

CATECHIST CERTIFICATION

WHAT IS A CATECHIST?

A catechist is a teacher of the principals of our Catholic faith which using the Catechism of the Catholic Church. As a traditional catechist teaching with our faith formation program or as a member of the leadership of our parish, you serve as a catechist to your brothers and sisters within our community.

"You can't love what you don't know much about. You can't convince, stimulate, hold the attention, teach, if you don't know what you're talking about."

~David McCullough~



LEADERS IN FAITH

Parish staff, School Staff, Ministry Leaders, Parish Leadership, Catechists, and more are strongly encouraged to participate in this program. It is a great way to help you grow closer to Jesus Christ!

ECHOING THE GOSPEL FOR CATECHISTS

Echoing the Gospel for Catechists is a program to help all catechetical leaders of our parish receive a well-rounded personal formation. You can learn more about this entire program at the parish website.

Dimensions of Catechist Certification

Spirituality

All those called to the catechetical ministry must show themselves to be well-formed and healthy human beings who are living good and moral lives according to the Church's teaching.

Theology

A Catechists faith and teaching is formed by the study of the Catholic theological tradition. A Catechist growing in theological competence can articulate and interpret this Catholic teaching and tradition with disciples from diverse communities.

Methodology

Methodology prepares the Catechist for being able to teach and model the faith to children, youth or adults. Methodology requires that catechists understand how to teach and the models that work best in their setting.

Basic Level Catechist Certification

Basic Level 1 Certification

- ❑ Total of 9 clock hours of effective formation
- ❑ These 9 hours include a minimum of 3 clock hours in SPIRITUALITY; 3 clock hours in THEOLOGY; and 3 clock hours in METHODOLOGY.
- ❑ Basic Level 1 certification is good for two years and may be renewed only once.

Basic Level 2 Certification

- ❑ A total of 15 additional clock hours of effective formation.
- ❑ These clock hours include a minimum of 5 clock hours in SPIRITUALITY, 5 in THEOLOGY of the Catholic faith and 5 hours in METHODOLOGY.
- ❑ Basic level 2 certification is good for three years and may be renewed.

Basic Level 3 Certification

- ❑ A total of 16 additional hours of formation
- ❑ These clock hours include a minimum of 5 clock hours in SPIRITUALITY, 5 hours in THEOLOGY and 5 hours in METHODOLOGY with one additional hour in any dimension.
- ❑ Basic level 3 certification is good for three years and may be renewed.

Once a catechist has reached a total of 40 formation hours they may apply for a **Diocesan Catechetical Certification**. Diocesan Certification requires 50 formation hours. At that time they move into the Professional certification requirements.

Renewal of Basic Level Certification for Catechists

Renewal of Basic Level 1 Certification

- ❑ Total of 9 clock hours of effective formation
- ❑ These 9 hours include a minimum of 3 clock hours in each of the three dimensions of formation.
- ❑ Renewal must be completed within 2 years of achieving this level of certification. Renewal extends certification status for two additional years.

Renewal of Basic level 2 Certification

- ❑ Total of 15 clock hours of effective formation
- ❑ These 15 hours include a minimum of 5 clock hours in each of the three dimensions of formation.
- ❑ Must be completed within 3 years of achieving this level of certification. Renewal extends certification status for three additional years.

Renewal of Basic Level 3 Certification

- ❑ Total of 15 clock hours of effective formation
- ❑ These 15 hours include a minimum of 5 clock hours in each of the three dimensions of formation,
- ❑ Must be completed within 3 years of achieving this level of certification. Renewal extends certification status for 3 additional years. If the catechist has reached 40 hours they are now eligible to earn 10 additional hours for **Diocesan Certification**.