

# Some information on resources for the Catechumenate

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## Office for Catechesis • Archdiocese of Chicago [RC]

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<http://www.catechesis-chicago.org/>

*Office for Catechesis, Archdiocese of Chicago*

<http://www.jegen.org/>

*Jegen Center, the catechetical media and resource center for the Archdiocese of Chicago*

### 1. Catechetical Consultants

Ways your Vicariate Catechetical Consultant can serve you:

- By offering assistance in planning for catechesis in the parish
- By aiding in the evaluation of parish catechetical programs
- By offering catechetical resources
- By helping you strengthen the bonds between catechesis in your communities and the diocesan pastoral program
- By explaining policies and guidelines, as well as programs and services
- By assisting with conflict management
- By giving Office for Catechesis and Jegen Center program information

### 2. Leadership Development

The leadership coordinators at the Office for Catechesis recruit, credential, prepare, and resource catechetical leaders for Archdiocesan parishes.

They help parishes select qualified catechetical leaders. Likewise, persons seeking professional catechetical positions look to this office for help in career guidance and placement. A list of parish openings is posted on the Office for Catechesis Website with job descriptions and contact information.

#### Approval Status

Archdiocesan policy requires catechetical leaders to establish a file with and become approved by the Office for Catechesis. An approved leader is a Catholic with an appropriate academic background, is a qualified catechetical leader, and has established a file with the Office for Catechesis. Leaders without full credentials can be granted provisional approval so they can minister while they develop the necessary background and skills. The title Director of Religious Education (DRE) is given those who have been approved and have a Master's Degree in a related academic field. Others have the title of Coordinator (CRE).

#### DRE Certification

DRE's who wish to gain credentials beyond approval can apply for formal certification. The DRE Certification process promotes excellence in parish catechesis and encourages ongoing professional development.

#### Leadership Formation

The Office for Catechesis offers **Basic Formation** and a **Mentoring** program for leaders with less than two years experience. Also offered are many opportunities for ongoing academic, professional and personal growth as catechetical ministers seek to enhance their development as catechetical leaders.

### 3. Catechetical Leaders

A Catechetical Leader is someone who...

- has a strong faith and feels a call to share that faith with others.
- counts organization and responsibility among her/his leadership skills.
- feels comfortable recruiting and training catechists for parish religious education.
- encourages and empowers others to use their gifts for parish ministry.
- builds community among parish groups and encourages people to work together.
- engages in ongoing formation to seek a deeper understanding of her/himself and others.
- incorporates a positive attitude and excitement into the ministry of parish work.

### **'The Art of Leadership'**

The Office for Catechesis has developed a handbook for catechetical leaders titled THE ART OF LEADERSHIP. This handbook is a wonderful resource designed to make catechetical ministry easier. Topics include:

- Faith formation and catechesis
- Catechetical roles and responsibilities
- Administration and organization
- Catechetical ministry and community
- Spiritual and professional development
- Legal responsibilities
- Archdiocesan and sample program forms

The ART OF LEADERSHIP is available for \$35.00. Likewise, the sample forms may be obtained on disk (WordPerfect 6.1 or Microsoft Word 7.0 for Windows 95) for \$5.00. Contact The OFC at 312-243-3700 or [OFC@archchicago.org](mailto:OFC@archchicago.org).

## **4. Catechist Formation Programs**

### **'FOSTERING FAITH: A CATECHIST CERTIFICATION PROCESS'**

The Archdiocesan process for Catechist Certification providing structure, content, methods and resources for the formation of catechists leading to Archdiocesan certification in eight critical areas: Catechesis, Scripture, Theology, Moral Life, Sacraments, Prayer, Liturgy and Church. In addition to efforts coordinated locally, the following opportunities provided by the Office for Catechesis all lead to catechist certification based on the Fostering Faith curriculum:

#### **FOSTERING FAITH INSTITUTE**

Catechist formation sessions offered at various sites around the Archdiocese of Chicago

#### **CATCHING THE SPIRIT: CATECHESIS IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY**

Catechist formation for those serving in the Black community.

#### **INSTITUTE FOR HISPANIC CATECHESIS / INSTITUTO HISPANO DE CATEQUESIS**

A catechist formation program offered in Spanish. / El Instituto Hispano ofrece una formación de catequesis y de líderes catequéticos en el contexto de la comunidad Hispana de Chicago.

#### **WYCHOWUJAC W WIERZE (Fostering Faith in Polish)**

A catechist formation program offered in Polish.

#### **ADVANCED CATECHIST FORMATION**

An arrangement with the Office for Lay Ministry allows certified catechists to take either the **Sacraments** or **Scripture** modules of the Lay Ministry Training Program.

## **5. What Is a Catechist? Who Is the Catechist?**

Catechists are those who are called to serve through teaching, witness, prayer, service and building community. Catechists minister to adults, youth and children in a variety of locations and programs: parish faith formation & religious education programs, youth ministry programs, sacramental preparation, RCIA, family programs, Scripture study, and more. Through word and example, catechists teach the Catholic faith and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Catechists have a vocation...a calling from the Lord rooted in Baptism to carry out His mandate to teach the Gospel. The General Directory for Catechesis tells us that "The Church awakens and discerns this divine vocation and confers the mission to catechize. The Lord Jesus invites men and women, in a special way, to follow him, teacher and formator of disciples." (GDC 231)

The call and response to become a catechist is recognized in the local Church by the bishop. The response to this call includes willingness to give one's time and talent, not only to catechizing others, but to one's own growth and understanding of the faith. The call to this ministry often comes through the pastor, catechetical leader, youth minister, pastoral associate, or another catechist.

Catechists must possess and exhibit qualities or characteristics necessary to give credible witness to the Gospel. A catechist must: be a model of Catholic Christian faith and lifestyle; participate in the spiritual, theological, and methodological training and formation provided by the Archdiocese of Chicago; know and abide by the parish and/or diocesan guidelines and policies promoting effective catechesis; and give sufficient preparation time for the catechetical task.

## 6. Diocese of Joliet (IL): Catechist Certification and Formation

<http://www.dioceseofjoliet.org/>

This ministry area serves the needs of catechists. The resource *In Service To The Master* describes the curriculum and the process for the levels of Catechist Certification in the Diocese of Joliet. Foundational Certification is granted after (36) hours of study; Advanced Certification is granted after an additional (24) hours of study; and Ongoing Recognition is awarded for every (18) hours of study within (3) years.

<http://www.dioceseofjoliet.org/reo/docs/ParentAndAdultFormationResources.pdf>

## 7. Camden Diocese

<http://www.camdenrcia.org/catechesis.htm>

### Church Documents

*Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* (ritual and/or study edition; various publishers)

*Catechism of the Catholic Church* (published in the US by United States Conference of Catholic Bishops)

*Congregation for the Clergy, General Directory for Catechesis* (published in the US by United States Conference of Catholic Bishops)

Committee on the Liturgy, *Study Text 10: Christian Initiation of Adults* (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops - 1988 edition)

### Team/Catechist/Sponsor/Parish Formation and Resources

*Forum Essays* (monographs from leaders in the field on various issues in catechumenal ministry – Published by Liturgy Training Publications):

Vol. 1 - The Role of Assembly in the Christian Initiation of Adults - Catherine Vincie, RSHM Vol. 2 - Eucharist as Sacrament of Initiation - Nathan D. Mitchell

Vol. 3 - On the Rite of Election - Rita Ferrone

Vol. 4 - Preaching the Rites of Christian Initiation – Rev. Jan Michael Joncas

Vol. 5 - Liturgical Spirituality and the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults - Shawn Madigan, CSJ

Vol. 6 - Images of Baptism - Maxwell Johnson

Vol. 7 - The Reception of Baptized Christians - Dale J. Sieverding

Baumbach, Gerard, *Experiencing Mystagogy: The Sacred Pause of Easter* (Paulist Press)

Birmingham, Mary, *Year-Round Catechumenate* (Liturgy Training Publications)

Clay, Michael, *A Harvest for God: Christian Initiation in the Rural and Small-Town Parish* (Liturgy Training Publications)

Dunning, Rev. James, *Echoing God's Word* (Liturgy Training Publications)

Gelpi, Donald, *The Conversion Experience: A Reflective Process for RCIA Participants and Others* (Paulist Press)

Gula, Carol, *Transforming Parish Life: Reclaiming a Baptismal Mentality* (a guidebook for parish renewal using the model of the Catechumenate; published by the Center for Learning)

Hinman, Karen, *How to Form a Catechumenate Team* (Liturgy Training Publications)

Hixon, Barbara, *RCIA Spirituality: Formation for the Catechumenate Team* (Resource Publications)

Huels, John, *The Catechumenate and the Law* (a guide to Canon Law as it applies to the sacraments of initiation – published by Liturgy Training Publications)

Jones, Deborah, *The RCIA Journey* (Twenty-Third Publications)

Lewinski, Ron, *Guide for Sponsors* (Liturgy Training Publications)

Malone, Sr. Miriam, *Enter the Rose* (retreats models and outlines for the catechumenal journey; complete with a CD-ROM of reproducible materials and an audio CD of music for reflection; published by World Library Publications)

\_\_\_\_\_, *Welcoming the New Catholic* (Liturgy Training Publications)

McBrien, Philip, *How to Teach With the Lectionary* (available as a manual and a leader's guide – published by Twenty-Third Publications)

McMahon, J. Michael, *Seek the Living God* (a series of reproducible bulletin inserts (in English or Spanish) on the Catechumenate from Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions; published by Oregon Catholic Press)

Morris, Thomas, *The RCIA: Transforming the Church* (the definitive guidebook; published by Paulist Press)

\_\_\_\_\_, *Walking Together in Faith: A Workbook for Sponsors in Christian Initiation* (Paulist Press)

Oakham, Ron, *One at the Table: The Reception of Baptized Christians* (Liturgy Training Publications)

Regan, David, *Experience the Mystery: Pastoral Possibilities for Christian Mystagogy* (Liturgical Press)

Senseman, Rita Burns, *A New Look at the RCIA: Journey for the Entire Parish* (part of the Catholic Update series (May 2002); published by St. Anthony Messenger Press)

Steffen, Donna, *Discerning Disciples* (Paulist Press)

Yarnold, Edward, *The Awe-Inspiring Rites of Initiation* (Liturgical Press)

### **Catechesis Resources**

Birmingham, Mary, *Word and Worship Workbook* (comprehensive resource for liturgical catechesis; great section on preparing and facilitating the catechumenal session; volumes for cycles A, B & C; published by Paulist Press)

Bruns, William, *Cenacle Sessions: A Modern Mystagogy* (Paulist Press)

\_\_\_\_\_, *Easter Bread: Reflections on the Gospels of the Easter Season for Neophytes and Their Companions* (Paulist Press)

*Celebrating the Lectionary* (a complete resource for liturgical catechesis, from pre-school through adult; published by Resource Publications)

*Foundations in Faith* (a complete parish resource for formation in the Catechumenate; includes formation materials for team members, clergy, sponsors and family, as well as material for catechesis for catechumens and candidates; published by Resources for Christian Living)

Hinman, Karen and Sinwell, Joseph, *Breaking Open the Word of God* (3-volume series for the team/catechists for developing liturgical catechesis sessions; published by Paulist Press)

*Living the Good News* (a liturgical-based catechesis program for all ages – published by Living the Good News/Morehouse)

McBrien, Philip, *Lectionary Index for the Catechism of the Catholic Church* (Resource Publications)

Paprocki, Joe and Williamson, D. Todd, *Bringing Catechesis and Liturgy Together* (Twenty-Third Publications)

Sinwell, Joseph, *Come Follow Me* (resources for the period of inquiry – published by Paulist Press)

### **Resources for Catechumens & Candidates**

*A Catechumen's Companion: A Guide to Praying with the Lectionary* (Paulist Press)

*A Catechumen's Lectionary* (Paulist Press)

Berger, Alison, *Prayer Book for Catechumens* (Twenty-Third Publications)

### **Music/Liturgy Resources**

*Chosen In Christ* (music resource for Christian Initiation; published by World Library Publications)

*Christ We Proclaim* (resource for liturgists and liturgical musicians; contains music from a variety of publishers (in English & Spanish) and the ritual orders for the major rites with commentary; published by Oregon Catholic Press)

Corcoran, Bill, *Preparing the Initiation Rites* (a small, very readable and practical book; part of the Preparing for Liturgy series – published in the US by Liturgical Press)

Haas, David, *Who Calls You By Name* (music for Christian initiation; in 2 volumes; published by GIA Publications)

Jackson, Pamela, *Journeybread for the Shadowlands* (a wonderful book of reflections on the Scriptures and rituals of the major rites of the Catechumenate; published by Liturgical Press)

McMahon, J. Michael, *A Pastoral Liturgical Commentary: RCIA* (Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions; published by Oregon Catholic Press)

Tufano, Victoria, ed. *Celebrating the Rites of Adult Initiation: Pastoral Reflections* (Liturgy Training Publications)

### **Catechumenate for Children**

Brown, Kathleen and Sokol, Frank, eds. *Issues in the Christian Initiation of Children: Catechesis and Liturgy* (Liturgy Training Publications)

Coffee, Kathy, *Children and Christian Initiation* (this resource is intended primarily for the Catechumenate for Children, but it has a great section on liturgical catechesis with model sessions; published by Living the Good News)

DeMong, Laurence and Loftus, Muriel, *The Gifts of Life and Love* (A resource to help children and their parents prepare for Confirmation and Eucharist; published by Silver Burdett Ginn)

DeVillers, Sylvia, *Lectionary-Based Catechesis for Children: A Catechist's Guide* (Paulist Press)

Duggan, Robert and Kelly, Maureen, *The Christian Initiation of Children: Hope for the Future* (Paulist Press)

Searle, Mark, *The Church Speaks About Sacraments With Children* (a compendium of church writings from documents that address the sacraments with children – published by Liturgy Training Publications)

Senseman, Rita Burns, *A Child's Journey: The Christian Initiation of Children* (St. Anthony Messenger Press)

Tufano, Victoria, ed. *Readings in the Christian Initiation of Children* (Liturgy Training Publications)

### **Audio Tapes**

Fragomeni, Richard. *Celebrating the Rites of the Catechumenate* (Cincinnati: St. Anthony Messenger Press, 1991).

\_\_\_\_\_. *Liturgical Catechesis for Children* (Cincinnati: St. Anthony Messenger Press, 1991).

Haas, David and Morris, Thomas H. *Celebrating Christian Initiation: Liturgical, Catechetical and Musical Dimensions* (Cincinnati: St. Anthony Messenger Press, 1991).

Sokol, Frank and Kelly, Maureen. *Preparing Children for the Sacraments of Christian Initiation* (Cincinnati: St. Anthony Messenger Press, 1989).

### **Video Tapes**

*Becoming An RCIA Catechist* (New York: Paulist Press, 1987).

*Becoming An RCIA Sponsor* (New York: Paulist Press, 1986).

*Called By Name: Celebrating Baptism Today* (Los Angeles, CA: Franciscan Communications).

Fragomeni, Richard. *Christian Initiation: A Call to Conversion* (Allen, TX: Tabor Publishing, 1991).

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Catechumenate: What are the Challenges Parishes Face?* (Allen, TX: Tabor Publishing, 1991).

Fix, Theresa, ed. *Choosing The Way* (Westmont, IL: Sandalstrap Technologies, Inc., 1991).

\_\_\_\_\_. *Seeds of Faith Series* (Westmont, IL: Sandalstrap Technologies, Inc.).

Neumann, Don. *The Catechumenate for Children*, Tapes 1 & 2 (Allen, TX: Tabor Publishing, 1991).

## Periodicals

*Catechumenate: A Journal of Christian Initiation* (Liturgy Training Publications)

## 8. Diocese of Leeds

[http://dioceseofleeds.org.uk/cares/parishes/rcic\\_resources.htm](http://dioceseofleeds.org.uk/cares/parishes/rcic_resources.htm)

### Children's Catechumenate

#### The Rite of Christian Initiation of Children

### USEFUL READING & RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

#### A. DOCUMENTS

- "Sacrosanctum Concilium" (Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy), 1963
- "General Catechetical Directory", Congregation for the Clergy, 1971
- "Catechesi Tradendae" (Catechesis in Our Time) John Paul II, 1979
- "Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults", 1988
- "General Directory for Catechesis", Congregation for the Clergy, 1997
- "The General Directory for Catechesis in Plain English", Bill Huebsch, Twenty Third Publications, 2001
- "On the Threshold", Bishops' Conference Working Party on Sacramental Initiation, 2000
- "The Priority of Adult Formation", Catholic Bishops' Conference of England & Wales, 2000

#### B. GENERAL BOOKS – Catechesis, Sacraments, Lectionary-Based Catechesis

- "The Book of Sacramental Basics", Tad Guzie, Paulist Press, 1981
- "Our Faith Story : It's Telling and It's Sharing", A. Patrick Purnell, Collins, 1985
- "Guidelines!", Jim Gallagher, Collins, 1986
- "All Is Gift", Lynn Walker, Collins, 1987
- "Breaking Open the Word of God: Resources for Using the Lectionary for Catechesis in the RCIA", ed. K.H. Powell & J.P. Sinwell, Paulist Press, 1987
- "Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Study Edition", Liturgy Training Publications, 1988
- "The Sacraments of Initiation", Liam G. Walsh, Chapman, 1988
- "Sharing the Gift", Paddy Rylands, Collins, 1989
- "Stages of Faith", James W. Fowler, Harper, 1995
- "The Catechetical Documents: A Parish Resource", Liturgy Training Publications, 1996
- "How to Understand the Sacraments", P. Beguerie & C. Duchesneau, SCM Press, 1997
- "Sacraments Revisited", Liam Kelly, DLT, 1998
- "Catechesis Revisited", Liam Kelly, DLT, 2000
- "Soil for the Seed", Jim Gallagher, McCrimmons, 2001
- "Whole Community Catechesis in Plain English", Bill Huebsch, Twenty-Third Publications, 2002
- "Practical Catechesis", Judith Dunlap, St. Anthony Messenger Press, 2001
- "When you are a Catechist", Judith Dunlap, St. Anthony Messenger Press
- "Prayers for Catechists", Liturgy Training Publications
- "A Prayerbook for Catechists", Gwen Costello, TwentyThird Publications
- "In Touch with the Word: Lectionary-based Prayer Reflections" Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart, St. Mary's Press, 1998
- "The Mystery We Proclaim", Francis D. Kelly, Our Sunday Visitor, 1993
- "Educating for Life", Tom Groome

#### C. BOOKS - Christian Initiation of Children

- "Issues in the Christian Initiation of Children: Catechesis & Liturgy", K. Brown & F.C. Sokol, LTP, 1989
- "Lectionary-based Catechesis for Children", Sylvia deVillers, Paulist Press, 1994
- "The Christian Initiation of Children: Hope for the Future", Robert Duggan & Maureen Kelly, Paulist Press, 1991
- "Readings in the Christian Initiation of Children", ed. Victoria Tufano, Liturgy Training Publications, 1994
- "The RCIA: Transforming the Church: A Resource for Pastoral Implementation" T.H. Morris, Paulist Press, 1997
- "Children & Christian Initiation" Kathy Coffey, Living the Good News Inc. 1998

“A Child’s Journey: The Christian Initiation of Children”, Rita Burns Senseman, St. Anthony Messenger Press, 1998

“Christian Initiation of Older Children”, Sandra Figgess, St. Paul’s, 1995

“The Church Speaks about Sacraments with Children” Mark Searle (ed.) LTP, 1990

“Children’s Catechumenate : A Catechists Guide”, Philip McBrien, Resource Publication

“Children’s Catechumenate”, (Catechist Manual & 3 level workbooks), Thomas Long & Emily Filippi, Brown-Roa

## **9. Association for Catechumenal Ministry**

<http://www.acmrcia.org/>

Publishes:

*RCIA Catechist’s Manual* / Association for Catechumenal Ministry (ACM); Edited by Barbara A. Morgan and William J. Keimig. \$39.95. ISBN: 1-933374-00-4

*RCIA Participant’s Book* / Association for Catechumenal Ministry (ACM); Edited by Barbara A. Morgan and William J. Keimig. ISBN: 1-933374-01-2

## **10. Good Ground Press**

<http://www.goodgroundpress.com/>

Resources include the *Gospel for All Ages*, a program for parish-wide catechesis that is based on the Sunday gospels, lectionary-based materials from Good Ground Press and the Pflaum Gospel Weeklies. SEEDS for Preschool • PROMISE for grades K-1 • GOOD NEWS for grades 2-3 • VENTURE for grades 4-6 • VISIONS for junior high age • SPIRIT for teens • SUNDAY BY SUNDAY for adults

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## **Other web sites**

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### **11. North American Association for the Catechumenate**

<http://www.catechumenate.org/>

The North American Association for the Catechumenate seeks to promote and nurture the catechumenal process in order that the whole faith community might fulfill Christ's commission to make disciples, baptizing and teaching all peoples.

### **12. The North American Forum on the Catechumenate**

<http://www.naforum.org>

### **13. Australian Catechumenate Network**

<http://www.ozcatechumenate.org>

### **14. Baptism Integrity**

<http://www.baptism.org.uk>

### **15. Paul Turner**

<http://www.paulturner.org/Articles.htm>

Includes articles on the catechumenate from Paul Turner, a priest of the (RC) diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph.

*Hallelujah Highway: A History of the Catechumenate* / Paul Turner. LTP. \$19.00. ISBN: 1-56854-320-4

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