



What Makes a Great Nurturing Seedlings Facilitator?

Nurturing Seedlings is first and foremost relational ministry. It is not teaching or preaching. It is not theology or catechesis (although there are gentle bits of theology and catechesis tucked in!). It is walking alongside young parents, supporting them, cheering them on and equipping them with some simple skills for nurturing faith in their baby, toddler or preschooler.

A great *Nurturing Seedlings* facilitator simply needs to have a joyful faith and a caring personality. Someone who wants to walk lovingly and non-judgmentally with young parents to help them learn how to develop their young child's relationship with Jesus.

Nurturing Seedlings facilitators do not need prior ministry experience. They should not be the person that already has tons of parish responsibilities on their plate. This is a wonderful chance to invite parishioners into the life of the church to share their gifts of faith with young parents.

Since *Nurturing Seedlings* is a mentorship-style ministry, facilitators should be parents that are at least one season ahead of raising children ages 0-5. Good candidates would be parents with children in elementary school, middle school, high school or beyond. Empty nesters and grandparents make great *Nurturing Seedling* facilitators!

Prayer to the Holy Spirit can help identify some parishioners who might feel blessed to be a part of this ministry. The ideal team size for each parish is 4-6 facilitators, with one serving as a Team Coordinator. The Team Coordinator will be the point person with the Office of Faith Formation and Parish Life.

Please contact Kelly Henderschedt, Archdiocesan Director of Faith Formation at the Office of Faith Formation and Parish Life for more information.



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