



DIOCESE OF ROCKFORD Faith Formation Office

Date: June 8, 2023
To: Catechetical and Educational Leaders
From: John Jelinek
Director of Religious Education, Youth Ministry, and Adult Formation
Subject: Catechetical Sunday

Catechetical Sunday 2023 will be celebrated September 16 to 17. The theme this year is ***Come to Me, all you who labor and are burdened.*** This is a great time to affirm catechists who use their talents to develop the faith of students of all ages. We encourage you to nominate exceptional catechists for the Bishop O’Neil Award (which can only be received once in a catechist’s career). Catechists who have reached certain service milestones can receive a Long-Term Catechist Award. Please see the attached guidelines and forms to help you determine which of your catechists are eligible for what award.

To assist us in processing these forms, we will be following this timeline:

- August 18th**..... Deadline for submitting names of Parish / School award recipients to the Religious Education/Youth Ministry Office.
- September 1st**..... Award certificates and award letters sent to parishes for distribution at parish celebrations.
- September 16-17**..... Catechetical Sunday (Saturday Evening – Sunday)

I encourage you to recognize catechists of *all* ages and backgrounds, whose service impacts the faith formation of young people, adults, and families. Remember those involved in Adult Faith Formation, RCIA, Sacramental Preparation, and Youth Ministry.

Please direct any questions to Betty Mendoza in the Faith Formation Office at (815) 387-3389. For more information and additional forms, go to our website at <https://www.ceorockford.org/religious-educationyouth-ministry/>.

Thank you for your participation!

John Jelinek
Director of Religious Education, Youth Ministry & Adult Faith Formation

Enclosures