



2023

CATHOLIC PASSAGE

MISSION
AND
ASPIRATION



COME, HOLY SPIRIT



"You are the
first book your
children read.
Let them read
the Gospel."



Catholic Passage Exists For You...

God loves every man, woman, and child in existence. Each person is a gift from God and is called to freely give of her or himself to others. Jesus calls men and women to give of themselves in building up children for life here on earth and eternally in heaven. We believe that when men and women answer this call and let the Holy Spirit help them share their gifts with young people, lives are transformed. Catholic Passage shows parents and educators how to answer this call and live it with the confidence of Christ whose life they share through holy baptism. For as Christians, we each can say with St. Paul "...it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me..." (Galatians 2:20).

Catholic Passage supports parents and educators as they pass on the Catholic faith and way of life to their children and students. We offer collaborative mini retreats, presentations, and online digital media services to support and guide adults to be the good difference in the lives of the children around them.



**Scan or Click to tell us you are
interested!**



...In Your Local Community

There are many wonderful Catholic educational and informational resources geared for parents and educators. These resources are readily accessible online and are often free. What they may lack, Catholic Passage offers: the context of the local human community. While we might help educators or parents utilize these resources, we are personally and physically present to help parents and educators engage the topic at hand as well as their own growth in holiness. It is within the context of the local community that adults' specific needs and desires can be engaged, commitment strengthened, and living their faith supported.

Catholic Passage is founded on the belief that each baptized person can witness to the presence of Jesus through his or her life of discipleship. Therefore, Catholic Passage seeks to raise up and highlight the Catholic witness of the lay faithful in our local communities so they can "encourage one another and build up each other" (1 Thessalonians 5:11). By the lay faithful's witness of faith and life, they will pass on Christ to their children and children's children. For Christ is the passage to the Father's house and the fullness of divine life. He is the light of the world Catholic Passage desires to help parents and educators share.

"I am the door; if any one enters by me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. ... I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."

John 10:9-11





“The more Eucharist we receive, the more we will become like Jesus, so that on this earth we will have a foretaste of Heaven.”

Blessed Carlo Acutis

In-Person and Online For You

Catholic Passage guides and supports parents and educators by offering in-person mini retreats and seminars. Signing up to collaboratively host these opportunities in your local community is available at CatholicPassage.com (when launched). These retreats are simple, tailored to the needs and desires of the participants, as well as built upon Sacred Scripture, prayer, dialogue, and fellowship. While participants will receive practical ways they can pass on the Catholic faith and way of life to their children and students, the retreat is first an opportunity for them to be with God. Catholic Passage requires the written permission of the pastor to enter within his parish boundaries to assist in a private or public mini retreat. We do offer remote support for fostering faith events with your friends or family.

So that "They may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven," Catholic Passage extends the Catholic witness of the lay faithful across the digital platform (Mt 5:16). CatholicPassage.com highlights examples of local lay men and women living their Catholic faith in their work and family life. It also shares local teachers' efforts to pass on the Catholic way of life to their students.

CatholicPassage.com shows spiritual collaborators how they can pray for the lay faithful's passing on the faith to the next generation. Remaining in communion with the Holy Trinity and Jesus' Body, the Church, is the first step in any of our efforts. The sacramental life along with Eucharistic Adoration is the foundation for work of Catholic Passage.



Real People, Real Life, Online For You

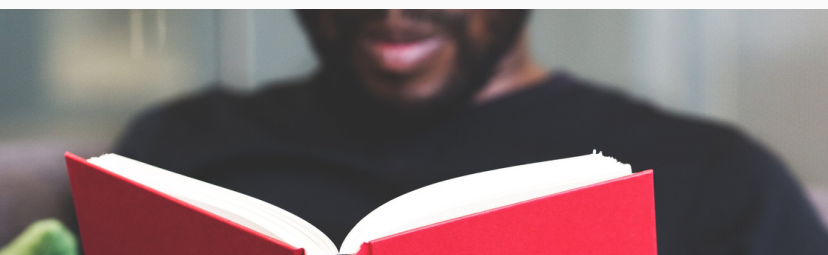
Teaching Together Video Series:

These short videos are meant to offer teachers, in any school setting, the opportunity to learn from one another. These video clips highlight practical ways teachers' Catholic worldview affects how they see themselves, their students, a particular subject area, how they teach, and why they teach. These videos are important because they highlight the work of the Holy Spirit through the faith-filled teachers in our communities.



Capturing Concepts for You:

These 3-12-minute audio tracks present reflections upon key concepts from helpful books that parents or educators might not have the time to read. The goal of Capturing Concepts for You is to highlight the good work of faith-filled authors, provide concepts that are helpful in parenting and education, and make the lay faithful aware of pertinent and meaningful Catholic books for future reading. At the end of each summary will be an invitation to learn more by reading the book itself.



A Podcast to Build Each Other Up:

On this weekly or fortnightly podcast, a member of a Catholic school community is interviewed about some practical examples of her or his school community advancing their Catholic mission. The member of the school community might be a teacher, administrator, educational aide, coach, committee-member, priest, etc. The purpose of this podcast is to highlight the good work happening in our schools, glorify God, and give schools the opportunity to build one another up in their advancement of the Catholic School mission.



Witnesses in Plain Sight:

These 3-12-minute videos offer students examples of adults living their faith in their ordinary lives of family and work. These video interviews will highlight how people integrate faith and life so that students can encounter, consider, and imitate the examples of Catholic witnesses in plain sight here in Iowa.





How We Engage Discipleship Together

1. Dependence on God



God is the center of everything, the origin of every gift, and our loving guide. We depend on Jesus to bear fruit through us. Therefore, at the beginning of each Catholic Passage effort, we seek communion with Jesus and the guidance of the Holy Spirit. God gave us the gifts of natural reason and supernatural faith. Our efforts are guided by Sacred Scripture and the Tradition of the Catholic Church. In cooperating with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit we live out the sanctifying grace of our baptismal identities as adopted sons and daughters and share in Jesus' mission. Catholic Passage events and activities begin with prayer and reflecting upon God's Revelation through Sacred Scripture. God's love for us and all His children is our inspiration to serve.



2. Dialogue in Community

We dialogue in community because where two or more are gathered in Jesus' Name, Jesus is there. Dialogue is more than a conversation; it is a pursuit of the truth. It is not about debating or fixing. It is about being won over to what is good, true, and beautiful. In dialogue, each person has something to offer and receive.

As a community of faith, we engage in dialogue around a chosen topic as an act of love for one another and God. Dialogue opens us to receive and reflect upon truths of life. We ask the Holy Spirit – the Spirit of Truth – to guide our dialogues so that we can come to encounter truth in any given topic of conversation. Since truth is not merely a concept, but a Person (John 14:6), encountering the Truth demands our response. Therefore, fruitful dialogue leads to an ascent of faith with the accompanying invitation to conversion and transformation in the Holy Spirit: being who God created us to be!



3. Determination of Will



When we encounter the truth, we must determine whether to reject or accept it. This acceptance or rejection happens through the will. Catholic Passage leads participants to determine, with their own free wills, to let the truth bear influence in their lives – to let the Truth mark the path upon which they walk. We show participants how to call on the Holy Spirit, who will strengthen their determination. This determination shapes their understanding and attitude and brings about real-life application. Determination is where the discovered truth becomes conviction because the truth has won us over. We say yes to the Lord transforming us interiorly through prayer and, then through us, His light can shine upon the children before us.



...By the Renewal of Your Mind

4. Decisions Lived



Real-life application of learning happens in the decisions of daily ordinary life. Catholic Passage guides participants to reexamine their decision-making in the light of their newfound convictions. Whether it is in their own interior lives or in their interactions with children or students, our participants are challenged to put their conviction into action. For example, when a teacher accepts the truth that every child is inherently good and sometimes behaves poorly, the teacher daily decides not to name call but to remind the student to be the good person he or she is. Jesus likens hearing his words and acting on them to a man building his house upon rock instead of sand (Matthew 7:24). Catholic Passage aims to help adults build their lives and efforts on a firm foundation so that the children in their care have a strong shelter in which to grow in life and holiness.

5. Differences Made



Differences are made when decisions are lived lovingly and consistently. Every adult woman and man has the power to build up a child in faith and life now and for eternity. Decisions are like raindrops on a lake, the ripple effect always surpasses the point of impact. God will never be outdone by our generosity. We need only depend on Him and try. As with everything, we can trust the fruitfulness of our decisions to the wisdom and goodness of God our Father. In thanksgiving for his graces we lift up hymns of praise and present our gifts to Him at His altar at every Mass. Adults being the good difference in children's lives is the goal of Catholic Passage!



"Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may prove what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Romans 12:2





"Holy Father, keep them in thy name, which thou hast given me, that they may be one, even as we are one."

John 17:11



Our Perspectives...

The blessings of natural reason and supernatural faith inform our perspectives upon God and creation, including, all things human. We respect the guidance of natural reason, Sacred Scripture, and the Tradition of the Catholic Church.

Catholic Passage, formally known as Dialogues in Catholic Education, seeks to help the lay faithful receive and live their identity and mission as expressed in the teachings of the Second Vatican Council, especially regarding the Church's participation in Jesus' prophetic mission. The first chapter of John's Gospel points out how God speaks to the world through Jesus, the Incarnate Word. Both mysteries of the Incarnation and Holy Trinity shine a light upon our understanding and reverence for the gift of dialogue in the work of Catholic Passage.

Pope Francis wrote, "As the Apostle Paul says, 'in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body' (1 Cor 12:13)... ... Consequently, all the baptized are called to take part in the Church's life and mission. Without real participation by the People of God, talk about communion risks remaining a devout wish" (Introductory Letter to the Synod on Synodality).

As a community of faith, we engage in fellowship, prayer, and dialogue as a way of helping adults participate in the mission of the Church as prophetic witnesses to the next generation. Our first step in dialogue is listening to God speak in Scripture and through the witness of the Church. Christian dialogue in the Incarnate Word, by the power of the Holy Spirit, leads us to greater conversion and reception of the Father's Blessed Life.



Surrounded by a Cloud of Witnesses

We have learned so much from those who have come before us and those we seek to follow. Catholic Passage is very grateful for the service of those in the Center for Catholic Education at Aquinas College (Nashville, Tennessee), the Department of Catholic Studies at the University of St. Thomas (St. Paul, Minnesota), the writings of Archbishop Michael Miller C.S.B. (former secretary for the Congregation for Catholic Education), Sources of Renewal: The Implementation of Vatican II by Karol Wojtyla (St. John Paul II), Bishop R. Walker Nickless' Pastoral Letter Ecclesia Semper Reformanda, and the universal magisterium of the Catholic Church.



Catholic Passage is the collaborative effort of a small group of lay men and women, a Catholic priest and deacon. Fr. Brian Feller, a priest of the Diocese of Sioux City, Iowa began this collaboration to help the lay faithful in his diocese live out their baptismal graces.

I am grateful to be part of a team of lay brothers and sisters as we work together to share the Father's blessing with young people.

Fr. Feller March, 25 2023

The witness-bearing attitude is always a specific, unique and unrepeatable product of the encounter and dialogue in which God reveals himself and man in reply entrusts himself to him, abandoning himself completely in faith; in this abandonment he finds himself again in the ambit of the salvific mission of which he becomes an agent and participator."

Sources of Renewal, 217





Catholic Passage For You and With You In Christ Jesus

Pray daily the Novena to the Sacred Heart for our efforts
to support parents and educators.

Volunteer your time and talents to support our podcasting, filming, productions,
graphic arts, interviews, social media, reading books, and writing.

Contact us at catholicpassage@gmail.com or call (507) 926-3388

**Scan or Click to Sign-Up to
Find Out More**



COME, HOLY SPIRIT



Efficacious Novena to The Sacred Heart of Jesus

(This novena prayer was recited every day by Padre Pio for all those who asked his prayers)

O my Jesus, You have said, 'Truly I say to you, ask and it will be given you, seek and you will find, knock and it will be opened to you.' Behold, I knock, I seek and ask for the grace of... (state intention)

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be to the Father...
Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.

O my Jesus, You have said, 'Truly I say to you, if you ask anything of the Father in my name, He will give it to you.' Behold, in Your name, I ask the Father for the grace of... (state intention)

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be to the Father...
Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.

O my Jesus, You have said, 'Truly I say to you, heaven and earth will pass away but my words will not pass away.' Encouraged by Your infallible words, I now ask for the grace of... (state intention)

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be to the Father...
Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, for whom it is impossible not to have compassion on the afflicted, have pity on us poor sinners and grant us the grace which we ask of You, through the Sorrowful and Immaculate heart of Mary, Your tender mother and ours.

Hail, Holy Queen...
St. Joseph, foster father of Jesus, pray for us



Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And you shall renew the face of the earth.

O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy his consolations. Through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Prayer of Deliverance Anima Christi

O Jesus our Savior, my Lord and my God,
my God and my all, with your sacrifice on
the Cross you redeemed us and defeated
the power of Satan. I beg you to deliver me
from every evil presence and every evil
influence.

I ask you in your name, I ask you for the
sake of your wounds, I ask you for the sake
of your blood, I ask you for the sake of your
Cross, I ask you through the intercession of
Mary, Immaculate and Sorrowful.

May the blood and the water that flow from
your side wash over me to purify me,
deliver me, heal me. Amen.

Soul of Christ, sanctify me
Body of Christ, save me
Blood of Christ, inebriate me
Water from Christ's side, wash me
Passion of Christ, strengthen me
O good Jesus, hear me
Within Thy wounds hide me
Suffer me not to be separated from Thee
From the malicious enemy defend me
In the hour of my death call me
And bid me come unto Thee
That I may praise Thee with Thy saints
and with Thy angels
Forever and ever. Amen