



Thursday, **OCTOBER 9, 2025** – 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Passport to Success

Sponsored by Our Sunday Visitor and the Diocesan Office of Religious Education

St. George Parish
38 Brattle St., Worcester 01606

Childhood and Adolescence in a Digital Age: Implications for Catechesis and Formation



Dr. Joseph White

How can we help young people navigate the new digital landscape? How (and how much) should we use technology as we form learners in faith? Could AI eventually replace the catechist? In this talk, presented by a child psychologist and catechetical author, we'll discuss the benefits and boundaries of digital tools for catechesis, new applications of artificial intelligence, and the need for formation in media mindfulness as technology grows.

Windows of Opportunity: How Child Development Can Help Us to Present the Right Content at the Right Time

Is there a “right time” to discover particular concepts in religion class? Recent discoveries in brain science, paired with research in social, cognitive, and moral development, suggests that there are particular “windows of opportunity” – developmental periods when children and teens will be most engaged as they encounter specific material and concepts. Come and discover how this work applies to religious education as we explore how the science of child and adolescent development can help us prepare learners for a lifelong journey of faith.

Dr. Joseph White is a Child and Family Psychologist and Associate Publisher for Catechetical Resources at OSV Publishing. He formerly served as a parish Director of Faith Formation for two years and then worked for seven years as Director of Family Counseling and Family Life for the Diocese of Austin, Texas. Dr. White has written twelve books and numerous articles about catechesis, Catholic education, spirituality, and ministry, including *Listening for God in Everyday Life* and the *Companion to the Directory for Catechesis*. He is co-author of the *Allelu* and *Alive in Christ* religion series. He also served on the writing team for the U.S. Bishops' *Handbook on the Catechetical Accompaniment Process*.

PASSPORT TO SUCCESS: The Digital Context – October 9, 2025

To Register:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____
Street City State Zip

email _____

Please include \$25 fee per catechetical leader and \$10 for each guest with your registration. **Lunch Included!**
Make check payable to: Office of Religious Education and mail to same at
49 Elm St., Worcester, MA 01609 For additional information, please contact Tina at (508) 929-4303

Or register online: <https://worcesterdiocese.org/passport-to-success>

Register by Friday, October 3rd.