

**2017 Survey of Parish Catechetical and Youth Ministry Programs
Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau**

PART I

Parish Name _____ City _____

Name of Parish Catechetical Leader _____

Official Title _____ Years of Experience _____

Full time, Part time, Stipend, or Volunteer _____

Preferred mailing address _____

Email address _____ Birthdate (not year) _____

Best contact phone number _____

Names and positions of other catechetical leaders (ie. assistant or associate directors)

Your educational background:

_____ HS diploma _____ Some college

_____ Bachelor's degree in what area _____

_____ Master's degree in what area _____

Catechist Certification Completed: _____ Basic _____ Intermediate _____ Advanced _____ Master

For what areas are you responsible?

_____ catechist recruitment _____ textbook/materials selection

_____ catechist training _____ catechist certification

_____ safe environment

Parish School of Religion Information:

Projected number of children in the PSR program (K-8th) _____

Describe the structure of your program (traditional classroom by grade, grouping of certain grades, family groups, at home catechesis program, etc)

Textbooks and/or resources used _____

Projected number of students in your First Reconciliation/ First Eucharist Preparation class _____

Textbooks and/or resources used _____

Do you have different materials/resources you are using with the Junior High School grades (6-8th)?

Projected number of students in the high school Confirmation preparation program _____

Textbooks and/or materials used _____

What does the high school PSR look like in your parish? Do you have regular PSR classes for those not in the Confirmation preparation program?

Textbooks and or resources used _____

Do you have a youth group that operates separately from the high school PSR? _____

If yes, what does the structure of that youth group/youth ministry look like? What is the general focus and mission of this group? How often do they meet?

Name of youth group/youth ministry leader _____

Email _____ Phone number _____

Full time, Part time, Stipend, or Volunteer _____

What does the RCIA program look like in your parish? (ie. Led by individual or team? How often do they meet?)

Name of RCIA coordinator _____

Email _____ Phone number _____

PART II

What do you observe to be the strengths and benefits of inviting and preparing high school age children to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation?

What are the challenges or concerns you may have faced when inviting and preparing high school age children to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation?

Please take a few moments to reflect on some possible strengths and benefits of confirming children at the younger age of eleven and higher (6th and 7th grade). Some suggested possible benefits might include: 1) the child is given the opportunity to experience the graces and spiritual gifts received in the Sacrament of Confirmation, at an earlier age, 2) parents are generally more involved and influential in the faith formation decisions of the child at this age and responsible for bringing them to class, 3) junior high students do not usually have after school/weekend jobs which may cause scheduling conflicts for Confirmation preparation. 4) the younger age helps to alleviate the impression that high school confirmation is “graduation day” and no more faith formation is necessary.

Do you view these suggestions as possible strengths for offering the Sacrament of Confirmation at an earlier age? Can you identify any other strengths or benefits?

What do you see as possible challenges or concerns if Confirmation were offered at the earlier age of eleven and higher?
