

Catechist Role Description

Catechists are called as disciples to facilitate an Encounter with Christ—they help people grow in relationship with Christ and His Church and experience a deepening of their own faith as part of the journey.

Qualities

- A desire to grow in and share the Catholic faith
- An awareness of God's grace and the desire to respond to that grace
- A commitment to the Church's liturgical and sacramental life and moral teachings
- A strength of character built on patience, responsibility, confidence, and creativity
- A generosity of spirit, respect for diversity, and a habit of hospitality and inclusion

Knowledge and Skills

- Basic understanding of Catholic teaching, Scripture, and Catholic Tradition
- Honest and caring relationships with the age group being served
- Effective group facilitation techniques and strategies—prior teaching experience helpful but not required

Requirements

- Complete initial application (form, interview, background check)
- Complete Virtus training and any supplemental training as requested
- Maintain safety and privacy of students
- Communicate with caregivers of students

Time Commitment

- Complete several catechist training modules online prior to the launch of the program year
- Attend an in-person orientation/kickoff meeting in September
- Facilitate 30 one-hour sessions from late September to early May (holidays excluded).
- Attend 2 – 3 catechist meetings per year (phone/video/in person, tailored to catechists' schedules).
- Approximately 1 hour weekly at-home preparation/follow-up
- Email session summaries to families of students on a regular basis to facilitate at-home faith formation
- Commit to ongoing personal faith formation

Expectations

- Attend Mass regularly
- Foster an environment of prayer in the classroom
- Prepare lessons in advance
- Work as a team with co-catechists, substitutes, staff, and other volunteers
- Arrive at least 15 minutes early to set up the classroom
- Incorporate a variety of techniques (visual, verbal, musical, physical) to accommodate diverse learning styles
- Restore classroom at the end of each class

Supported by Faith Formation Staff

- Weekly e-newsletter
- Hands-on classroom resources, including materials, calendars and more
- 1:1 mentoring and support from Faith Formation staff and other catechists
- Textbooks well supported with video, art and online resources

For more information, please contact: Keri Misurell, Director of Faith Formation
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