



ARCHDIOCESE FOR THE MILITARY SERVICES, USA  
The Most Reverend Timothy P. Broglio

19 March 2015

To the Clergy and Lay Catechetical Leadership of the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA:

I am pleased to introduce the AMS Family Faith Assessment, an online learning process to support Catholic military families as they grow in faith. The assessment is designed as a resource to engage family catechesis at home to support what is being taught in religious education at each grade level, K-8.

Recognizing the mobility of military life, the AMS Family Faith Assessment also provides each Catholic family with access to a digital AMS Family Faith Passport. Together, the assessment and the passport allow families and Catholic coordinators to view what has been mastered in religious education and become aware of what needs attention. Families will have access to the digital passport as they move throughout the Archdiocese serving in the military and government service outside the borders of the United States.

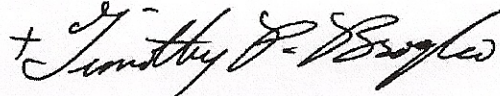
The AMS Family Faith Assessment is a process derived from and in support of *Forming Disciples for the New Evangelization: Archdiocesan Religion Curriculum Guide*. Each question is taken from the standards and indicators or linked to the key elements of a Catholic life as stated in the curriculum guide. During the months of September-October, parents and children (grades 3-8) will take the Family Assessment 1 together. Parents and children will continue to engage the faith at home with the Family Play quizzes/games in the months leading up to a Student Assessment 2 held in April-May. Given that parents will have journeyed with their children and given witness to the faith throughout the catechetical year, children will take the Student Assessment 2 by themselves to indicate what they have learned.

The *National Directory for Catechesis* (no. 29.D) and *Familiaris Consortio* (no. 38) both affirm that “within the Christian family, parents are the primary educators in the faith and ‘the first heralds of the faith with regard to their children.’” Equipping families to exercise their baptismal duty strengthens the faith formation efforts of the Catholic faith community at every military chapel and those of the Archdiocese in its entirety (GDC, no 254).

As I affirmed in the decree of promulgation, the purpose of the curriculum guide is to provide a standard instrument for ensuring that the Catholic faith is taught in a complete, systematic, and consistent way in the Catholic faith communities throughout the Archdiocese. The standards and indicators clearly state what participants in every Catholic faith community religious education program must know, understand, and do at each grade level.

Information about the assessment is available on the archdiocesan website, [www.milarch.org](http://www.milarch.org), or by contacting the Office of Faith Formation. The AMS endorsed priest will be the Administrator and responsible for initiating and maintaining the installation's Family Faith Assessment account. The instructions to open the account are located in the priest password protected site of the AMS website. Contact José Amaya, Director of Faith Formation, regarding training and assistance with the assessment at [jamaya@milarch.org](mailto:jamaya@milarch.org).

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Timothy P. Broglio". The signature is written in a cursive style with a cross at the beginning.

(Most Reverend) Timothy P. Broglio, J.C.D.  
Archbishop for the Military Services, USA