

Catechist Role Description and Application Form

“Every baptized Catholic is personally called by the Holy Spirit to make his or her contribution to the coming of God’s Kingdom.... The catechist is a lay person specially appointed by the Church to make Christ known, loved and followed.” (*Guide for Catechists*, p. 9, 10)

God intends to establish a true friendship with each person. The aim of your efforts is to lead the students in your care step by step to be an intentional, committed disciple of Jesus Christ:

- 1) through encountering Him in prayer at every session**
- 2) developing a daily commitment of time with Him in prayer**
- 3) receiving Jesus in the Holy Eucharist every weekend and Confession frequently**
- 4) cooperating with God’s grace to live according to His Laws of Love that keep us from harm**
- 5) loving the one Church that Jesus established**

Responsibilities:

- Be committed to a daily habit of prayer. In order to be an authentic witness, a personal relationship with Jesus Christ is essential. Seek the guidance of the Person of the Holy Spirit, the “Teacher Within.” (Directory for Catechesis, IV. The Formation of Catechists, n. 130-150)
- Be formed as a committed disciple of Jesus and learn how to bring others to encounter Him
- Willingness to work as a team with other catechists, catechetical leader(s) and pastor
- Pray for the children of your group and develop a partnership with parents
- Teach from an approved textbook series, based upon the US Bishop’s Conformity Listing
- Be prepared and arrive promptly to teach weekly sessions; maintain a safe environment

Knowledge and Skills:

- A basic understanding of Catholic teaching, Scripture, and Tradition
- Honest and caring relationships with the age group being served
- A commitment to grow in effective teaching techniques and strategies

Qualifications:

- A desire to grow in and hand on the Catholic Faith
- A love for the Church and commitment to Her moral teachings and Sacramental life.
- Be in full communion with the Catholic Church as well as an active parishioner by participating in Holy Mass every weekend and frequent Confession
- A strength of character built on patience, responsibility, confidence and creativity
- A spirit of joy, courage, hope, enthusiasm, generosity and respect

As a catechist, I will abide by the aspects of this Role Description

Signed: _____

Phone: _____ **Date** _____

“May the presence of the Holy Spirit, through the prayers of Mary – the mother and model of catechists – grant the Church unprecedented enthusiasm in the catechetical work that is essential for Her.” (*On Catechesis in Our Time*, Pope John Paul II, n. 73)