

Religious Education: Catechist

Description of your role

A catechist assists parents in introducing and explaining basic concepts of our Catholic faith.

1. The catechist works directly with children assigned to their classroom.
2. The catechist understands her/his role as one to support parents in instructing their children in the formation of their faith. The textbook description of a catechist is 'one who echoes the good news of the gospel'.

What qualifications are required to become a Catechist?

1. The Catechist is an active, practicing Catholic with a willingness and ability to share their belief in the gospel values with younger children.
2. A Catechist uses materials provided by the parish and faithfully leads participants in the presentation of age-specific concepts of the Catholic faith.
3. The Catechist will work patiently with children, catechists and parents.
4. The Catechist will complete a background check and Virtus Training, as needed.

What if I'm not sure if I know enough about my faith to teach children?

1. The director will assist you in understanding the concepts that are taught in each grade level.
2. Training sessions are offered to assist catechists in understanding basic teaching concepts.
3. Textbooks and teacher guides are provided and are very clear and understandable.
4. If you are an active, practicing Catholic and have a willingness to share your faith with children, it is very likely that you are qualified to serve as a Catechist.
5. Many catechists are parents who enjoy working with children and other adults on the religious education team.

What can I expect in my role as a Catechist?

1. Catechists find satisfaction in presenting textbook materials to their students.
2. Catechists develop relationships of trust with their students. There can be great satisfaction in observing students as they expand their understanding of God.
3. Catechists report an increase in their own understanding of the Catholic faith.
4. Catechists develop a working relationship with other catechists and support staff. It is common that catechists share ideas and materials.
5. Catechists find that teaching and organizing classroom activities is fun.

What kind of support can I expect?

1. The parish provides a dedicated staff member to assist the Catechist in her/his teaching role.
2. The parish supplies textbooks and teacher guides that outline concepts that the Catechist uses in instructing the students.
3. The parish provides an environment conducive to teaching and learning.
4. The catechist has access to multi media resources, and support personnel that can assist in offering suggestions specific to classroom topics.
5. The parish offers training sessions that assist Catechists in understanding basic teaching concepts.

What if I have other questions to ask about becoming a Catechist?

Please contact:

Or by email: