



Archdiocese of Las Vegas

Department of Faith Formation

336 Cathedral Way

Las Vegas, NV 89109

702-735-6044

August 2023

Dear Catechists,

It is with great joy that we present to you the newly updated Foundational Faith Formation process for the now Archdiocese of Las Vegas! I also take this opportunity to introduce the newest staff person in the Department of Faith Formation, David Hall. David's job title is *Coordinator of Adult Faith Formation* and his primary responsibility is the certification processes here in the Archdiocese. He will be working closely with all of you to meet our ultimate goal of having everyone involved in ongoing adult faith formation!

All adult Catholics are highly encouraged to enrich their own spirituality and understanding of our faith, however it is most important for those of us who choose to participate in the catechetical mission of the church. The word catechist comes from the Greek word *catechesis* meaning *to sound from above* or *to echo*. Catechists have the mission, the responsibility, the privilege, the vocation of echoing God's word to all people. We cannot *echo* what we do not know and practice ourselves.

In the New Directory for Catechesis Article 425, we read that, "The diocesan catechetical office is to pay particular attention to the formation of catechists, knowing well that the Holy Spirit uses their valuable and expert collaboration in order that the Gospel may be welcomed by all." To this end, it is our goal to provide opportunities for adult faith formation on an archdiocesan level that enrich and enhance our own understanding and enable us to be faithful *echoes of faith* to those we encounter.

We hope you find this packet easy to navigate and self-explanatory. For your own ease in recordkeeping, we suggest that you fill out the information for each course as you complete it instead of trying to remember everything after the fact. Once you have completed all of the courses in this packet, you can fill out the application form and turn the entire packet in to your Director of Religious Education.

We wish many blessings on you as, together, we embrace our mission, responsibility and privilege of growing in faith!

Connie Clough

Archdiocesan Director of Faith Formation

"Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way?"

Luke 24: 32

Application for the Foundational Faith Formation Certificate

Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Las Vegas
Department of Faith Formation | Attn: David Hall
336 Cathedral Way | Las Vegas, NV 89109
dhall@adolv.org | 702.735.6044 office | 702.629.4713 direct



Section 1: Personal Information

Name: _____
Last Middle Initial First

Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Email Address: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Other Phone: _____

Parish: _____ Parish City: _____

Area(s) of Ministry: _____

Section 2: Attestation and Recommendation

- ☐ I affirm that the information submitted on this application for certification purposes is, to the best of my knowledge, true and correct. I attest that I have completed the Archdiocese of Las Vegas Safe Environment training and have received a favorable Archdiocese of Las Vegas background check.
- ☐ I declare that I am in full communion with the Roman Catholic Church. I will uphold and remain faithful to the teachings of the Church, including its moral teachings, and will instruct my students in the faith in accordance with the Magisterium¹.
- ☐ I have been involved in parish/school ministry for _____ years.

Signed: _____ Dated: _____

- ☐ I have reviewed the data on this application and recommend this individual for renewal of their current certification.

Signed: _____ Dated: _____

PASTOR

Signed: _____ Dated: _____

PARISH CATECHETICAL LEADER / CATHOLIC SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

¹ This attestation is required only for those who teach theology/catechism in the classroom, if this doesn't apply to you check the box below instead.

☐ I am a Catholic School teacher who DOES NOT teach theology/catechism in the classroom.

Section 3: Documentation of outcomes in each focus area

Certification Module	Outcomes	Fulfilled through
Spiritual Formation 6 hours <i>To complete this area all outcomes must be met.</i> 1) Human Capacity for God 2) The Mechanics of Prayer 3) The Mechanics of Prayer 4) The Mechanics of Prayer 5) The Call to Ministry 6) Formation for Ministry <i>Please provide a one page reflection paper on this topic considering something you heard that was new, or something that affirmed what you already knew and how this will help you in your role of catechist.</i>	• Able to articulate our capacity for God • Able to articulate a call to ministry in the context of prayer and discernment. • Able to understand the importance of personal prayer for effective ministry. • Able to explain types/styles of prayer. • Able to identify sources of prayer including scripture & the liturgy • Able to recognize personal and communal spirituality.	Date(s): _____ Course Title(s): _____ Instructor(s): _____ Location(s): _____
Evangelization 4 hours <i>To complete this area all outcomes must be met.</i> 1) Understanding the New Evangelization 2) Models & Methods for the New Evangelization 3) The Kerygma 4) The Testimony <i>Please provide a one page reflection paper on this topic considering something you heard that was new, or something that affirmed what you already knew and how this will help you in your role of catechist.</i>	• Able to understand evangelization as the essential mission of the Church and all baptized Christians. • Able to identify key Church documents, (i.e., Evangelization in the Modern World, Go and Make Disciples, etc.). • Able to describe evangelization in a Catholic context. • Able to describe the relationship between evangelization and conversion. • Able to articulate the importance of sharing one's faith with others.	Date(s): _____ Course Title(s): _____ Instructor(s): _____ Location(s): _____

Morality I 4 hours <i>To complete this area all outcomes must be met.</i> 1) The Dignity of the Human Person 2) The Beatitudes and Commandments 3) Intro to Catholic Social Teaching 4) Grace & Mercy <i>Please provide a one page reflection paper on this topic considering something you heard that was new, or something that affirmed what you already knew and how this will help you in your role of catechist.</i>	• Able to discuss the life to which Jesus calls us and the place of sin, mercy, repentance, forgiveness, and grace in our lives. • Able to explain the framework of the moral life as indicated in the <i>Catechism of the Catholic Church</i>, the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes. • Able to identify the two foundations of the moral life: the call to dignity of each human person and the common good. • Able to describe the basic steps involved in making a moral decision. • Able to explain the scriptural and church tradition foundations of the Church's social mission.	Date(s): _____ Course Title(s): _____ Instructor(s): _____ _____ Location(s): _____ _____
Christology I 6 hours <i>To complete this area all outcomes must be met.</i> 1) Who is Jesus of Nazareth? 2) Jesus and the Kingdom of God 3) The Paschal Mystery 4) The development of Christology 5) Jesus' Enduring Presence 6) Friendship with Christ <i>Please provide a one page reflection paper on this topic considering something you heard that was new, or something that affirmed what you already knew and how this will help you in your role of catechist.</i>	• Able to recognize the various titles of Jesus from Sacred Scripture and Icons/devotions throughout history that recognize his divinity and humanity, (i.e., Son of God, Son of Man, etc.), and explain the meaning of each title. • Able to articulate the nature of the teachings, miracles, and Kingdom preaching of Jesus in the Gospels. • Able to articulate the historical basis of our understanding of the two natures of Jesus, divine and human, that co-exist in the divine person of Jesus. • Able to explain how Jesus is present in the Church and in the world today. • Able to explain the importance of a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. • Able to explain the significance of the paschal mystery.	Date(s): _____ Course Title(s): _____ Instructor(s): _____ _____ Location(s): _____ _____

Introduction to Scripture 6 hours <i>To complete this area all outcomes must be met.</i> 1) Divine Revelation 2) The Canon of Scripture 3) Structure of Sacred Scripture 4) Interpreting Sacred Scripture 5) The Senses of Scripture 6) Study of the Sacred Page <i>Please provide a one page reflection paper on this topic considering something you heard that was new, or something that affirmed what you already knew and how this will help you in your role of catechist.</i>	• Able to articulate premise of Dei Verbum / Divine Revelation • Able to explain the roles of Scripture and Tradition as revelation for Catholics. • Able to identify types of Books of the Bible (Pentateuch, Historical Books, Wisdom Literature, etc.). • Able to explain the process of arriving at the Canon. • Able to identify various literary forms and genres in Sacred Scripture. • Able to understand the role of the Magisterium in Biblical interpretation. • Able to explain the methods and approaches for “Biblical Interpretation.” • Able to give examples of the importance of Sacred Scripture in one’s own life.	Date(s): _____ Course Title(s): _____ Instructor(s): _____ _____ Location(s): _____ _____
Sacraments and Rituals 8 hours <i>To complete this area all outcomes must be met.</i> 1) The Sacramental Economy 2) Liturgy 3) Sacraments of Initiation Part One (Baptism & Confirmation) 4) Sacraments of Initiation Part Two (Eucharist) 5) Sacraments of Healing 6) Sacraments at the Service of Communion Part One (Holy Orders) 7) Sacraments at the Service of Communion Part Two (Marriage) 8) Entering the Mystery <i>Please provide a one page reflection paper on this topic considering something you heard that was new, or something that affirmed what you already knew and how this will help you in your role of catechist.</i>	• Able to list the Seven Sacraments, their symbols, their ritual actions, and effects as acts of Christ, acts of worship and effective signs of grace. • Able to differentiate between the Sacraments of Initiation, Healing and Service. • Able to explain why RCIA is the model for all catechesis. • Able to define “Sacrament” and “sacramental”. • Able to understand and identify rituals that augment one’s worship and create an atmosphere of reverence.	Date(s): _____ Course Title(s): _____ Instructor(s): _____ _____ Location(s): _____ _____

Catholic Beliefs & Traditions 6 hours <i>To complete this area all outcomes must be met.</i> 1) Credo I 2) Credo II 3) Fundamental Theology I 4) Fundamental Theology II 5) Theology for Beginners I 6) Theology for Beginners II <i>Please provide a one page reflection paper on this topic considering something you heard that was new, or something that affirmed what you already knew and how this will help you in your role of catechist.</i>	• Able to identify faith as our response to God's call to relationship and also as the content of what we believe. • Able to define the term creed and distinguish between the Apostles' Creed and the Nicene Creed. • Able to express a basic understanding of the following concepts: Trinity, Incarnation, Paschal Mystery, Holy Spirit, Communion of Saints, grace, and glory. • Able to explain the meaning of the hierarchy of truths in Catholic doctrine. • Able to define the following terms: faith, theology, magisterium, tradition, Tradition, doctrine, dogma. • Marian dogmas in relation to Jesus	Date(s): _____ Course Title(s): _____ Instructor(s): _____ _____ Location(s): _____ _____
Culture & Intercultural Faith Issues 6 hours <i>To complete this area all outcomes must be met.</i> 1) Culture: What It Is and Isn't 2) Challenges Presented by Culture 3) Culture & Faith 4) Culture & Ministry I 5) Culture & Ministry II 6) Culture & Worship <i>Please provide a one page reflection paper on this topic considering something you heard that was new, or something that affirmed what you already knew and how this will help you in your role of catechist.</i>	• Able to define culture and identify ways in which culture influences communication. • Able to understand how differences and commonalities exist beneath the surface of every culture and how cultures may respond differently to similar situations. • Able to demonstrate a clear understanding of the difference between ecclesial integration versus assimilation. • Able to identify challenges posed by popular culture to people of faith. • Able to maintain integrally the content of the faith while taking into account the cultural and historical circumstances of those being instructed. • Able to understand and celebrate lawful diversity in worship and liturgy.	Date(s): _____ Course Title(s): _____ Instructor(s): _____ _____ Location(s): _____ _____

Section 4: Record of Retreat* Participation:

Applicants must attend one retreat each prior to submission their certification application

Retreat Title: Host Organization: 	Retreat Description: 	Date(s) of Retreat: Retreat Facilitator(s): Location:
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* Prior to submission for certification in the Archdiocese of Las Vegas candidates must attend **one retreat** and submit information on that retreat with their application. A retreat consists of a prolonged period of time (equivalent to 1 to 5 days as a standard) where normal daily life is intentionally set aside for more intense prayer and participation in the Sacraments. These retreats must be guided by a competent Catholic retreat director, who is not the applicant.

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