



**DIOCESE OF ROCKFORD**  
Catholic Education Office

## **CATECHIST CERTIFICATION PROGRAM**

The Diocesan Catechist Certification Program is meant to offer you:

- An understanding of the Catholic faith
- The resources and support needed for your ongoing growth in faith
- The skills needed to instruct others effectively in the Catholic Faith

### **What is catechist certification?**

The Catechist Certification Program of the Diocese of Rockford will give you the opportunity to deepen the knowledge and skills necessary for catechetical ministry to children, youth, and adults.

### **Who is catechist certification for?**

If you serve as a catechetical leader, Catholic School teacher, or volunteer catechist in the Diocese of Rockford, this program is for you!

### **What are the classes?**

Classes are based on a foundational understanding of the Catholic faith, catechetical ministry, themes of the catechism, and catechetical methodology. They are most beneficial for anyone without a theology degree.

### **Who are the presenters?**

Class presenters include Regional Directors of Religious Education, parish Directors of Religious Education, Youth Ministers, Catholic School teachers, and other pastoral ministers with expertise in various curriculum areas.

### **Do I have to bring anything?**

You are always welcome (but not required) to bring a Bible, a copy of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and a notebook or paper/pen for taking notes. Most presenters provide handouts and bibliography.

### **How do I achieve catechist certification?**

Use the Catechist Certification Record to keep track of the courses you participate in. Complete a Catechist Learning Assessment to receive credit for each class taken. Notify your parish/school administrator (Director of Religious Education, Director of Youth Ministry, or Principal) of what classes or courses you have taken by completing the Catechist Learning Assessment. They will keep track of your courses and grant certification upon completion of 6 credits for Prerequisites, 10 credits for Level 1, 22 credits for Level 2, and 18 credits for each renewal.

For more information, contact Betty Mendoza  
Diocese of Rockford  
Religious Education Department  
[bmendoza@rockforddiocese.org](mailto:bmendoza@rockforddiocese.org)

815-399-4300 ext. 389