



## Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

Office of the Cardinal

June 4, 2020

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I am writing today to express my support/endorsement of the new catechetical series *Springs of Faith*. I have reviewed this comprehensive adult faith formation and baptismal preparation program, and I have found it to be solidly based on the teachings of the Catholic Church, using age-appropriate methodology and multi-media resources.

Developed by Loyola Press, in consultation with the Office of Evangelization and Catechesis in response to the needs expressed by the Presbyteral and Pastoral Councils of our Archdiocese, *Springs of Faith* offers parishes the resources needed to accompany young families who long for a faith community for themselves and as they seek to have their children baptized. It furthermore provides an opportunity to reach young adults in search of faith, renewal, and belonging. Available in English or Spanish, the program offers printed materials, videos, music, and an app.

*Springs of Faith* is comprised of three distinct phases: Discover, Encounter, and Share.

- The Discover phase supports parishes in reaching out to and serving young adults. They are invited in conversation about common moral principles and shared beliefs, as they discover the active presence of Christ in their lives and in the modern world around them. These sessions are especially designed to speak to the social reality that young adults live in.
- The Encounter phase prepares parents to experience the mystery of the Sacrament of Baptism. Through group discussions, prayer, activities, and videos, this phase accompanies parents through the Rite of Baptism, step by step. All references and citations of the Rite of Baptism are taken from new *Order of Baptism of Children, Second Edition (2020)*, approved by the USCCB and confirmed by the Apostolic See. An activity journal for parents and godparents includes articles and activities for reflection to help prepare parents and godparents to raise a child in the community of faith.
- The Share phase lays the foundation for a meaningful lifelong practice of the baptismal call. Families are given the opportunity to reflect on the Sacrament of Baptism they have just celebrated and to continue their engagement in the parish and gather as a community as they raise their families in faith. This phase includes Baby & Me sessions, guiding young parents as they begin the journey of raising their newly baptized children in the practice of the Catholic faith.

I would like to ask that you share this letter and the program with those in your parishes who are responsible for adult faith formation, ministry to the unaffiliated and/or to young adults, and baptismal preparation coordinators; and with anyone else who you think would benefit from this program.

With assurances of my continued prayers for you, your parish, and the entire Archdiocese, and entrusting all of us and our ministries to the prayers of the Mother of God, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*+Daniel Cardinal DiNardo*

Daniel Cardinal DiNardo  
Archbishop of Galveston-Houston

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