



**DIOCESE OF ROCKFORD**  
Catholic Education Office

## **CATECHIST CERTIFICATION PROGRAM**

The Diocesan Catechist Certification Program is meant to offer catechists:

- An understanding of the Catholic faith
- The resources and support needed for their own 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 assists catechists by deepening the knowledge and skills needed for catechetical ministry to children, youth, and adults.

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

It is primarily for catechists and Catholic school teachers who teach in the Diocese of Rockford.

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

Classes are based on a foundational understanding of the Catholic faith, catechetical ministry, themes of the catechism, and catechetical methodology.

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

The faculty of the Catechist Certification Program include Regional Directors of Religious Education, parish Directors of Religious Education, Youth Ministers, Catholic School teachers, and other pastoral ministers with the 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?**

Keep a record of the classes or courses you participate in. Notify your parish catechetical leader (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 classes or courses and grant certification upon completion of 6 credits for Prerequisites, 10 credits for Level I, 22 credits for Level II, and 18 credits for each renewal.

For more information, contact Cynthia Sisson  
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