

“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always until the end of the age.”

- Matthew 28:19-20

What do I need to do to become a catechist?

- ♥ Open your heart and your home to all children of our parish community.
- ♥ Be willing to share your life in Christ with youth.
- ♥ Have a faith life which is continually deepened through prayer, reflection, study and participation in the community.

What information do you need from me before I become a catechist?

What training do I need before I become a catechist?

You will need to fill out a Preference Form. After we receive your form, you will be mailed an information packet.

You will be asked to fill out a background check form required by the Diocese of Joliet and give three references with complete names and addresses.

You will be required to read the *Diocese of Joliet Pastoral Policy Regarding Sexual Abuse of Minors*.

You must attend a Protecting God’s Children Workshop about recognizing and preventing child sexual abuse. This workshop must be completed in order for your class to be posted at placement. *(Please check the bulletin or visit the Protecting God’s Children Web site: www.virtus.org for dates, times and locations of workshops.)*

If you are a **new** catechist to the Diocese of Joliet, you are asked to attend **new** catechist’s training at Holy Spirit Catholic Community and the Diocese Initial Catechist Formation (more information and dates are available through the Religious Formation Ministry).

Once I become a catechist for Holy Spirit, what do I need to do?

- Attend Mass weekly.
- Pray for the spirit of wisdom, spirit of love and the spirit of joy.
- Continue my faith formation.
- Adhere to the Religious Formation calendar.
- Attend scheduled in-service catechist meetings throughout the year with a willingness to discuss personal faith and share ideas for class.
- Prepare lessons for class.
- **Required Class Time Commitment: Two adults must be present in each class.**
 - **Grades 1-8: weekly sessions for 1 hour and 15 minutes (per grade level calendars).**
 - **High School: bimonthly sessions for 1 hour and 30 minutes.**

- Keep accurate attendance records on attendance sheet provided. Attendance sheet must be submitted at the end of the year to the Religious Formation Ministry office.
- Pick up materials from my class file folder and check bulletin for additional information on a weekly basis.
- Distribute information from the file folder to parents through the children.
- Copy any correspondence to parents or students that did not originate from the Religious Formation staff and give copy to grade-level director or coordinator.
- Notify grade-level director or coordinator if a child has three absences.
- Notify parent(s) if there is a behavioral problem. Notify grade-level director or coordinator if there is no behavioral change after contacting parent.
- Notify grade-level director or coordinator if canceling or changing time of a class. Provide home study materials to parents for missed lesson if not being made up in class.
- Return materials and resources within the week which they were borrowed.
- Return materials, catechist guide, attendance sheet, etc., within two weeks of requested date.

Catechesis is a vital component in the Church's mission of turning **believers** into the **disciples** of Christ. You are passing on the faith to the next generation. We are your partners in this holy and sacred endeavor. We consider it an honor and a privilege to serve you as you teach the youth of our community.