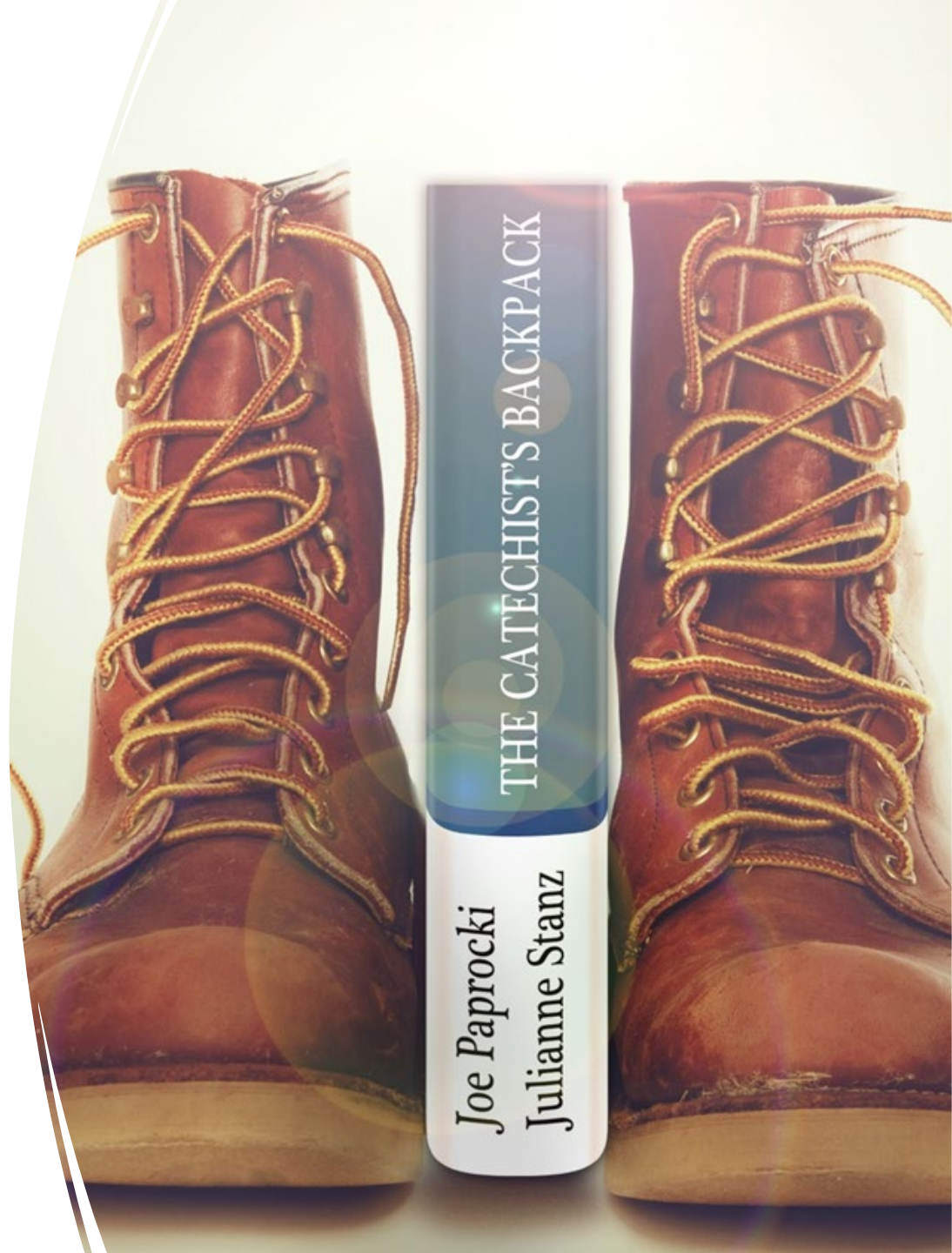


The Catechist's Backpack

Spiritual
Necessities for a
Joyful Walk on the
Pilgrim Path

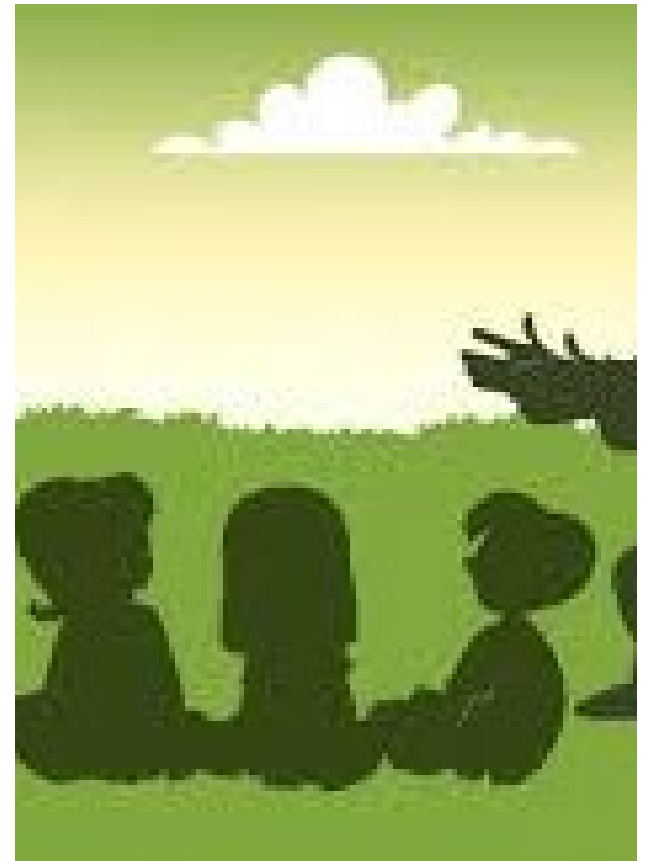


A Prayer for Catechists

Lord Jesus, when you lived and worked and talked amongst the people, they called you Teacher.

Help us to remember the greatness of the work which has been entrusted to us.

Help us always to remember that we work with the **most precious material in the world, the mind and heart of a child.**



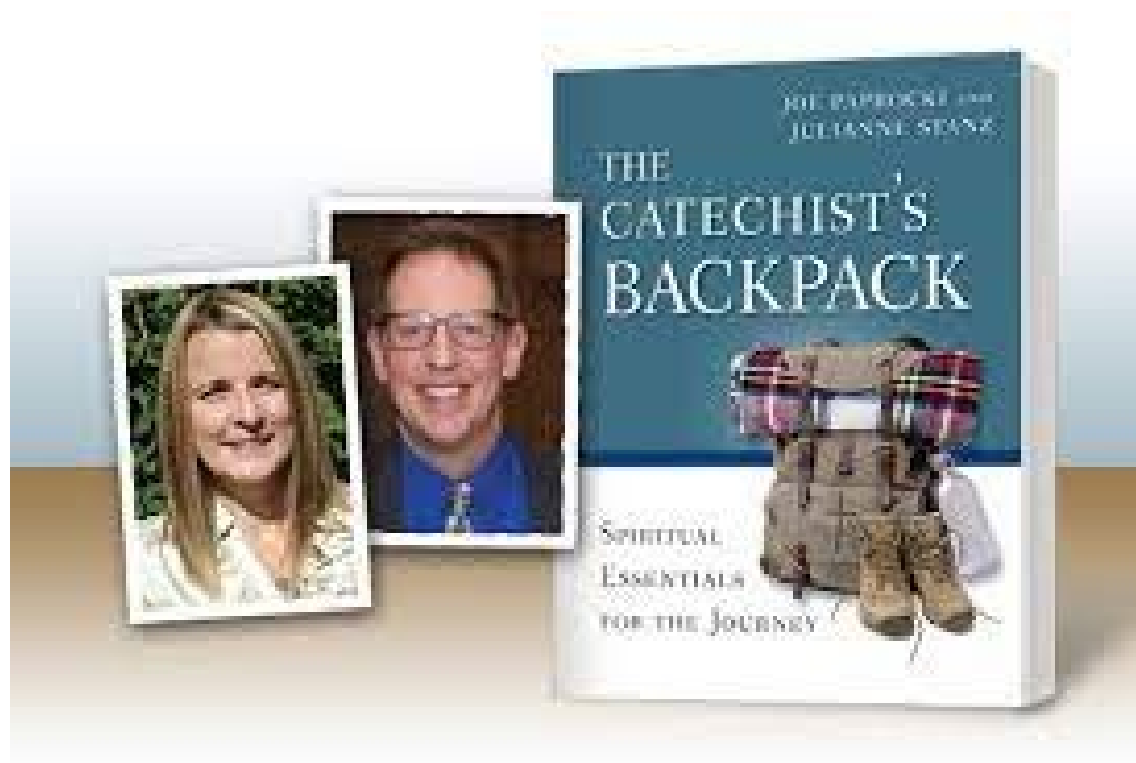
Give us patience with those who are slow to learn, and even with those who refuse to learn.

Help us to uplift these children to be disciples of Your way.

And amidst the worries and the irritations and the frustrations of our vocation, help us to remember that the future of the Church, the nation and of the world is in Your hands.

We ask this in your most holy and precious name, Amen.









The Six Characteristics of The Catechist's Backpack



Openness to God

Openness to the Church

Openness to the world

Authenticity of life

Missionary zeal

Devotion to Mary

Sharing your story of faith

The Pilgrim Path



Being, Knowing, Doing

The General Directory for Catechesis tells us that "diocesan pastoral programs must give absolute priority to the formation of lay catechists" (234) and that such formation must include three dimensions: "being, knowing, and savoir-faire [doing]." (238)



By virtue of Baptism every catechist is a:
witness of faith and
keeper of the memory of God;
a teacher and a mystagogue;
an accompanier and educator. (113)



finding JOY in the journey



A journey of 18 inches



What brings you JOY in Ministry?



Radical Reliance on God

Abundant supply of water





“YOU SATISFY THE HUNGRY HEART”



What are you thirsty and hungry for?

- For justice?
 - For energy?
 - For support?
 - For new ways of being?
 - For more time?
 - For a change?
 - For understanding?
 - For hope?
 - For clarity?
-
- Name one hunger you have in your life at this time.





A Pause for Prayer



Father I am hungry for the
love of God,

Give my soul this food,

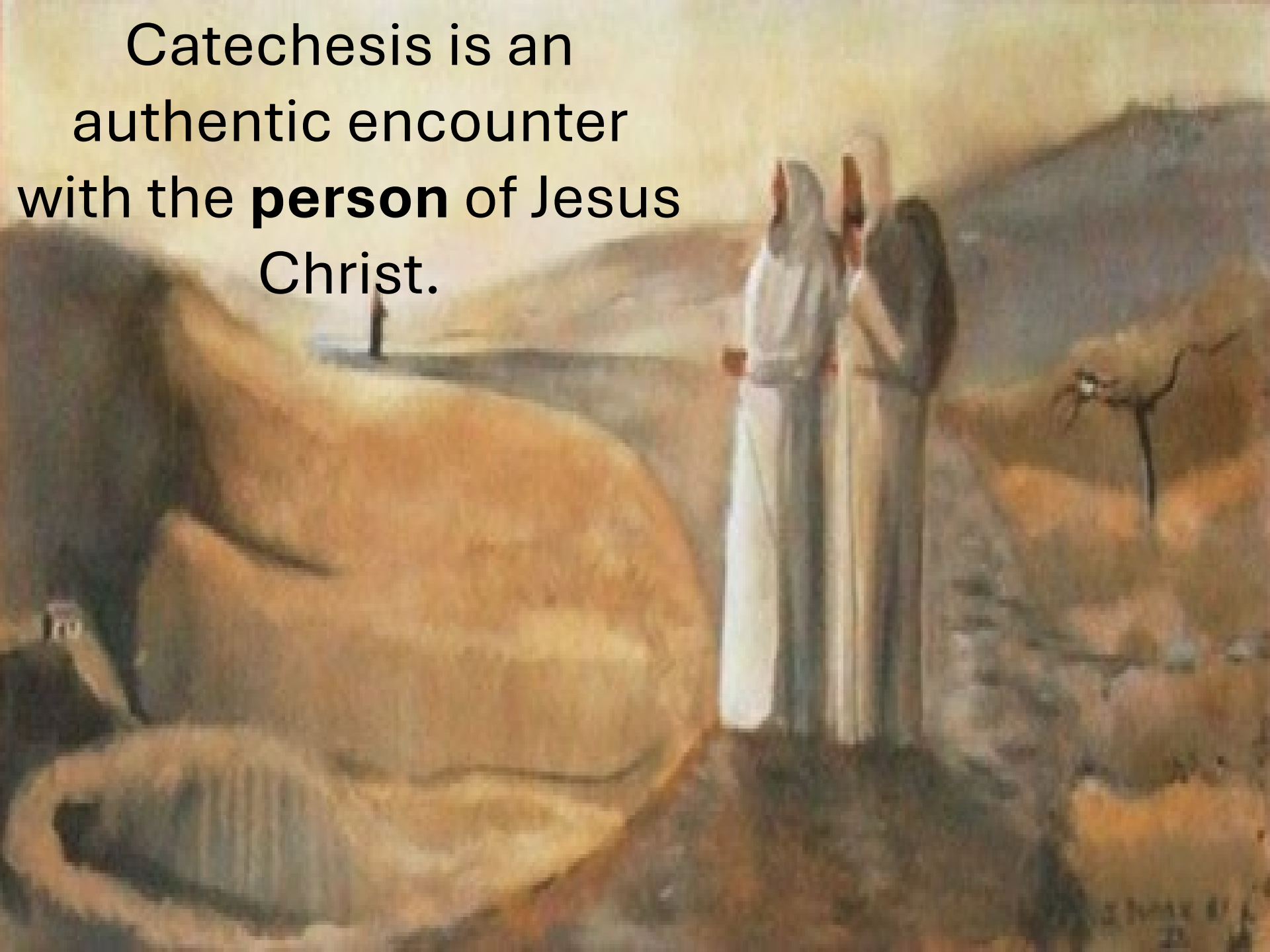
My Lord in the Eucharist

St Catherine of Siena



Follow Jesus: The Way of Discipleship

Catechesis is an
authentic encounter
with the **person** of Jesus
Christ.





We are encountering a
Mystery!

We are not
teaching a
subject...





Commitment to the Church

Adequate food and shelter



• Beware Your EGO

The Big Tent

The Eucharist – ultimate food for the journey





The Difference
Between.....

Falling Apart

Breaking Open

Give us this day.....

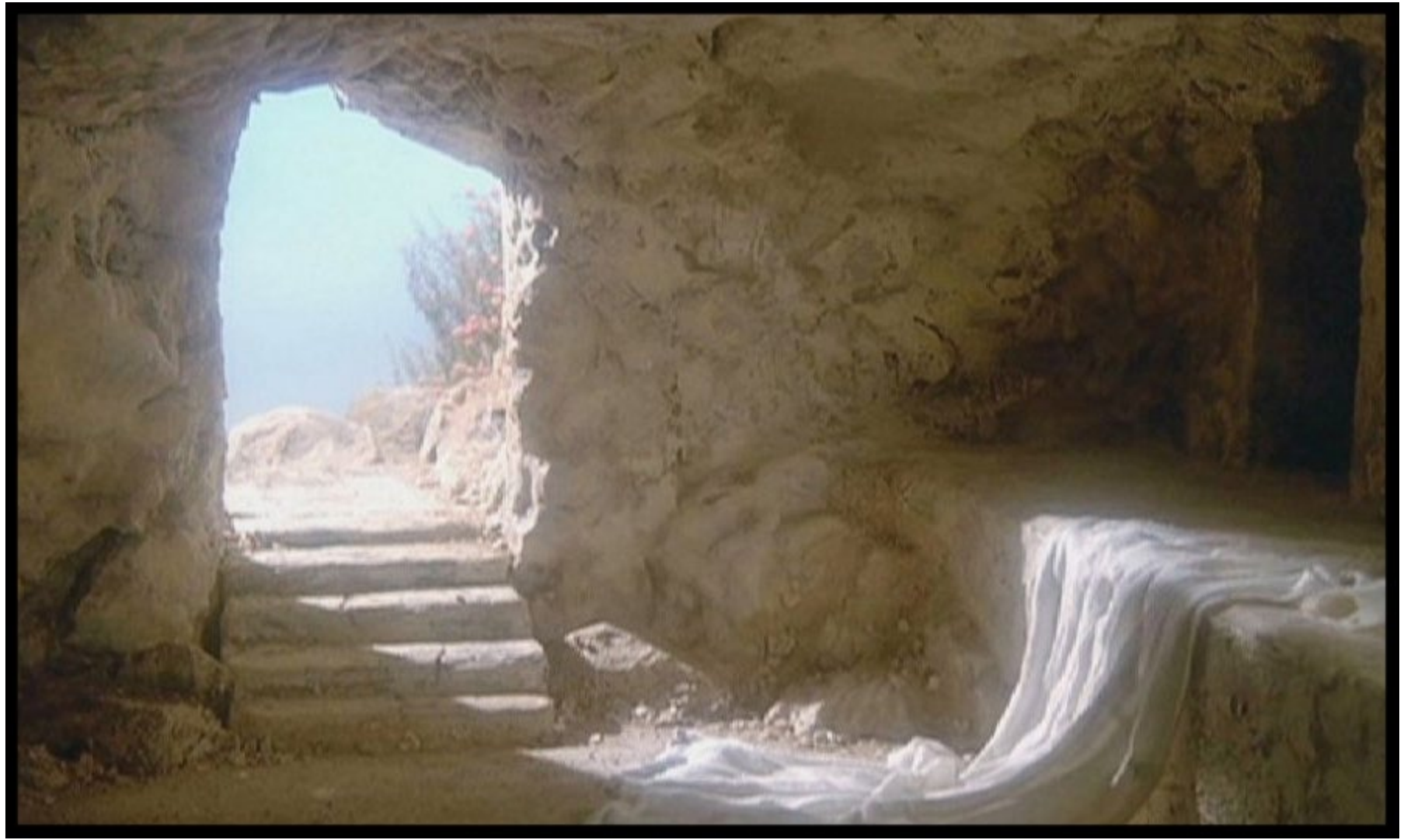


Y'all need to stop with this "bread is not good for you" foolishness.

Jesus did not say I am the broccoli of life. Nor did He say give us this day our daily kale. Stop. Jesus is life. Jesus is the bread of life. Bread is life.

Give us this day.....







Resurrection -
Rembrandt



“Blessed for You
Broken For You”



“Given for you”









Our catechesis
needs to resemble
going to Church
MORE than going
to school.



	Classroom Educational Model	Catechetical Model
Goal	Imparting and gaining knowledge of a subject	Initiating into faith and developing a relationship with Jesus
Leader	Teacher- a subject matter expert, who imparts information	Facilitator and mentor who witnesses to their relationship with Jesus, accompanies apprentices in learning and sharing faith
Individual	Learner- discrete from group	Disciple -Member of faith community
Method	Teaching, studying and testing for mastery of content	Witness and learning through Scripture stories, discussion, prayer and liturgy
Set-up	Desks in rows facing teacher	Desks in a circle, catechist part of it
Implication	There's an end to learning, graduating to the next level	Growing more and more deeply in faith and understanding

Presenting Learning Opportunities

- Use multiple approaches for different types of learners
- Help learners create their own spiritual narrative
- Use questioning to promote spiritual reflection
- Tap into concerns and aspirations as spiritual seekers
- Place more emphasis on how to see rather than what to see





Two Simple Methodologies

- Read, Reflect, Pray, Respond
- Woops, Wow, Please and Thank You

Missionary Zeal

Fuel and matches

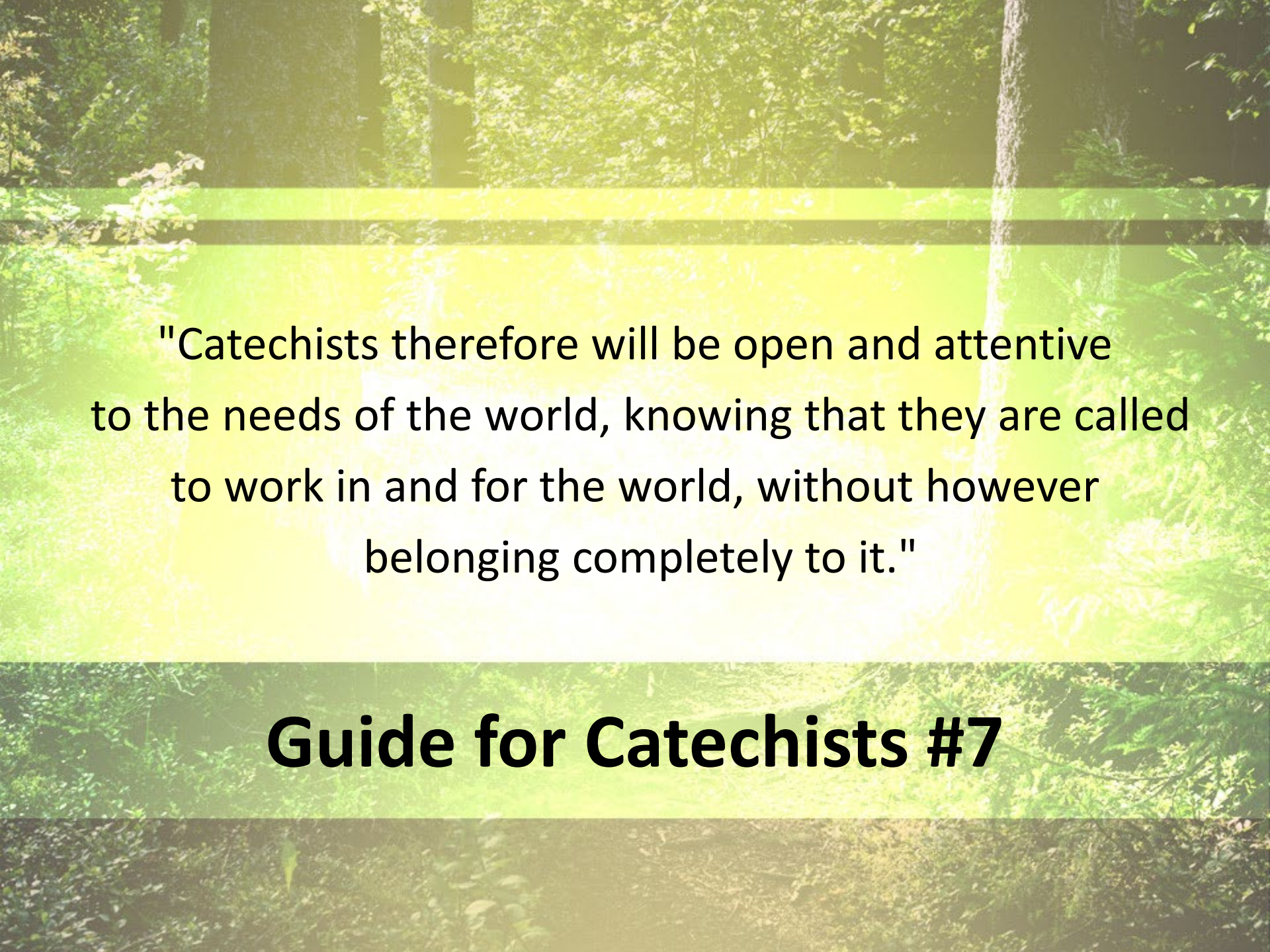
The Holy Spirit



Openness to the World

A topographical map





"Catechists therefore will be open and attentive to the needs of the world, knowing that they are called to work in and for the world, without however belonging completely to it."

Guide for Catechists #7

St. Ignatius of Loyola

“enter through their door
but be sure to leave through your door.”





The End



A Discerning Leadership

Name one thing that you heard today that involves new learning?

What difference will that learning make for you in your ministry?