In addition to the issue of becoming the “Sacrament of farewell,” Confirmation has also come to be understood by many people (clergy & catechists, included) as a sort of Catholic Bar/Bat Mitzvah—a young Catholic’s personal acceptance of the faith into which he or she was baptized. Confirmation, however, immediately followed Baptism (even with infants) for many centuries in the West, and this practice continues in the Eastern Churches even today. Instead of simply delaying students’ departure from religious education programs, it stresses the value of catechesis on its own, independent of Sacramental preparation. It also serves to remind parents that they must be the first & best teachers of their children in the ways of faith. There will be no magical cure-all to the issues of catechesis.