if possible and will continue through the end of September. Class will be held according to the availability of the teachers.

Student class will begin the first Monday of October in the respective parishes. These classes will be held from 7:00 to 8:30 P.M.

I. WHEN: Weekly (except December - 1st two weeks only)

WHERE: Alternate parishes - four or six weeks at a parish

TIME: Two hours 7-9
Coffee break 8:15
Discussion following - Continuation of topic

Tentative topics: An over-all introduction regarding the thinking today in the light of Vatican II.

Type of procedure: Inter-disciplinary (Lecture - Music) eg. (dialogue) - Lecture complete sometimes

OCTOBER: 4 weeks

Ecclessiology:

Church today
Liturgy
Liturgical music
New Morality

NOVEMBER: 4 weeks - December: 2 weeks

Salavation History

Scripture
New Testament
Christology

Present Social Issues

Contemporary