



Diocese of Buffalo

# Department of Lifelong Faith Formation

A member of the Division for Evangelization and Catechesis

## Curriculum Connections

Welcome back from Christmas break. With the beginning of a new calendar year, it becomes a good time to prepare for a new catechetical season.

You have had an opportunity to play a bit with the curriculum and determine what may be some first steps for you parish in implementing the four components of an effective faith formation process. Now is the time to gather your team, (or form one if you didn't have one already) and lay out a plan for the year ahead. Laying out a curriculum plan that connects with parish/liturgical/civil calendars is a good place to start.

Here is a sample match up of the 14 standards:

2018-2019	Standards
<b>September</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Labor Day</li> <li>• Back to School</li> <li>• Rosh Shoshana-Yom Kippur</li> <li>• Feast of Guardian Angels</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Catholic Social Teaching</li> <li>• Missionary Vocation</li> <li>• Inter-Religious Dialogue(Jewish)</li> <li>• Scripture/Catholic Church</li> </ul>
<b>October</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Month of Rosary</li> <li>• Respect Life Month</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prayer</li> <li>• Christian Living/Catholic Social Teaching</li> </ul>
<b>November</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Saints/All Souls</li> <li>• Election Day</li> <li>• Diwali</li> <li>• Thanksgiving</li> <li>• Advent</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creed/Catholic Church</li> <li>• Catholic Social Teaching/Catholic Principles &amp; Relation</li> <li>• Inter-Religious Dialogue(Hindu)</li> <li>• Prayer/Catholic Social Teaching</li> <li>• Creed/Scripture/Catholic Church</li> </ul>
<b>December</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Immaculate Conception</li> <li>• Chanukah</li> <li>• Christmas</li> <li>• Kwanzaa</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creed/Catholic Church</li> <li>• Inter-Religious Dialogue(Jewish)</li> <li>• Scripture/Creed</li> <li>• Catholic Principles &amp; Relationships</li> </ul>
<b>January</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Baptism of the Lord</li> <li>• Week of Prayer Christian Unity</li> <li>• Martin Luther King Jr. Day</li> <li>• Prayer for the Unborn</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sacraments(Baptism)/Vocation</li> <li>• Ecumenism/Prayer</li> <li>• Christian Living/Catholic Principles and Relationships</li> <li>• Christian Living</li> </ul>

<b>February</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• World Day of the Sick</li> <li>• World Marriage Day/Valentine's Day</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sacraments(Anointing of the Sick)/Prayer</li> <li>• Sacraments (Matrimony)/Vocation</li> </ul>
<b>March</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lent</li> <li>• Solemnity of St. Joseph</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prayer/Conscience/Sacraments(Penance)</li> <li>• Catholic Church/Scripture</li> </ul>
<b>April</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passover</li> <li>• Holy Week</li> <li>• Easter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inter-Religious Dialogue(Jewish)</li> <li>• Creed/Catholic Church/Liturgy/Sacraments(Eucharist)</li> <li>• Creed/Catholic Church/Liturgy/Sacraments(Initiation)</li> </ul>
<b>May</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mother's Day/Mary</li> <li>• Ramadan</li> <li>• Ascension/Pentecost</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Catholic Church</li> <li>• Inter-Religious Dialogue(Muslim)</li> <li>• Creed/Catholic Church/Sacraments(Confirmation)/Missionary Vocation</li> </ul>

Be sure to add in your parish events and see what a difference it can make when everyone is focused on the same themes in catechetical sessions and events; whether that means lining up textbooks chapters or creating formation sessions that involve families and the parish as a whole. These are just examples, not inclusive, there are many more opportunities.

**REMEMBER**, we are here to assist you and your team in laying out a plan that works for YOUR parish, so call or email! [mpoulin@buffalodiocese.org](mailto:mpoulin@buffalodiocese.org); 847-5514.

Maureen Poulin, January 2018