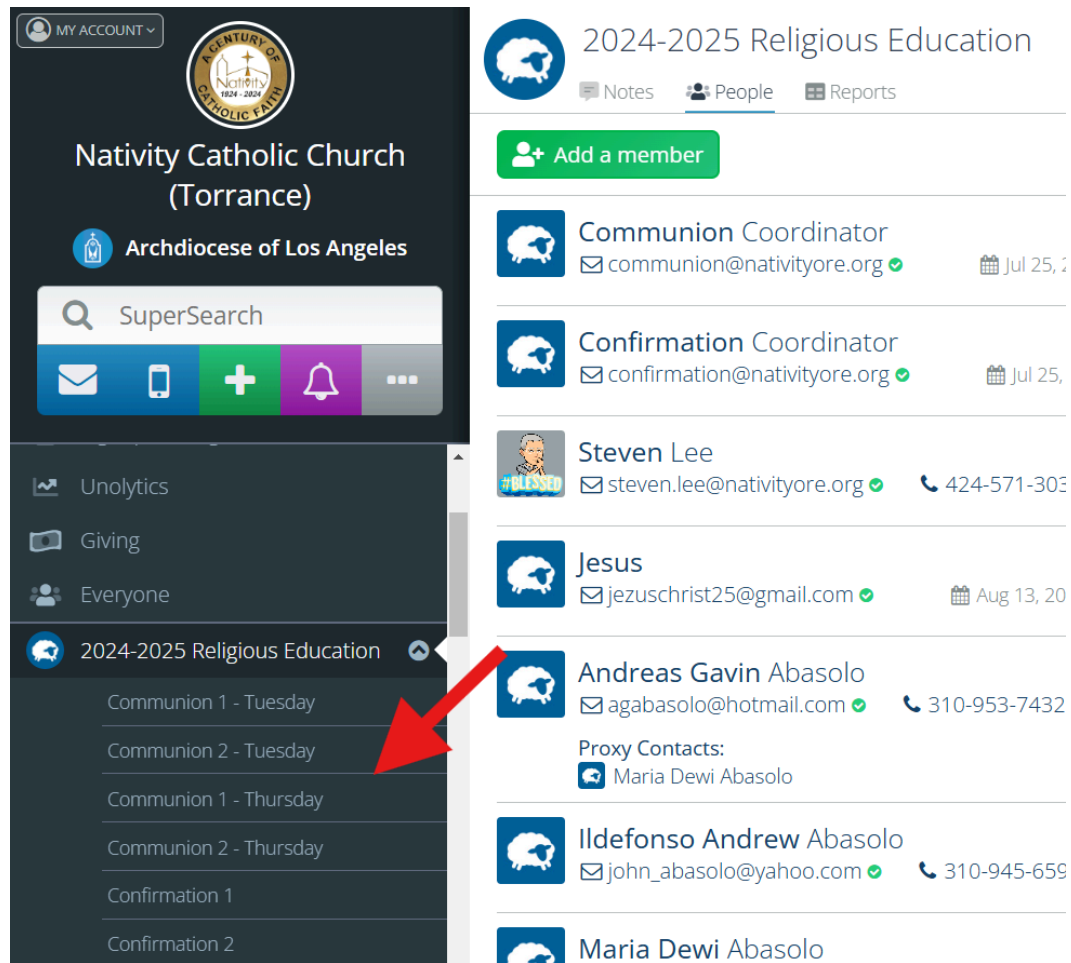


## First Communion Catechist Resources

**Catechists**, as you get ready to accompany the families on your faith journeys, take time to pray and prepare each week. Here are some recommendations:

- If you sign up for Flocknote then you will be able to see all the candidates enrolled in your assigned class



- If you will be unable to attend a class please notify Sr. Miriam and Sr. Guadalupe as soon as possible **before** class date.
- Review the weekly assignment posted in the [program calendar](#) to make sure you are familiar with the content and activities that parents and candidates were asked to complete
- Read all assignments submitted in workbooks and use their responses as the starting points for your discussion and teaching with the families
- Read the "[Catechist Handbook](#)" to remind yourself of techniques for engaging candidates and parents in class and activities

- Remember the candidates/families need active breaks like jumping jacks, squats or any other fun activity you can participate in with them like asking them to share a riddle or joke
- Games. In this document you can find the Loyola Press online games but we also have access to a Kahoot Premium account where you can utilize existing games or create your own at [Login - Kahoot!](#) with user account **orekahoot** and password **GodIsLove1**
- Please take note of candidates who did not submit assignments and work with them to understand their challenges and help them fix it.
- Review what they will be covering in the next week.
- Rotate and assign family prayer at the end of session.
- **Coordinators** will have the curriculum updated and posted and you will be notified via Flocknote of any changes so make sure you are registered in Flocknote at <https://nativitytorrance.flocknote.com/register>
- Got 30 minutes?! Then I recommend this short FORMED resource on our [kerygma](#) (Spanish)

To access **FORMED** programs, ebooks, movies and talks, please register using the instructions at [www.nativityore.org/formed](http://www.nativityore.org/formed)

**GMail Setup.** To access all Google content you will need to use the personal nativityore.org account created for you. You will be notified of this account via your registration email. If you do not wish to check multiple email accounts you can [FORWARD](#) your nativityore.org account email to your personal email account. Then on your personal account you can set up a [FILTER or LABEL](#) to group all email coming from nativityore.org so it does not get lost in your inbox or spam folder.

## **YEAR 1**

Loyola Digital Press - Finding God Family Catechesis - Access code: **93637F67**  
<https://digitallibrary.loyolapress.com/> Since some of the links have expired, the files are also archived on our Google Drive. Download the .zip file to your PC then extract them.  
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1VV9y3gJDJK6pUvc8RX6upljVNkNGPyeA?usp=sharing>

Finding God Online Program Resources - Access code: FG-2015  
<https://www.loyolapress.com/bilingue/encontrando-a-dios/catequistas-y-maestros/>

**Loyola Digital Press - Finding God - Parent Units and Games (Bilingual)**  
<https://www.loyolapress.com/bilingue/encontrando-a-dios/jovenes-y-padres/>

- Getting to Know (insight about at-home religious education)
- Unit (guided discussion and reflections that were printed and provided to parents)
- Games (fun way to test understanding)
- Study Guides (high level outline of Unit)
- Living My Faith (a guided Response to each session)
- Raising Faith Filled Kids (interesting stories and suggestions)

Loyola Press - Finding God - Activity Finder:

<https://www.loyolapress.com/faith-formation/finding-god/finding-god-2021/activity-finder/>

Family Packet will include:

- Print out labels and affix to two pocket folders (Sr. Miriam has access to templates in folder)
- Print out labels and affix to donation envelopes to promote tithing and Mass attendance ( Sr. Miriam has access to templates in folder)
- Finding God Grade Book (Sr. Miriam to sort out)
- Finding God Parent Material (Sr. Miriam to print out handout from online Loyola Family Catechesis material)
- Welcome Letter with instructions for families on need for their unique nativityore.org accounts, how to use [www.nativityore.org/family](http://www.nativityore.org/family) and how to EDIT and maintain contact information in Google Registration Form and Flocknote
- Rosary (Spanish and English kits were purchased)
- Mass Responses Handout (Sr. Guadalupe finalized document)
- Flyer for purchase of St. Mary's Press Bible (flyer in folder)

Loyola Press Growing with God Safe Environment Resources

[Catechists and Teachers | Loyola Press](#) and Training [Growing with God Safe Environment Training with Loyola Press - English \(youtube.com\)](#)

## **YEAR 2**

Loyola Press Digital Library contains downloadable digital products. These materials are available from <http://digitallibrary.loyolapress.com/> Access code: **93637F67**

Loyola Digital Press - God's Gift - Access code: **GG-2016**

<https://www.loyolapress.com/faith-formation/sacramental-preparation/gods-gift-2016/directors-and-principals/>

## God's Gift: Parents and Students

### Primary Reconciliation and Eucharist

English -

<https://www.loyolapress.com/faith-formation/sacramental-preparation/gods-gift-2016/parents-and-students/primary-reconciliation-and-eucharist/>

Bilingual -

<https://www.loyolapress.com/bilingue/don-de-dios-2016/recursos-para-el-estudiante-y-los-padres/>

- Glossaries, Articles, Mealbox Conversation Starters, Crafts, Activities, Family Stories

God's Gift: Reconciliation and Eucharist Primary Program Video Registration

<http://video.loyolapress.com/register.php> (from the textbook, the code word for Reconciliation English is **penance**, Reconciliation Spanish is **Psalm 139**, Eucharist English is **three**, Eucharist Spanish **tres**)

### Games

- Word Search Games for Eucharist: <https://games.loyolapress.com/euchws>
- Word Search Games for Reconciliation: <https://games.loyolapress.com/recws>

### Intermediate: Reconciliation and Eucharist

English -

<https://www.loyolapress.com/faith-formation/sacramental-preparation/gods-gift-2016/parents-and-students/intermediate-reconciliation-and-eucharist/>

Bilingual -

<https://www.loyolapress.com/bilingue/don-de-dios-2016/recursos-para-el-estudiante-y-los-padres/intermediate-reconciliation-and-eucharist/>

- Glossaries, Liturgical Calendar, Order of the Mass, Receiving Holy Communion, Study Guides, Chapter Prayers, Facts

### Apps Recommended

FORMED [www.nativityore.org/formed](http://www.nativityore.org/formed) and content at

<https://leaders.formed.org/religious-ed-and-catholic-schools/>

Catholic Study Bible <https://www.catholicstudybible.org/>

Laudate <https://catholicapps.com/laudate/>

Family Packet will include:

- Print out labels and affix to two pocket folders (Sr. Miriam has access to templates in folder)
- Print out labels and affix to donation envelopes to promote tithing and Mass attendance ( Sr. Miriam has access to templates in folder)
- Finding God Grade Book (Sr. Miriam to sort out)
- Finding God Parent Material (Sr. Miriam to print out handout from online Loyola Family Catechesis material)
- Welcome Letter with instructions for families on Flocknote registration and notifications via emails and text messages
- Rosary (Spanish and English kits were purchased)
- Mass Responses Handout (Sr. Guadalupe finalized document)
- Flyer for purchase of St. Mary's Press Bible (flyer in folder)

#### TEACHING HINTS AND TIPS

- Have them get a notebook that they can use for the entire year as a journal for their assignments. They can use a spiral notebook or three ring binder.
- Remember you are not teaching during the weekly sessions but facilitating a discussion about the material they were supposed to review the prior week
- Invite or schedule families to lead prayer sessions. E.g. provide guidelines for creating a prayer space with spiritual objects from their home and how to select and lead the prayer session.
- Promote creativity from families in response to assigned activities e.g. they can use words, drawings, video, photos to communicate their message
- Get to know family member names and call them by name. Take a group photo and keep it in your folder with their names
- You can create a “name tag” bag where you pull names to identify who will participate next
- You can utilize a word or phrase like “Popcorn” for anyone to say to get the attention of another if their hand or question gets lost in the online maze
- You can share your assigned nativityore.org email for them to contact you
- You can use Flocknote to text parents
- If you need a break, utilize active break sessions like jumping jacks, or some other physical activity but do not give like 5 or 10 minute breaks since they will drift away and hard to regroup
- Promote Mass attendance and have them visit different parishes in different cities or countries and have them share the experience in words or images
- Listen 66% and talk 33% - promote discussion and stop yourself from lecturing