

## **Definitions List**

**Agape** - Literally it means selfless, unconditional love. In SPRED the word Agape is what we call the portion near the end of both the Total Community Session as well as the preparation session for the catechists when we share a simple refreshment together. We are selflessly celebrating our unconditional love for God and one another in the breaking of the bread.

**Animation** – To animate is to give life. In SPRED animation refers to bringing the good news of SPRED to families and parishes throughout a geographic area.

**Catechesis** – The official definition is: "... education in faith of children, young people and adults which includes the teaching of Christian doctrine imparted, generally speaking, in an **organic and systematic way, with a view of initiating the hearers into the fullness of Christian life.**" (CCC5). **In SPRED catechesis is awakening and awareness of God's presence and love in all people and all of life. In SPRED we work to develop a sense of the sacred; a sense** of God and a sense of Church.

**Covenant** – A sacred agreement made by God with a person, a group or a community of people or with humanity in general.

**Evocation** – From the Latin word *evocation*, it means "calling forth". The SPRED process is developed on a series of evocations to summon up memories of life experiences juxtaposed with memories of sacramental and liturgical experiences. An evocation stirs feeling not simply facts.

**Intentionality** – Derived from the Latin word *intentio*, which means being directed toward some goal. It is a philosophical concept, of being deliberate or purposive. In SPRED it is our reflections that are purposively formed by an intention, a mental state, e.g. thoughts, beliefs, desires and hopes that are directed toward a goal.

**Interiorization** – Is the incorporation into one's inner life. In SPRED we juxtapose the awareness of what one lives and feels, next to the awareness of how the group feels about what we live together.

**Juxtaposition** – The placing together of two contrasting objects, images or ideas, so that the similarities between them can be evoked. In SPRED we juxtapose the evocation of life experiences with Liturgical experiences and experiences of the People of God (Scripture) following an intentionality.

**Kerygma/Kerygmatic** – A Greek word that means "to proclaim". In Catholic theology it is often associated with a proclamatory form of catechesis that confidently proclaims the great deeds of God in salvation history and calls for a response of praise and worship.

**Liturgical Catechesis** This is a form of catechesis that aims to initiate people into the mystery of Christ through a sense of the sacred. The catechetical experience echoes the rites and rituals of sacrament and liturgy.

**Method Vivre** This is the method of catechesis born from a doctoral study in Lyon, France by Fr. Jean Mesny and used today by SPRED. The method is to develop small communities of faith within parishes that welcome persons with developmental disabilities or learning challenges. SPRED is a method that honors the person's way of knowing and offers a sense of belonging in the small community with the goal of inclusion in the liturgical and sacramental life of the parish. It is the elements of the Method Vivre upon which the SPRED program is based. These elements include the Evocation of the Human Experience, The Interiorization, The Liturgical Evocation, The Biblical Evocation, The Action and Message, and The Personal Expression.

**Mystery** – Something that is difficult or impossible to understand or explain; The Mystery of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

**Obligatory Basis** – The Obligatory Basis is composed of biblical, liturgical and doctrinal elements that are the compulsory principal components of the church. There are 5 Revelatory Axes:

- Election: the God who calls us.
- Covenant: the God who makes covenant with us.
- Salvation: the God who saves us.
- Creation: the God who creates us.
- Sanctification: the God who makes us holy.

**Pedagogy** – A practice of teaching by discovery. In SPRED it is the practice of experiencing through discovery our faith as a kingdom, a promised land, and a salvation for ourselves today.

**Personal Expression/Interpretive Movement** – Giving life to God's words through movement, gesture and song.

**Sanctification** – A Greek word, translated means, "Holiness". To sanctify is to make holy.

**Symbol** – an object or visual image that suggest or points to a reality beyond itself. Symbol is the door to Mystery.

**Symbolic Catechesis** – Symbolic catechesis is the use of a symbol to catechize. Symbol serves as the bridge between one's inner thoughts and experiences and the people and the world around us. We use symbols in SPRED to evoke memory and draw out feeling in order to uncover the sacred dimension of all life in order to reveal God's love for us and grow in faith.