

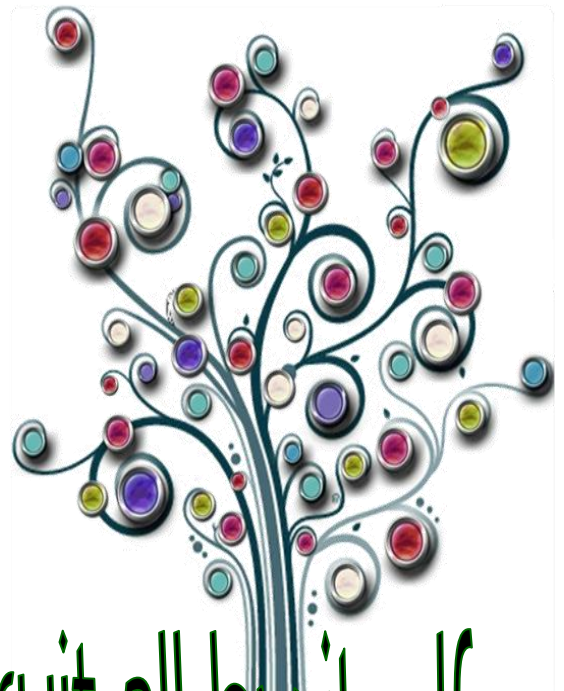


There is a movement emerging these days among those involved in the ministry of catechesis. It's new. It's vibrant. And it's full of hope! It's called "whole community catechesis." This is the process of catechesis in which we have been engaged these past five years at Blessed Trinity Spirit of Christ.

Whole Community (or Whole Parish) Catechesis rises from four sources: (1) careful consideration of the way Jesus taught, along with (2) reflections on the teachings of Vatican II, (3) the wonderful direction provided by the Church's **General Directory for Catechesis (GDC)** itself, and (4) the emerging consensus in the catechetical community that the "school house" framework within which catechesis is provided lacks some essential elements.

The name, **whole community catechesis** or **total parish catechesis** or **faith formation for all**, (every parish seems to have its own name for this) is drawn from article #254 of the GDC where it says that the Christian community is the origin, locus, and goal of catechesis.

Proclamation of the Gospel always begins with the Christian community and invites [people] to conversion and the following of Christ. It is the same community that welcomes those who wish to know the Lord better and permeate themselves with a new life. The Christian community accompanies catechumens and those being catechized, and with maternal solicitude makes them participate in her own experience of the faith and incorporates them into herself.



A branch cannot bear fruit all by itself...