



FAITHFUL FOOTSTEPS

JULY 2026

Walking Together in Faith on a Lifelong Journey

Outreach:

Participants from Bowman, Dickinson, Bismarck, and Menoken gathered to share ideas and knowledge of how they are using CGS in their parishes.

Prayer:

One focus of Level I is to help the children understand the prayers, postures and materials of the Sacred Liturgy.

Community:

This community of newly trained catechist will grow this summer as 12 more will be certified in July in Minot.



CGS TRAINING CONTINUES TO FLOURISH

Six catechists from across western and central North Dakota recently completed Level I formation in Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) during a training held in Dickinson. These women spent six days immersed in the Montessori-based religious formation program, which helps children develop a deep and personal relationship with Jesus through prayer, Scripture, and hands-on learning experiences.



"THE ATRIUM IS A PLACE IN WHICH THE ONLY TEACHER IS CHRIST."

Level I formation prepares catechists to serve children ages 3–6 in a specially prepared environment known as an atrium, where young children encounter the Good Shepherd through presentations, prayer, and meaningful work. The training included study of Scripture, liturgy, child development, and practical experience with the materials used in the atrium.

By completing the course requirements, all six participants earned their Level I Catechesis of the Good Shepherd certificate. Their formation will help support and expand CGS programs in parishes and schools throughout the Diocese, offering young children the opportunity to grow in faith and experience the love of Christ in a profound way.

The Diocese congratulates these newly certified catechists and thanks them for their commitment to sharing the faith with the youngest members of the Church.



Walking Together in Faith to these UPCOMING EVENTS



SAVE THE DATE!!

CREDIBLE WITNESSES

RETREAT FOR PARISH LEADERS

"Did not our hearts
burn within us..."
— Luke 24:32

A weekend of prayer,
reflection, and renewal—
an opportunity to step away
to listen for the Lord, rediscover
the story of His work in your
life, and grow in sharing that
story with others.

When?
August 28–30, 2026

Where?
Assumption Abbey



Bismarck
Diocese



Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Level 1 Part A Training 2026

(Part B Dates TBD Summer 2027)

Monday - Friday, July 13-17 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Saturday, July 18 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Bismarck, ND

Register \$175 per part

Mary Minor started her training in Level 1 in 2009 and continued to become certified in Levels 2 and 3. She helped establish and coordinate CGS at The Church of the Epiphany in Coon Rapids, MN. This included five atria, serving 400 children weekly. Mary has worked in Montessori environments for twelve years. A graduate of the Harry J. Flynn Catechetical Institute, she is active in her parish as a Sacristan, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, and the Pastoral Care Ministry. Mary became certified as a Level 1 Formation Leader in 2021.



Mary Minor

- Optional 6:45 am Mass
- Lunch on your own
- infants welcome!

Go to
www.bismarckdiocese.com/goodshepherd or
click the QR Code to
register



we're hiring!
TRINITY YOUTH CAMP
\$200/WEEK

CAMP COUNSELOR
Looking to get outside and grow in your faith?! Come work as a counselor at Trinity Youth Camp for a week (or even two!) next summer!

CAMP DATES:
Pelican I: July 15-19 (Bottineau, ND)
Camp of the Cross: July 22-26 (Garrison, ND)
Pelican II: July 29-August 2 (Bottineau, ND)

SCAN HERE TO APPLY:
For more information visit our website at:
<https://trinityyouthcampnd.com/counselors-cits/>

WALK IN HIS FOOTSTEPS!
Summer 2026

Summer Camp Dates:
Pelican I: July 15-19
Camp of the Cross: July 22-26
Pelican II: July 29-August 2

REGISTER ONLINE:
TRINITYYOUTHCAMPND.COM

Now offering free bussing from Bismarck and Fargo to Pelican I & II!

Camper must be entering grades 4 through 8 for the 26/27 school year.

We are so excited for our summer 2026 camp sessions! Campers will participate in five days of fun, faith-filled experiences in a summer camp environment. Campers will expand Christian friendships, create wholesome memories, strengthen Catholic values, and experience a closer relationship with God through sacraments, friendships, nature, songs, games and more!

Four Things Every Catechist Should Read This Summer

Jun 29, 2021 | News | www.dioceseoftyler.org

For many catechists and faith formation volunteers, the summertime provides an opportunity to rest from pouring into the spiritual lives of others. Although it's nice to have a little break, the summer months are not a time to neglect our own spiritual and intellectual formation as catechists. This summer, continue your spiritual formation by reading and praying with these books and Church documents.

The Gospel of Matthew

As catechists, regardless of the ages we teach, our primary job is to teach our students about Jesus Christ. We cannot teach others about Jesus if we ourselves do not know him. We must constantly strive to know, understand and grow in our love for our Savior. The best way to do this is through the Gospels.

In the Gospels, Jesus reveals himself to us in a deep and profound way. We learn who he is, what he says and how he lives. This summer, strive to encounter the person of Jesus Christ on a deeper level by reading the Gospel of Matthew.

The Gospel of Matthew is often called the catechist's Gospel, or the Teacher's Gospel because of all the rich teachings of Jesus found in this particular Gospel. The Gospel of Matthew presents not only the teachings of Christ but also instructs us as catechists how we can and should teach others.

Forming Intentional Disciples: The Path to Knowing and Following Jesus, by Sherry A. Weddell

If our goal as catechists is to introduce our students to Jesus and help them to become his followers, we need to have an understanding of discipleship and how to form others into disciples.

In her book, *Forming Intentional Disciples: The Path to Knowing and Following Jesus*, Sherry Weddell explains the need for discipleship, the various stages of discipleship and the ways we as formational leaders can guide others in being disciples. If you are unfamiliar with the term discipleship or what it means to make disciples, this book is a great place to start.

Catechesi Tradendae, by Pope John Paul II

Catechesi Tradendae, or Catechesis in our Modern Time, by Pope Saint John Paul II is a document every catechist should have on their bookshelves. As a catechist, this document is for you.

In it, John Paul II dives into a reflection on catechesis: the various methods of catechizing, the role of catechesis in the overall call of the Church to evangelize, and the role of the catechist to give the teaching of Christ and not their own agendas.

Catechesi Tradendae is a profound document that will give you as a catechist much to reflect on and pray over.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church, Part IV (Christian Prayer)

In the life of a Christian, prayer plays such an important role that an entire section of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* is dedicated to this topic. As Catechists, all that we do in loving and serving those we teach should flow from our lives of prayer. It's in prayer that we learn to develop a deep and personal relationship with Jesus Christ. If our primary job as Catechists is to introduce our students to the person of Jesus Christ, we should strive to learn about and grow in prayer so as to learn to encounter Jesus ourselves.

The fourth and final part of the Catechism provides a simple but beautiful reflection on prayer. This section of the Catechism teaches us what prayer is, the history of prayer throughout Scripture, and the role prayer should play in our lives. Finally, the Catechism offers profound reflections on the "Our Father" and the "Hail Mary" prayers, helping us come to a deep understanding of the beauty and significance of these prayers.

If our goal as catechists is to help others encounter Christ, we need to be sure we are striving to encounter him ourselves through prayer and continued intellectual and spiritual formation. This summer, deepen your love for Christ and his Church by exploring these books and Church documents.

Look Who's Walkin' in Faith

CELEBRATING FUN AND EDUCATIONAL EVENTS IN OUR DIOCESE THAT ARE SPREADING THE LOVE OF JESUS!



Annunciation Monastery

May 29 at 3:03 PM · 🌐

...

The RB72 retreat girls are bringing sunshine on a cloudy day!

Sister Marena Hoogland is hosting a middle school girls' retreat which offers a unique glimpse into monastic life, learn about the Rule of St. Benedict, and what it means to prefer nothing whatever to Christ. These girls are also spending time helping in the sisters' garden, learning about Stepping Stone Medical Respite, playing games, prayer journaling, and enjoying conversation and meals together and with the sisters.

What a joy it is to be with them. We keep these faith-filled girls in our prayers! See less



Baccalaureate Sunday St. Pius, New Salem

One of my favorite Sunday masses!

So proud of this group and all the years of ministry and service that they have given to our church. They will be missed ❤️❤️



Thank you to everyone who joined us for S'more Saints last evening! ❤️

🔥 St. Martin's Hazen

What a beautiful night to gather together as a parish family. From roasting s'mores and visiting with friends to learning more about the saints, it was such a joy to see so many smiling faces on the church lawn.

After a week that brought its share of storms, it was especially meaningful to spend an evening celebrating faith, fellowship, and the blessings of our community.

Thank you to everyone who came out to share in the fun. We are so grateful for each of you!

Until next time...keep the saints close to your hearts! 🙏🔥

Mark your calendars for our next S'more Saints!!

📅 June 24th @ StJ

📅 July 8th @ StM

📅 July 15th @ StJ



WHAT'S GOING ON IN YOUR PARISH THIS SUMMER? I'D LOVE TO HIGHLIGHT YOUR HAPPENINGS!