

Catholic Community of Practice

July 10, 2023
9:15-10:45 PM (Eastern Time)
Charles Chesnavage and Maureen O'Brien

Welcome and Introductions (15 minutes): Maureen

- Your name and what you like to be called (please also enter this in your Zoom settings, along with your preferred pronouns)
- Where you are from
- *Conscious of number of participants: please keep your introduction **brief!***
- This session:
 - Presentation and discussion with Dr. Rito Baring
 - Practicing “synodal” conversation to explore priorities as Catholic religious educators and for our Catholic Community of Practice

Dr. Rito Baring (30 minutes—presentation, Q and A):
Chuck



For a synodal Church
communion | participation | mission

“Synodal” Conversation: Priorities for Catholic Religious Education: Maureen

Introduction (5 minutes)

- Adapting from the “spiritual conversation” model used in Synod for a Synodal Church listening sessions, to allow us to explore priorities we sense as Catholic religious educators for the next 10 years and consider where we as individuals and perhaps collectively would like to move
- Will review the process, then send you to breakout rooms to practice it (Round 1 10 mins, Round 2 10 mins)
- Return to full group for sharing highlights and considering next steps
- Okay to share this slideshow via the chat?



Adapted from the Synod *Instrumentum laboris*; infographic from p. 16;

<https://www.synod.va/en/synodal-process/the-universal-phase/documents.html>

Breakout Room: Round 1 (10 minutes)

“Taking the word and listening”



- Choose a facilitator
- Take a moment of silence to invite the Spirit’s presence into your deliberations and sharing
- Individual sharing in response to the question:

What are the most important 1 or 2 top issues or focus areas that you believe Catholic religious educators are being called to address in the next 10 years?

- Each person can share their response for up to 2 minutes; facilitator watches the time
- No discussion; all members listen attentively

Breakout Room: Round 2 (10 minutes)

“Making space for others and the Other”



- Facilitator continues
- Reflecting on Round 1, consider:

What moved within your mind and heart as you heard others speak?

- Take a moment of silent reflection
- Individual sharing of up to 1 minute per person; no discussion
- Seek to raise areas of greatest resonance and resistance that arose in you from others' sharing; when was your heart “burning within you”?

***When each person has had the chance to respond...choose a reporter, and determine 2-3 priorities to report to the large group for general discussion

General Discussion: Round 3 (15 minutes)

“Building Together”



What is the Holy Spirit calling us to do as Catholic religious educators?

Individually and/or collectively as a Community of Practice

- Reports from breakout groups (Chuck will take notes)
- Discussion and follow-up, including:
 - Possibilities for future COP sessions?
 - Research projects?
 - More consideration of the Synod process and experiences in our own contexts?
 - Other?

Conclusion (5 minutes)

- Thanks!!!
- Share contact information via chat
- Feedback