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Shaped by Love: Family Catechesis and the Crisis of Disaffiliation in the Catholic Church

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Abstract

There is currently a crisis of disaffiliation within the Catholic Church, particularly among youth and young adults. One of the proposed solutions for the crisis of disaffiliation is implementing the family catechesis model at the parish level as a means of effectively transmitting the Catholic faith. This paper examines the data of two studies: Going, Going, Gone: The Dynamics of Disaffiliation in Young Catholics conducted by St. Mary's Press and Ask Your Father and He Will Tell You: A Report on American Cahotlic Religious Parenting produced by the McGrath Institute in order to discern if the conditions that lead to the effective transmission of the Catholic Faith can also counteract the factors that lead to disaffiliation. In addition, the ways in which sacred scripture, the model of family catechesis in the early church, the evolution of catechetical best practice, and modern church teachings support family catechesis are identified. The family catechetical model is then analyzed to determine if it is prepared to nurture households that effectively transmit the faith as identified by the McGrath Institute and to address the factors that lead to disaffiliation as put forth by the Going, Going, Gone Survey. Finally, the development, implementation, assessment, and analysis of the family catechetical model at St. Raphael Parish in Oshkosh, Wisconsin is detailed in order to provide pastoral ministers with a guide of how to best address the factors that lead to disaffiliation by supporting and equipping parents as the primary evangelizers of their children.

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The Crisis in Catholic Men's Catechesis. At the very center of the "man crisis" is the fact that many Catholic men don't believe in some of the central teachings of the Church. Catholic men also lack belief in the importance of Catholic devotions and practices. Only 30% of Catholic men believe it is very important to have a devotion to Mary and even less (23%) believe in the importance having a devotion to the Saints. But until the Church acknowledges the man crisis, its key drivers and begins to take action to address it, there is little hope in stemming the losses of the faithful. To be clear, there can be no New Evangelization, without a New Emangelization, creating generations of Catholic men who are on fire for Jesus Christ and His Holy Catholic Church. It is strategically flawed to believe that the Church can bring the New Evangelization to the family without addressing the Catholic "man-crisis". The New Emangelization Project has documented that there is a Catholic "man-crisis" that is widespread and serious. Fully one in three baptized Catholic men in the U.S. have left the Church. The majority (some 50-60%) of those who remain "Catholic" are "Casual Catholic Men", men who don't know the faith, don't practice the faith and are not committed to passing the faith along to their children. Worse, the percentages of these Casual Catholic Men ha This page documents Catholic Church sex abuse cases by country. The Catholic sexual abuse scandal in Europe has been documented by cases in several dioceses in European nations. Investigation and widespread reporting were conducted in the early 21st century related to dioceses in the United States of America; several American dioceses were bankrupted by settlement of civil lawsuits from victims. A significant number of cases have also been reported in Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and That Catholicism, that Christianity was that of chair-bottomers[8] and of the intellectuals they unknowingly converted to the people, as well as that of colonels—not all Ramollots,[9] to be sure—and of a whole host of good people who, while they loved to parade in lockstep to the beat of the Marseillaise in alternation with "Save Rome and France in. This explains why he relies, in this respect, on people whom the Holy See's constant policy since the turn of the century and the unanimous policy of the entire French episcopate until these very last few years designated to him as being the only safe theologians. The Catholic Church is facing its most serious crisis in 500 years. In these

last few months, a new wave of clerical sexual abuse revelations left the world in shock. From Australia to Chile to Germany to the United States, horrifying reports revealed thousands of cases of child molestation by members of the clergy. The church is bitterly divided between progressive and conservative wings. This split is particularly pronounced in the United States, where highly mobilized, neo-traditionalist Catholics took up Vigano's call for Francis' resignation. This branch of the church already feared that Francis presented a progressive threat to church teachings on marriage and sexuality.