

GRADE SCHOOL CATECHIST MINISTER ROLE DESCRIPTION

Mandate:

The Catechist is someone who lets the Word of God echo or resound through his or her life. Catechists do more than simply “teach” religion; they share their faith by ministering to young people to help them learn how to apply and live their faith.

The Catechist shares in the mission work of the church by walking in and sharing the faith by teaching the Good News with the elementary school age children and building community with their families.

The Catechist must successfully complete the Archdiocese managed and required safe environment certification prior to entering the classroom.

Time Commitment:

- Weekly – one hour classroom time plus time for class preparation
- Three Catechist meetings – August, November and May
- Two Retreats – half-day sessions
- Periodic – catechist training provided by the Archdiocese
- Periodic – one-on-one meetings with the DRE
- Duration – At least one school year, preferably two or more

Qualifications:

- Adults or confirmed teens who live their faith and are willing to share it with children
- Competent understanding of the Catholic faith and willingness to study to deepen one’s understanding
- Enjoy working with children is mandatory
- A good sense of humor is a plus
- Willing to learn and be open to suggested ideas for teaching the children
- Have the time to dedicate to preparation and leading a group of 5-20 children

Responsibilities:

- Responsible for assigned classroom and students
- Advance class planning for lessons according to schedule outline
- Regular communication with DRE
- Regular communication with the parents of the students via email and notes

Duties:

- Be prepared and prompt for weekly classes (10 minutes before start of class)
- Maintain presence before and after classes to support, assist and communicate with other catechists and parents
- Establish communication with the family of the student (welcoming at start of school year; occasional notes especially if there is continual absence; progress report)
- Seek to grow and learn with continuing education programs

Training:

- Mandatory ongoing VIRTUS training must be kept current
- Classes offered by the Archdiocese available
- Catechist Certification provided (on-line and/or in-person)

Benefits of Involvement:

- Gain a sense of fulfillment in serving the community
- Growing and learning and becoming personally enriched
- A sense of true joy in serving the Lord and helping others know God
- Becoming more familiar with the community through increased involvement