National Digital Discipleship Competencies for Ministry

© 2018

DDN
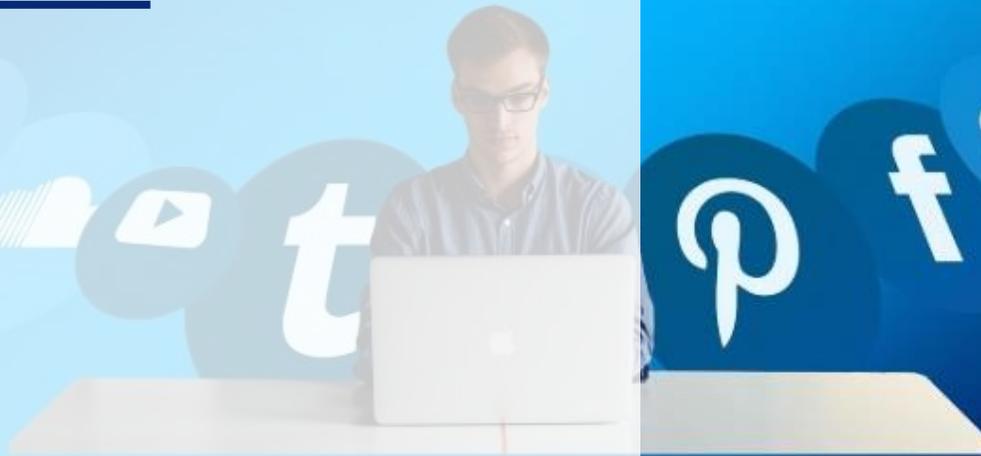
This page left intentionally blank

This page left intentionally blank

Preface

Why these worksheets for the "National Digital Disciple Competencies for Ministry"?

If you look around, our world is becoming more immersed in a Digital Culture, Language, and Skills. However, how we apply this world to our ministries, is still in the process of being shaped and formed by various leaders. The list of competencies (or "best practices") here was developed by a group of leader ministers in 2017 and presented at the January Digital Disciple Summit 2018 in Orlando, Florida.
Collaborative partners with members representing the **Digital Disciple Network** (DDN), **National Association of Catholic Media Partners (NACMP)** and the **National Catholic Education Association (NCEA)** developed the statements in this document. The members representing these organizations include the following:

- Claire McManus, Director Adult Formation & Spirituality, Diocese of Fall River
- John Roberto, President of LifelongFaith Associates
- Steve Botsford, Director of Religious Education, St. Ann Church, Marietta, Georgia
- Kellie De Leo, Director of Faith Formation, St. Bartholomew Church, Long Beach, CA
- Andrea Kopp, Assistant Director of Professional Development, NCEA
- Andrea Slaven, Associate Director of Faith Formation/Instructional Technologist, Diocese of Syracuse
- Timone Davis, Assistant Professor of Pastoral Theology, with an emphasis in Black Catholic Theology, Loyola University Chicago, Institute of Pastoral Studies
- Jose Amaya, Director, Faith Formation, Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA
- Ruth Manlandro, Consultant at Educational Collaborators
- Caroline Cerveny, SSJ-TOSF, President, Digital Disciple Network

This workbook provides you with an opportunity to reflect on what you are already doing in your ministry with the various digital tools as well as providing an opportunity to identify areas that you "Would Like to be Able to Do." The competencies are a helpful guide in areas of digital discipleship.

Is there any one exact way of practicing a competency? Probably not! The statements are meant to be guides to what is possible. How you practice them will vary from person to person.

What is important, is that you make two simple judgments:

- I am already doing this, or
- I would like to be able to do this.

So, how do I use this tool? Find a quiet space and simply read through the statements. If you can think of a couple of examples that shows that you are already doing this, great! Check the "I am already doing this box." If you are unable to think of an example, then you check off "I would like to be able to do this."

See the next page for an example.

Community Discipleship

1. Community Discipleship - Ministers engage technology for creating faith relationships with others.	I am already doing this.	I would like to be able to do this.
A lay ecclesial minister, committed to growth, desires to more deeply:		
a) Ministers develop ways to reach out to their online communities to share personal experiences, prayer for their own personal faith journey, prayer for the needs of the online community, and to celebrate special occasions like birthdays, accomplishments, etc.	X	
b) Ministers share inspirational insights with online friends and companions to encourage each other toward living with Christ-like characteristics in their everyday lives. They introduce spiritual content into their use of social media. Ministers model being their authentic selves in relationship with Jesus.		X
c) Ministers build networks and customize their teaching the faith to support faith formation in both face-to-face and online environments.		X
d) Ministers understand the basics of social media, demonstrate the ability to choose, use, and troubleshoot current social technologies, and are able to transfer their knowledge to explore emerging technologies.	X	
e) Ministers adapt technology to develop relationships in the contexts of faith formation, evangelization, peace and justice, and interfaith dialogue.	X	

On a scale of 1 to 10, where 10 is the best, how would you rate your skills and experience for this "best practice"?

| 1 | | 2 | | 3 | | 4 | | 5 | | 6 | ⭐ | 7 | | 8 | | 9 | | 10 |
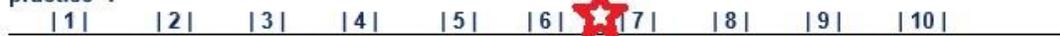
How do you plan to grow in this area?

Since this person checked 3 areas as "doing" and two as "would like to be doing" they indicated with a star that they are a little past the half-way point in this area. A comment they could make about growing in these areas might be – *I'm going to find other ministers on Facebook to see how they introduce spiritual content into their posts. I've heard about "blended learning." I'm going to ask my tech friends how I can learn more about this methodology that allows for both face-to-face and online learning options.*

Now, take some time to review where you are in your journey to becoming a Digital Disciple.

Community Discipleship

1. Community Discipleship - Ministers engage technology for creating faith relationships with others.	I am already doing this.	I would like to be able to do this.
A lay ecclesial minister, committed to growth, desires to more deeply:		
a) Ministers develop ways to reach out to their online communities to share personal experiences, prayer for their own personal faith journey, prayer for the needs of the online community, and to celebrate special occasions like birthdays, accomplishments, etc.		
b) Ministers share inspirational insights with online friends and companions to encourage each other toward living with Christ-like characteristics in their everyday lives. They introduce spiritual content into their use of social media. Ministers model being their authentic selves in relationship with Jesus.		
c) Ministers build networks and customize their teaching the faith to support faith formation in both face-to-face and online environments.		
d) Ministers understand the basics of social media, demonstrate the ability to choose, use, and troubleshoot current social technologies, and are able to transfer their knowledge to explore emerging technologies.		
e) Ministers adapt technology to develop relationships in the contexts of faith formation, evangelization, peace and justice, and interfaith dialogue.		

On a scale of 1 to 10, where 10 is the best, how would you rate your skills and experience for this "best practice"?

| 1 | | 2 | | 3 | | 4 | | 5 | | 6 | | 7 | | 8 | | 9 | | 10 |

How do you plan to grow in this area?

Digital Citizenship

2. Digital Citizenship - Ministers recognize the rights, responsibilities, and opportunities of living, learning and working in an interconnected digital world, and they act and model in ways that are safe, legal, and ethical.	I am already doing this.	I would like to be able to do this.
A lay ecclesial minister, committed to growth, desires to more deeply:		
a) Ministers cultivate and manage their digital identity and reputation and are aware of the permanence of their actions in the digital world.		
b) Ministers engage in positive, safe, legal and ethical behaviors when using technology, including social interactions online or when using networked devices.		
c) Ministers demonstrate an understanding of and respect for the rights and obligations of using and sharing intellectual property.		
d) Ministers manage their personal data to maintain digital privacy and security and are aware of data collection technology used to track their navigation online.		
e) Ministers are aware of and follow the articulated technology policies that are shared by the USCCB, NFCYM, and their diocese or parish.		

On a scale of 1 to 10, where 10 is the best, how would you rate your skills and experience for this "best practice"?

| 1 | | 2 | | 3 | | 4 | | 5 | | 6 | | 7 | | 8 | | 9 | | 10 |

How do you plan to grow in this area?

Digital Communicator

3. Digital Communicator - Ministers use a variety of platforms and digital tools to evangelize and share faith.	I am already doing this.	I would like to be able to do this.
A lay ecclesial minister, committed to growth, desires to more deeply:		
a) Ministers use social media, online content, digital photography and more to reach and share resources with a ministry audience.		
b) Ministers are able to use various digital tools (e.g., a blog tool) as a virtual bulletin board for ministry sharing devotional thoughts, encouragement, outreach, to interact with their audience.		
c) Ministers are able to create and teach Digital Stories as an interactive message to bring the Word of God to their audiences.		
d) Ministers are able to coach others in facilitating use of digital skills and content creation.		
e) Ministers are able to use collaborative digital tools for faith formation (e.g., brainstorming, creating a list, or writing a document).		
f) Ministers are able to convene a live meeting using interactive digital meeting platforms.		

On a scale of 1 to 10, where 10 is the best, how would you rate your skills and experience for this "best practice"?

| 1 | | 2 | | 3 | | 4 | | 5 | | 6 | | 7 | | 8 | | 9 | | 10 |

How do you plan to grow in this area?

Mobile Evangelization and Catechesis

4. Mobile Evangelization and Catechesis - Ministers are able to "sow the seed" of faith, engaging others in sharing their faith online through mobile tools.	I am already doing this.	I would like to be able to do this.
A lay ecclesial minister, committed to growth, desires to more deeply:		
a) Ministers use digital mobile devices to enhance faith formation at all levels.		
b) Ministers responsibly repurpose or remix digital resources into new creations to deepen faith formation.		
c) Ministers review and choose online faith content that is appropriate for an intended audience.		
d) Ministers create opportunities to pray online.		
e) Ministers use online tools and apps for Bible study and to enhance their understanding of Jesus.		
f) Ministers promote and practice a digital learning culture that provides relevant and practical learning experiences for their faith community (family, RCIA, youth, etc.).		
g) Ministers publish or present a digital story that customizes a faith message for their audiences.		
h) Ministers create websites that are mobile-optimized with responsive design.		

On a scale of 1 to 10, where 10 is the best, how would you rate your skills and experience for this "best practice"?

| 1 | | 2 | | 3 | | 4 | | 5 | | 6 | | 7 | | 8 | | 9 | | 10 |

How do you plan to grow in this area?

Collaborative Disciple

5. Collaborative Disciple - Ministers are able to engage in digital collaboration.	I am already doing this.	I would like to be able to do this.
A lay ecclesial minister, committed to growth, desires to more deeply:		
a) Ministers strive to work collaboratively with others developing needed digital collaboration skills.		
b) Ministers are able to use collaborative digital tools to find and share information.		
c) Ministers are able to develop a digital workplace that leads to engaged, productive collaborators who innovate and create 21st Century digital Faith Formation.		
d) Ministers are able to collaborate with others to create products that are shared in a digital format.		

On a scale of 1 to 10, where 10 is the best, how would you rate your skills and experience for this "best practice"?

| 1 | | 2 | | 3 | | 4 | | 5 | | 6 | | 7 | | 8 | | 9 | | 10 |

How do you plan to grow in this area?

Digital Curator

6. Digital Curator - Ministers critically curate a variety of resources using digital tools to provide meaningful learning experiences for themselves and others.	I am already doing this.	I would like to be able to do this.
A lay ecclesial minister, committed to growth, desires to more deeply:		
a) Ministers are able to identify a website as Catholic and to determine if it is sponsored by the Vatican, the USCCB, a Diocese, a Parish, a Catholic Publisher, a Catholic University, or by an individual or group.		
b) Ministers are able to identify the author of a resource by name and who they represent – Vatican, diocese, parish, publisher, university, self, their degree(s), and other helpful information.		
c) Ministers are able to identify when the content was created, i.e., whether the information is current or dated.		
d) Ministers are able to determine why a site exists, and to identify bias.		
e) Ministers are able to curate existing Catholic content on the web to enrich the resources available to all.		
f) Ministers are able to share balanced and authoritative teachings of the Catholic Church, reflecting post-Vatican II theology and pastoral practice.		

On a scale of 1 to 10, where 10 is the best, how would you rate your skills and experience for this "best practice"?

| 1 | | 2 | | 3 | | 4 | | 5 | | 6 | | 7 | | 8 | | 9 | | 10 |

How do you plan to grow in this area?

"Communication has the power to build bridges, to enable encounter and inclusion, and thus to enrich society. How beautiful it is when people select their words and actions with care, in the effort to avoid misunderstandings, to heal wounded memories and to build peace and harmony. Words can build bridges between individuals and within families, social groups and peoples. This is possible both in the material world and the digital world. Our words and actions should be such as to help us all escape the vicious circles of condemnation and vengeance which continue to ensnare individuals and nations, encouraging expressions of hatred. The words of Christians ought to be a constant encouragement to communion and, even in those cases where they must firmly condemn evil, they should never try to rupture relationships and communication."

50ᵗʰ World Communications Day: Communication and Mercy: A Fruitful Encounter - Pope Francis

**For additional information about DIGITAL DISCIPLE NETWORK, visit
https://digitaldisciple.network**