

# Quince Años Celebration Guidelines and Resources

## Diocese of Fort Worth

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The Quince Años celebration  
is a renewal of baptismal promises  
and a moment of giving thanks to God  
for the gift of life, family, and community.

A Preparation for this celebration  
is best understood  
as a time of evangelization  
for the whole family  
to form and/or renew friendships  
between parents and youth,  
to experience a deeper participation  
in the life of the community.≅

*Special Thanks to Fr. Hector Medina and Fr. Ken Robinson  
for their pastoral contribution.*

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# **QUINCE AÑOS CELEBRATION GUIDELINES AND RESOURCES**

## **DIOCESE OF FORT WORTH**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Diocese of Fort Worth affirms the value of the Quince Años celebration as an opportunity-teachable moment to minister to Hispanic families within the Church and for the faith community to be enriched by the significance of this cultural and familial tradition.

The Quince Años celebration is a renewal of baptismal promises and a moment of giving thanks to God for the gift of life, family, and community. Preparation for this celebration is best understood as a time of evangelization for the whole family to form and/or renew friendships between parents and youth, to experience a deeper participation in the life of the community.

The religious meaning of this celebration may be expressed through a formal blessing, a prayer service, a special Mass or Sunday Mass, individually or in a group. The choice of one form or offering several options remains at the discretion of the pastor.

The following are suggested guidelines for parishes within the Diocese of Fort Worth. We encourage pastors to welcome the request of Hispanic families who reach out to the Church at this special time in their children's life and to make every effort to continue nourishing each family's faith beyond the Quince Años celebration. Pastors and Pastoral staff should make an effort to understand and appreciate all the aspects of this beautiful tradition: its origins, its religious meaning, its symbols, and its significance for families and for the young people.

*The Quince Años celebration is appropriate for young men and young women approaching their fifteenth birthday; an attempt therefore has been made throughout the guidelines to use gender inclusive language.*

### **FORMATION PRINCIPLES**

1. Hispanic youth need to be invited into the life, mission and work of the Church.
2. Hispanic youth offer gifts that are needed by the parish community.
3. Hispanic families provide encouragement, support and their own involvement in both the preparation and the celebration of the Quince Años.
4. Key moments in life provide an opportunity for individuals, families and the community to be evangelized and catechized.

## THE ROLE OF THE CANDIDATE

**Because the candidate for a Quince Años celebration is presented in the church by their family, there must be a special emphasis placed on the awareness that the young person become an active member of the family of God and a witness to the life and values of the Catholic faith.**

*Following are expectations of the candidate:*

1. Interview with a priest or with a member of the formation team to share around: spiritual growth, relationship with God and with the Church.
2. Be willing to go through a preparation program. Others participating in the Quince Años ceremony are invited to join in the preparation program.
3. Understand the significance of the liturgical celebration as a call to grow in faith and in commitment to the Gospel and to collaborate in the preparation of the Quince Años liturgy.
4. If the sacraments of the Church have not been fully received, be participating in a special sacrament preparation program prior to the celebration of the Quince Años.

### **PRE-REQUISITES FOR PARTICIPATION**

1. The participant shall be baptized.
2. The participant should have received the sacraments of First communion and Penance or be preparing for the reception of the sacraments.
3. The participant (or family) should be registered members of the parish in which they are asking for the Quince Años celebration or ask permission from the Pastor to prepare at another parish.
4. The participant should be registered in the parish religious education program presently and the year prior to their Quince Años celebration or be in some faith formation process like Catholic school or authorized home-study.

### **SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES**

Because the Quince Años can be a teachable, evangelizing moment, a pastor or pastor delegate may choose to work with families on an individual basis who do not meet the above requirements.

1. The QuinceAños team leader, staff liaison or pastor may interview the teen and her/his family and make a decision about their preparedness and/or specific areas for the teen and their family to develop. The interview would be to determine if the participant has developed an age appropriate faith in the absence of formal religious education. See **Appendix C** for resource suggestions.
2. Participants may be mentored in the faith by a designated adult advocate prior to their preparation and/or celebration. Most often this will be a member of the Quince Años team or a parish catechist. A basic overview of the Catholic faith should be the focus of such a process since *this would only be invoked in the instance of a participant without any recent religious education experience*. See **Appendix C** for resource suggestions.

## THE ROLE OF THE FAMILY

**The Quince Años celebration is an outward expression of gratitude to God by the parents for the gift of life of their child. In making it a church celebration, parents and candidates:**

1. Share their culture and give witness to the value of life and family.
2. Renew their Christian faith professed at Baptism.
3. Invite the Church to join them in thanking God for protection and guidance.

### ***Parents should also:***

1. Know what the Church expects of them with respect to both the celebration of the Quince Años and after the celebration.
2. Be willing to participate in the Quince Años preparation process as requested by the Quince Años coordinator or the pastor..
3. To maintain the expenses of the celebration within a modest and reasonable limit in accordance with the family's income.

## THE ROLE OF THE FAITH COMMUNITY

**A parish with a Quince Años preparation program should offer an orientation session to familiarize parents with parish guidelines. These sessions should be announced at the initial inquiry regarding the Quince Años celebration.**

1. Clergy, catechetical leaders, parish personnel, and faith community in parishes with Hispanic population should respond positively to those who contact the Church at this evangelizing moment in their child's life. Families should be welcomed and given support by the faith community and be invited to participate in the parish's faith life and organizations..
2. The parish priest should facilitate proper training based on diocesan guidelines of those charged with the preparation of candidates.
3. Parish guidelines should include:
  - a. The preparation needed to celebrate this tradition. **See Formation process**
  - b. The catechetical content for instruction. **See Appendix A**
  - c. The ritual options allowed in the parish. **See Appendix B**
  - d. Alternatives for preparation of candidates. **See Appendix C**
  - e. The way in which the family and community will both participate in the preparation program and offer support and example to the young person.
4. The pastor and/or the Quince Años team are encouraged to educate the whole parish community on the meaning of the Quince Años celebration.

## FORMATION PROCESS

Mindful of the Church's call to be aware of people's needs to express faith through their own culture, we recommend that parishes with Hispanic membership implement a Quince Años preparation program.

### LEADERSHIP

1. The pastor or DRE/CYM should designate a Quince Años team leader or coordinator of formation.
2. A Quince Años team should be formed to include parents and former Quince Años candidates as well as adults with catechetical training. A pastoral staff member should be assigned as a liaison to the Quince Años team.
3. Team members/coordinators must be trained, culturally sensitive, and familiar with the Quince Años tradition.
4. The team/coordinator should develop parish guidelines based on diocesan guidelines and addressing the reality of the particular parish.
5. The formation should be offered at least twice a year and should be scheduled on dates which will accommodate parish participants. **See format options page 7**
6. The Quince Años preparation is a teachable moment which should include catechesis, understanding of maturation and human development as well as liturgy planning, and the corresponding rehearsal.
7. It is requested that the parish collaborate by allowing in its program, Quince Años candidates from other parishes where no programs exist.

### THE PREPARATION PROCESS

The preparation process should have affective (trusting), cognitive (believing), and behavioral (doing) dimensions (see: The Challenge of Adolescent Catechesis, National Federation of Catholic Youth Ministry, 1986) and be focused on the action of renewing and living out baptismal promises.

1. Trusting as Catholics renewing baptismal promises:
  - # We are willing to be patient with our development into mature human beings and the persons God created us to be.
  - # Through relationships with other persons, especially our families, we experience God's presence and love in our lives.
  - # We are persons who seek growth and integrity and respect the voice of the Catholic Church as a guide to living the values of Jesus.
2. Believing as Catholics renewing baptismal promises:
  - # We believe that God created each of us and continues to love and care for us.
  - # Renewing baptismal promises is a faithful response to a loving God and an invitation to view everyday reality through a faith perspective.
  - # We choose to deepen our knowledge of God revealed in Jesus Christ, and then share this knowledge with others.
3. Doing as Catholics renewing baptismal promises:
  - # We choose consciously to become disciples in the work of Christ through our faith community in our ordinary day to day living.
  - # We will become aware of the values and attitudes which guide our behaviors as we seek to live out of the Christian tradition.
  - # We will plan our Quince Años celebration and draw support and ideas from the other

participants and their families.\*

\*Note: Parents must be involved in the preparation process with their teen or in a separate parent preparation.

### **PREPARATION FORMATS**

The following formats are offered as suggested practices depending on the needs of the parish and the discretion of the pastor or pastor designate:

1. **A weekly preparation process** offered twice each year (3-4 sessions).  
This format offers an opportunity to break up the preparation which gives time for reflection between sessions and for families to work together especially on their Mass or prayer service preparation.

**or**

2. **A day retreat** offered twice each year.  
This format offers an extended time together where community building between the participants and their families can take place. A spiritual setting at a camp or someone's home (with a bit of land) or at a retreat center could really make this a memorable experience for participants and their families. It is important to note that a short follow-up session will be necessary (several weeks to a month later) to offer families an opportunity for feedback and support in developing their Quince Años Mass or prayer service.

**or**

3. **A week-long summer camp.**  
This format offers a time frame that may be helpful in some parishes and a short duration that some families may prefer as opposed to several sessions spread over weeks.

**or**

4. **A day workshop** offered twice each year.  
This format can be done in a meeting room or a parish hall without the expense of renting a retreat site or doing a lot of planning. This format is most helpful in parishes where people expect professional presentations. This format does not provide the intensity of relationship building that a retreat format invites. Also, it is essential to offer a follow-up session for families to offer feedback and support in developing their Quince Años mass or prayer service.

## **CELEBRATION PRINCIPLES**

**Enclosed are several options for the Quince Años celebration. These can be found in Appendix B. Regardless of which format is chosen, the principles of good liturgical planning are to be followed:**

1. Only scripture is to be used for the Liturgy of the Word.
2. Music appropriate to liturgy is to be selected.
3. Those who minister (lectors, leader of intercessions, etc.) should be practicing Catholics.
4. Gifts to be offered in the church should have a *religious connotation*: ex. Bible, rosary, medal, flowers or be of *cultural significance*: ex. a doll indicating the last doll received, a movement culturally from little girl to young woman.
5. In the celebration of a mass, the prayers of the mass and prefaces are drawn from the official ritual books of the Church.

**Other Elements:**

Support and encouragement is the primary role of peer attendants for the teenager celebrating their Quince Años. Peer attendants should be involved in the celebration in a way that acknowledges this key role. An example would be where the attendants line the aisles of the church as the quinceañera processes in with her family. Peer attendants should not be paired up as couples or in any way which would resemble a marriage ceremony.

A worship aid for the celebration within or outside of Mass can assist those attending and adds to the formality of the occasion. The use of a worship aid is suggested only when the celebration is not during a regular Sunday mass.

Special prayers for the Quinceañera, may be found in the Book of Blessings \* and suggested readings and intercessions in Sr. Angela Erevia's text, *Religious Celebration for the Quinceañera\*\**.

\*available from Liturgical Press, Collegeville, Minn., 1-800-858-5450 or Catholic Book Publishing, New Jersey, 201/890-4640..

\*\*available from the Missionary Catechists of Divine Providence 210/432-0113 or the Mexican American Cultural Center, Fifth edition 8 1985. Write to MACC, P.O. Box 28185, San Antonio, Texas 78228.

**QUINCE AÑOS MODEL PREPARATION  
PROGRAM OUTLINE**

**PURPOSE:**

The goals of this program are: to help the youth and their families develop and deepen an appreciation of their cultural heritage and identity; to celebrate the event within the context of the family and the parish community; to help the youth and their families deepen their knowledge of the Church and faith in Jesus through the renewal of baptismal promises.

**STRUCTURE:**

All the youth in the parish who are 15 are invited to take part in this celebration. In preparation for the celebration the youth are required to attend four sessions (these are in addition to attending in the parish religious education/youth ministry program). The sessions review some of the basic beliefs of the Church and the cultural heritage of Hispanics. Actual session content should be nuanced by the needs of the group. The sessions may be presented by the Quince Años team, youth minister, and/or pastor.

**TEACHING GOALS AND OUTCOMES FOR RECOMMENDED PREPARATION SESSIONS**

The Quince Años represents a powerful teachable moment. It is important to keep in mind that this celebration is a renewal of baptismal promises and not a sacrament itself. The Quince Años preparation process provides a teachable moment for Hispanic youth and their family. This preparation process should support youth in an awareness of the existing parish Confirmation preparation process and invite participants to preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

**Session 1:**

**HISPANIC RELIGIOUS CUSTOMS FOR QUINCE AÑOS**

*\*PARENT(S)/GODPARENTS/GUARDIAN(S) MUST ATTEND THIS SESSION\**

***GOALS:***

- # To explain Hispanic Catholic religious customs and symbols.
- # To explain the Quince Años celebration from a historical, cultural and religious perspective and to explain why it is celebrated today.

***OUTCOMES: At the end of the sessions the youth will be able to:***

- # Know the history and the tradition of the Quince Años
- # Understand the cultural devotion to our Lady of Guadalupe and the saints.
- # Be able to talk about why they want to be presented to their parish community and renew their baptismal promises.
- # Clarify their cultural and religious identity.
- # Begin to work with their parent(s) to prepare the Quince Años Mass or prayer service (using the worksheets given out during the session).

***At the end of this session: Parents should be able to:***

- # Understand the Quince Años preparation and celebration process.

- # Talk about what they want for their child and their family through this celebration.
- # begin to work with their child (using the provided Quince Años celebration worksheets) to prepare for the Quince Años Mass or prayer service.

**Session 2:                      BAPTISM AND CATHOLIC IDENTITY**

*GOALS:*

- # To explore their baptismal promises and the call to faithfulness.
- # To explore the elements of Catholic identity.

*OUTCOMES: At the end of the session the youth should be able to:*

- # Talk about the purpose of baptismal promises and their relevance.
- # Show a basic knowledge of the Sacraments of Initiation and reconciliation and understand the Confirmation preparation process (in your parish).
- # Explain why Catholics go to Mass and about our belief that Jesus is present in the Eucharist.
- # Recognize Catholic social teaching as part of what it means to be Catholic.
- # Use a Bible (find a passage from book, chapter, verse).

**Session 3:                      IDENTITY AND YOUTH DISCIPLESHIP**

*GOAL:*

- # To explore self identity and how it is influenced by culture and family.
- # To explore the needs of the faith community and opportunities for youth discipleship.

*OUTCOMES: At the end of the session the youth should be able to:*

- # Talk about how both the Hispanic and American cultures have influenced how they view themselves.
- # Understand how their family influences how they see the world (parental authority vs. growing autonomy).
- # Identify the needs of the faith community and the local community.
- # Clarify specific opportunities available for youth discipleship in their parish and/or community and make a plan for involvement.

**Session 4:                      QUINCE AÑOS MASS OR PRAYER SERVICE PLANNING**

*GOAL:*

- # To share Mass and/or prayer service plans between participants and their parent(s) and evaluate the Quince Años process.

*OUTCOMES: At the end of the session the participants and their parent(s) will be able to:*

- # Develop a clear plan for their Quince Años mass or prayer service.
- # Evaluate the Quince Años preparation process and its effect on their family.

## APPENDIX B SUGGESTED RITUALS

- A) **A FORMAL BLESSING ONLY, WHICH MAY BE GIVEN AT ANY TIME OR PLACE BY A PRIEST OR DEACON:**

### **Prayer of Blessing**

**Loving God,  
you created all the people of the world,  
and you know each of us by name.  
We thank you for N.,  
who celebrates p... Quince Años.  
Bless N. with your love and friendship  
that p... may grow in wisdom, knowledge, and grace.  
May N. love p... family always  
and be ever faithful to p... friends.  
Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Adapted from Book of Blessings, chapter 1, XI, p. 107*

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N. - insert the name of the honoree  
p... - use appropriate pronoun

## **B) A QUINCE AÑOS CELEBRATION OF THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

Given our concern in the diocese of Fort Worth not to separate Communion from Mass without grave reason and not to schedule Communion services, the following is offered to allow for a celebration of Quince Años with a Liturgy of the Word.

Prayers may be taken from the Book of Blessings

Readings and intercessions may be taken from Sr. Angela Erevia's book.

**GATHERING RITE** Gathering Song with procession of attendants, the honoree, and the presider (and any other ministers, e.g. the lector, servers)

Opening Prayer

### **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

Reading

Responsorial Psalm

Reading (if desired)

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel

Homily

**BLESSING:** Renewal of Baptismal Promises

Prayer of Blessing over the Honoree (see Appendix B page 12)

Prayer of Dedication by the Honoree (may write own blessing or use examples from Sr. Erevia's book)

General Intercessions

The Lord's Prayer

Closing Prayer

Devotion to Mary

**CLOSING RITE** Closing Blessing

Dismissal

Closing Song during Recession of those in entrance procession

**C) A MASS FOR ONE (1) OR MORE (2) HONOREES**

at a time other than the Sunday (or Saturday evening) mass

Prayers for the Mass and Preface options are listed at the end of this Appendix. Special prayers for Quince Años, readings and intercessions may be taken from Sr. Angela Erevia's book.

**(1) FOR ONE HONOREE**

**GATHERING RITE** Procession during Opening Hymn with servers, attendants (optional), honoree with parents, minister of the Word, priest

Opening rites (penitential rite, opening prayer)

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

Reading

Responsorial Psalm

Reading (if desired)

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel

Homily

**Blessing:**

Renewal of Baptismal Promises by honoree *and* all present

Prayer of Blessing over the Honoree (see Appendix B page 12)

Prayer of Dedication by the Honoree (May write your own prayer or use examples from Sr. Angela Erevia's book)

Gifts presented by Padrinos

Blessing of the Gifts

General Intercessions, including one for the honoree

**LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

Presentation and Preparation of the Bread and Wine

Eucharistic Prayer with acclamations sung by all (if possible)

The Lord's Prayer

Sign of Peace

[c] (1) cont.] **(LIT. OF EUCH. cont.)**

Breaking of the Bread

Communion - The honoree and her parents go first to communion.

Prayer after Communion

**CLOSING RITES**

Devotion to Mary

Closing Blessing

Dismissal

Closing Song during Recession of those in entrance procession

**(2) FOR SEVERAL HONOREES**

For brevity, only the differences are noted.

**GATHERING RITES** Procession during Opening Hymn with servers, honorees accompanied by their parents, minister of the Word, priest

**Blessing:**

Renewal of Baptismal Promises by honorees *and* all present

Prayer of Blessing over the honorees

Prayer of Dedication by the honorees, said together

Gifts presented by Padrinos

Blessing of the Gifts

General Intercessions, including one for the honorees

**LITURGY OF  
THE EUCHARIST**

Communion - The honorees and their parents go first to communion.

**CLOSING RITES**

Devotion to Mary - The honorees may take flowers to the Marian shrine. A single rose from each one is appropriate.

## **D) THE PARISH SUNDAY (OR SATURDAY EVENING) MASS:**

The texts of prayers, readings and intercessions are those of the Sunday mass except as noted by an asterisk (\*). These may be found in Sr. Erevia's book.

The honoree with parents (several honorees with their parents) may be included in the opening procession. They will sit in front pew(s).

Honorees will be mentioned in the intercessions and may lead the intercessions.

After Communion the priest will call the honoree(s) forward for a few words of thanksgiving for their life and faith, congratulations on this occasion, and a special blessing. \* Between the congratulations and the special blessing the honoree(s) may offer a prayer of dedication . \*

The honoree(s) may leave flowers at the Marian shrine, then return to their place.

The final blessing may be directed first to the honorees. \*

They may be included in the closing procession or not.

### **RITUAL TEXTS FOR MASSES**

#### **ON THE OCCASION OF ONE OR MORE QUINCE AÑOS CELEBRATIONS**

Opening Prayer, Prayer over the Gifts, and Prayer after Communion

We suggest #39 - In Thanksgiving, **B** in the Sacramentary, P. 923.

Preface            P 34 (Sundays in Ordinary Time, VI) - The Pledge of an Eternal Easter  
or                    P 30 (Weekdays IV) - Praise of God is His Gift

Prayer of Blessing, adapted from *Book of Blessings*, chapter 1, XI, B, p. 107.

[See Appendix B, p. 9.]

**Early Adolescent Development**

<b>The Changes of Early Adolescence</b>
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**Physical Development**

- γ developing secondary sex characteristics and the capacity to reproduce
- γ being sensitive about physical changes and confused about their emerging sexuality
- γ incorporating their bodily changes into their own self image as male or female

**Intellectual Development**

- γ beginning to move from concrete thinking (what is) to abstract thinking, A formal operations,≡ (what might be true if...)
- γ questioning and testing adults= statements and evaluating adults= values
- γ being painfully self-conscious and critical, idealistic, argumentative, self-centered
- γ expanding interests; intense, short term enthusiasm

**Identity Development**

- γ requiring time to reflect upon the new reactions they receive from others and to build a consistent self-image from the different mirrors in which they see themselves
- γ discovering who they are as unique persons with abilities, interests and goals
- γ seeking limited independence and autonomy from parents and adults

**Moral Development**

- γ engaging in more complex decision-making process
- γ resolving moral dilemmas in terms of the expectations of someone or something other than themselves, which can be (a) family, friends or other significant persons or (b) what the law or the system of good order calls for in a given situation

**Interpersonal Development**

- γ relying on parents and families in setting values and giving affection
- γ identifying more strongly with the peer group for belonging and friendships
- γ entering a broader social world of middle school, peer groups, and activity groups
- γ developing the ability to consider the feelings and needs of others in a relationship
- γ learning how to relate to the opposite sex (what to say and how to behave)

**Faith Development**

- γ deriving their faith from parents and family
- γ developing their faith and identity, establishing a ser of religious beliefs, attitudes and values, through the experiences of participation and belonging in a caring faith community where they are valued

## **Appropriate Faith Themes for early adolescence**

If you are preparing a group of teens that have consistently participated in religious education and are prepared for catechesis, please keep in mind the following:

The ministry of catechesis most effectively promotes the faith growth of young and older adolescents when the curriculum is focused around important faith themes drawn from the Catholic tradition and the developing needs and life experiences of adolescents. The following set of faith themes have demonstrated their significance within the context of lifelong faith growth and learning. Their selection is designated to shed the light of the Christian message on the realities which have great impact on the adolescent (GCD 84). This framework is offered as the basis of developing a catechetical curriculum for younger adolescents (a framework also exists for older adolescents - see *Challenge of Adolescent Catechesis*, NFCYM publication). Additional catechetical faith themes may be included to address local faith themes.

### **Faith Themes for younger adolescents\***

- # **Church** - understanding and experiencing the story of the church and its mission
- # **Jesus and the Gospel Message** - exploring the life and teachings of Jesus and the call to discipleship.
- # **Morality and Moral Decision-Making** - applying Catholic moral values and virtues to life situations and decision-making.
- # **Personal Growth** - incorporating the Catholic vision of life into personal identity.
- # **Relationships** - developing and maintaining relationships based on Catholic values and the meaning of Christian community.
- # **Service** - discovering and living Jesus' call to a life of loving service.
- # **Sexuality** - understanding Catholic sexual values and attitudes and the importance of valuing chastity and sexual restraint.

\*taken from the *Challenge of Adolescent Catechesis* (Washington DC: National Federation of Catholic Youth Ministry, 1993).

Because the Quince Años can be an evangelizing teachable moment, you can use the following approach to design your preparation sessions.

## Designing an Evangelization Session

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

DURATION: \_\_\_\_\_ minutes total

MAIN THEME/TOPIC

### 1. WELCOME AND GREETING OF PARTICIPANTS

Methods to be used:

### 2. WARM-UP AND COMMUNITY BUILDING

Methods and group activities to be used:

### 3. THE AWORK $\cong$ OF THE SESSION: PRESENTING THE STORY OF FAITH

a. Speaker=s Personal Story/Experience

Description:

**b. Scripture Story To Be Proclaimed**

Scripture passage:

Notes:

**c. Reflections/Talk About Scripture Story**

Notes:

**d. Activities and Discussion**

Methods and activities to be used:

**4. WRAP-UP AND CLOSING PRAYER**

Methods and activities to be used:

**OPTIONAL: SOCIAL TIME AND REFRESHMENTS**

Notes on What=s Needed:

## **RESOURCES/MATERIALS NEEDED:**

## **EVALUATIVE COMMENTS:**

### **A Suggested Interview**

**Faith Inventory** This inventory is not meant to show how much someone knows or doesn't know but can be used to interview teens to get a sense of where they are at in their faith development. The inventory can also identify specific areas that you can invite the teenager to focus on in their family and in the youth ministry/religious education program. This inventory is based on the Creed.

1. How is prayer important in your life? Give examples of how you pray.
2. Why is participating in Mass important? Talk about your experience of Mass over the past two years.
3. Why is it important to be familiar with the Bible? What is your favorite Bible reading and why?
4. What is important about knowing God as the Trinity or the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?
5. How do you worship God?
6. How do you show that Christ's love is alive in your life today?
7. What do we mean when we say that God is the Creator of the Universe?
8. What do we mean when we say that Jesus is the incarnation?
9. What do we mean when we say that Jesus is both fully God and fully human?
10. When we say that Jesus freed us from sin, what do we mean?
11. What do we believe about Jesus' last days?
12. When did Jesus' apostles and disciples first experience the gift of the Holy Spirit and how does the Holy Spirit work in the world today?
13. What are the sacraments and how have the sacraments affected you and your family/community?
14. Why is the Blessed Virgin Mary important to Catholics?
15. How does the church guide us in living according to the way of Jesus?
16. Why is the forgiveness of sins important for us as Catholics, and how do we celebrate God's mercy and compassion in the church?

17. What do we mean by Alife everlasting≡?
18. Why is service to others important to Catholics?

### **Resources for adult advocates working with teens on an individual basis to mentor them in faith.**

#### ***In English:***

One Faith, One Lord: A study of Basic Catholic Belief, William Sadlier Publisher,1994.

The Catholic Faith: An Introduction, Benziger Publishing Co., 1997.

A Companion Way: Mentoring Youth in Searching Faith, John M. Vitek, St. Mary=s Press, 1989.

One Kid At A Time: How to start and grow a mentoring relationship, Miles McPhearson and Wayne Rice, David C. Cook Publishing, 1995.

#### ***En Espanol***

La Vida En Cristo, Padres Killgallon, Weber & Ziegmann, Acta Publications, 1978.

Catequesis sobre la Misa, Héctor Antoñana, Ega-Mensajero, 1993.

Introduccion a la Biblia 101: Preguntas y respuestas, Juan Alfaro, O.S.B. , Liguori, 1994.

### **Resource listing for the Coordinator of Quince Años preparation**

#### ***Bi-lingual editions:***

The Challenge of Adolescent Catechesis: Maturing in Faith/ El Reto de la Catequesis de Adolescentes, National Federation of Catholic Youth Ministry, 1986.

The Challenge of Catholic Youth Evangelization/El Desafío de la Evangelización de la Juventud Católica, National Federation of Catholic Youth Ministry, 1993.

From Age To Age: The Challenge of Worship With Youth/En Toda Era: El Dasafío Del Culto Con Adolescentes, National Federation of Catholic Youth Ministry, Washington DC, St. Mary=s Press, 1997.

Renewing the Vision: A Framework of Catholic Youth Ministry, United States Catholic Conference, Washington DC, 1997.

Prophets of Hope Vol. 1: Hispanic Young People and the Church=s Pastoral Response, Carmen Cervantes, EdD, St. Mary=s Press, 1994.

Prophets of Hope Vol. 2: Evangelization of Hispanic Young People, Carmen Cervantes, EdD, St. Mary=s Press, 1995.

#### ***English only Editions:***

Faith and Culture: A Multi-cultural Catechetical Resource, Dept. Of Education, USCC, 1987.

Relational Youth Ministry: A Core Team Model, Mark McCann, St. Mary=s Press, 1995.

The Catholic Faith: An Introduction, Benziger Publishing Co., 1997.



COMPLETE AN EVALUATION FOR EACH SESSION.  
(Participants only)

**QUINCE AÑOS OVERALL PROGRAM EVALUATION  
DIOCESE OF FORT WORTH**

**Evaluation Form**

1. What is your overall feeling after participating in the Quince Años program?
2. What did you gain from the program? (Benefits and learnings)
3. What were your disappointments and dissatisfactions with the preparation program?
4. Some suggestions I would like to make to improve the program:
5. Would you be willing to serve in some capacity in our parish Quince Años program next year? If yes, in what capacity? Ex. Quince Años team, mentor, presenter, etc.?

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**Each participant and their parents/godparents/guardians who went through the process with them should fill out separate evaluations using this form.**