

Catechetical Leader Certification Program – Session 2 – Preview Sheet

Catechesis and Evangelization

The next CLCP session will be on Saturday, October 16th at Christ the Teacher parish (Newman Center) in Dekalb. To prepare for this class, please read *Developing Disciples of Christ* by Julianne Stanz and also pages 41-63 in the *National Directory for Catechesis*. The NDC selection presents the nuts and bolts concerning the evangelizing character of catechesis. It's of essential importance to our class and our catechetical ministry, so I encourage you to read these pages closely.

Here are some questions to reflect on as you read *Developing Disciples of Christ* and *The National Directory for Catechesis*:

1. The *National Directory for Catechesis* #15 (on page 41) says that *catechesis is “an indispensable stage in the rich, complex, and dynamic reality of evangelization.”* This is a very important statement for us to consider. What is the relationship between evangelization and catechesis? Take a close look at Chapter 5 in Stanz's book. So, what are the implications for your work in catechesis? That is, how does the truth of this assertion impact your ministry in the parish?
2. Chapter 3 focuses on “the Kerygma.” What is it? What role does it play in our ministry? How can you best present it to others?
3. In *The Joy of the Gospel* Pope Francis says, “**every Christian is a missionary to the extent that he or she has encountered the love of God in Christ Jesus: we no longer say that we are ‘disciples’ and ‘missionaries,’ but rather that we are always ‘missionary disciples.’**” Do you resonate with this statement? What has led you to become more passionate and intentional about your faith? How do you evangelize on a personal level? How is your catechetical ministry evangelizing?
4. On page 12 in Stanz's book, she states: “**Catechesis is also not solely about the transmission of doctrine or information.**” What does she mean by this? Do you agree with her? *The General Directory for Catechesis* #67 states that “**comprehensive formation includes more than instruction: it is an apprenticeship of the entire Christian life.**” What does this image of apprenticeship convey to you? What do you see as implications for your involvement as a CL?
5. In chapter 7 Stanz, reflecting insights from the *GDC*, discusses “**the Catechumenate as a model and guide for catechesis.**” What does this mean? How does RCIA look in your parish? What is your response to her comments about RCIA in this chapter?
6. The NDC (19C on pages 56-57) asserts that “**Catechesis is essentially an ecclesial act.**” Further on it claims: “**The Christian community is in herself living catechesis.**” In the same vein, the US Bishops in their document on Adult Faith Formation called *Our Hearts Were Burning*, stated: “**The parish is the**

curriculum.” What do these statements mean? How can we make this perspective more widely known to Catholic parishioners?

7. On page 116, Stanz notes that “mature faith” is “living, explicit and fruitful.” What do these qualities look like? How is adult faith formation promoted in your parish?
8. What’s the most important take-away for you from reading Stanz’s book? The *NDC* selection?

I am looking forward to our session. Enjoy reading and reflecting on this material which is so essential to the catechetical ministry. May the Holy Spirit guide you in your prayerful preparation.

John McGrath email: jmcgrath02@gmail.com