

**Diocese of Lafayette
Office of Christian Formation
Catechist/Campus/Youth Minister
Certification Process**

**with
Echoes 3.0**

2015-2016

www.diolaf.org

Dear Catechist/Campus/Youth Minister,

Probably the only thing worse than not having a catechist is having a catechist who does not really know the faith and how to present it. It is also problematic when youth ministers do not understand that they are also religious educators. The *Catechist/Campus/Youth Minister Certification Process* is our attempt to overcome these problems. Every religion teacher in our schools and every teacher in our parish religious education programs as well as school campus ministers and parish youth ministers should be working toward this certification if they do not already possess it. Your generosity and willingness are deeply appreciated, but it should be accompanied by a certified knowledge of the faith and how to teach it. Please avail yourselves of this opportunity at your earliest chance if you do not already possess the certification.

Thank you for the remarkable work that you do with our young people.

Most Reverend Michael Jarrell
Bishop of Lafayette

ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS WORK

C.R.A.	Certified Religion Administrator - catholic school
C.R.E.	Coordinator of Religious Education -Responsible for specific programs of religious education in a parish.
D.R.E.	Director of Religious Education – Responsible for all religious education programs in a parish. C.R.E.’s are supervised by D.R.E.’s

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Echoes Modules required in the Catechists/Campus/Youth Minister Certification Process are now online (Echoes 3.0). As a result, we will no longer offer Echoes Modules as workshops. In order to earn credits in the certification process or earn hours required by the Office of Catholic Schools, individuals must purchase a license for the online Echoes Modules from the Director of the Office of Christian Formation and must follow the prescribed process for completing each module.
2. As long as the entire process is complete by December 2016, anyone who is close to finishing all levels of the Certification Process may elect to continue using the 2012-13 version of the process. If catechists/campus/youth ministers have several workshops still needed in the process, they may elect to transfer into the 2015-16 version of the process. All new catechists/campus/youth ministers should use the 2015-16 version.
3. Catechists/campus/youth ministers are responsible for keeping a record of all workshops attended. It is impractical and therefore not the responsibility of the Office of Christian Formation to keep records of attendance. In the case of Catholic school personnel, it is recommended that either the principal or religion administrator, along with the individual catechist/campus minister, maintain the records of attendance.
4. College level theology courses and courses in the permanent diaconate program may be substituted for any certification process workshop with similar content.
5. Workshops taken for certification in another diocese may be substituted if the written workshop description is similar in content and is submitted with the application for certification.
6. Certifications from other dioceses are acceptable at the discretion of the Director of the Office of Christian Formation, as long as the catechist/youth minister is committed to ongoing formation.
7. University of Dayton online courses and the Certification Process workshops are not interchangeable. Catechists/campus/youth ministers must choose to do one or the other.
8. Catechists/Campus/Youth Ministers may take workshops on different levels simultaneously. However, certificates of completion or certifications are awarded in their proper order i.e. Level I before Level II, etc. Each level in the certification process is a pre-requisite for the level that follows it. Applications for several levels may be submitted at the same time.
9. A catechist/campus/youth minister should complete Levels I – V in ten (10) years or less.
10. Credits awarded in this certification process do not necessarily equal time hours. Catholic school religion teachers are required to take workshops that equal twelve (12) time hours per year. It is expected that these teachers will attend workshops that will also qualify for credits in the certification process.
11. Workshops are advertised in the Office of Christian Formation Schedule of Events (www.diolaf.org) or through flyers posted on the Christian Formation page of the diocesan website.
12. Workshops that are not sponsored by the Office of Christian Formation may be approved by submitting the Workshop Approval Application. The instructions and application are located at the end of this document. Applications should be submitted at least one month prior to the scheduled workshop. The purpose of this process is to insure that all workshops used for certification meet the required criteria as indicated by each workshop description.

**DIOCESE OF LAFAYETTE
OFFICE OF CHRISTIAN FORMATION**

Echoes 3.0 Frequently Asked Questions

1. **What is Echoes of Faith 3.0?** Echoes of Faith 3.0 is an online program for catechist/campus/youth minister formation. It is published by RCLBenziger and the National Conference for Catechetical Leadership. Early versions of this program included video assisted courses that were offered as workshops in the Diocese of Lafayette Catechist Certification Process. The online version replaces the workshops.
2. **May I earn credits and hours by doing this online?** The program, if you register and participate through the Office of Christian Formation, offers credits toward certification as well as time hours required annually by the Office of Catholic Schools. **Note:** Credits and hours are not offered if the program is purchased directly from RCLBenziger.
3. **What is a license? Where do I purchase a license?** A license allows you to register in the program. One license contains 15 modules. Eleven modules are required for certification and hours. You may access an application online at www.diolaf.org, go to offices, Christian Formation. The required modules are indicated on the application.
4. **How much is a license?** 1 license = 11 modules = **\$25**. That's \$2.27 per module. If you participated in an Echoes of Faith workshop previously, the cost was no less than \$8 per module = \$80 per license.
5. **May I purchase one module at a time?** No. You must purchase a license. Licenses are not transferrable and may not be shared. Once you register, the license is under your name exclusively.
6. **What if I took some modules as workshops previously?** You received credits and hours when the workshop modules were completed. Although you may complete all modules in the license, you will only receive credits and hours for those not taken previously.
7. **How long will it take to complete a license?** You have one year from the date of first use (when you sign in for the first time) to complete the license. You will be notified when the year is almost up. If you choose to extend/renew the license, you must go through the registration process again and pay \$25 for the second year.
8. **How long will it take to complete a module?** Some modules are approximately 5 hours in length and some are approximately 3 hours in length. You may stop and start as you work through any module. **Just remember to save your work.** Unless otherwise instructed by your group administrator, **all modules must be completed in their entirety including bonus interviews, answers to assessment questions, reflections and questions labeled as optional.**
9. **What is a Group Administrator?** Once the Office of Christian Formation processes your license application and fee, you will be contacted by your Group Administrator, given an Activation Code and assigned to a group of 10 students. Your administrator will oversee the work of the 10 students. If you have questions, the Group Administrator will be your primary source of information.
10. **How will I get a Certificate of Completion when I complete a module?** You must notify your Group Administrator when you have completed a module. The Group Administrator will confirm that you completed all of the required module components (including optional questions) before notifying the Office of Christian Formation.
11. **Will hours and credits be included on the Certificates of Completion? Who will my certificates be sent to?** Certificates of Completion indicating hours and credits earned will be issued as modules are completed. The original certificates will be mailed from the Office of Christian Formation to the student. Copies will be mailed to the parish DRE or school religion administrator.
12. See the 2015-16 version of the Certification Process on the diocesan website for information on how the modules may be applied. Anyone who is already working in the 2012-13 version of the certification process has the option of staying with that version or transferring all credits to the 2015-16 version. **Beginning catechists/campus/youth ministers must use the 2015-16 version.**

Office of Christian Formation
Diocese of Lafayette
ECHOES of FAITH 3.0
INDIVIDUAL LICENSE APPLICATION

In order to receive a student activation code (license), complete this form and return to:
Office of Christian Formation, Diocese of Lafayette, 1408 Carmel Drive, Lafayette, LA 70501 along with a check for one license in the amount of \$25.00 made payable to Office of Christian Formation.
 You will then receive instructions by email on how to begin.

Name _____ Date _____

Current email address _____ Cell _____

Catholic School **or** Church Parish _____

City _____ Title/Position _____

Name of your Religion Administrator or DRE _____

Below is a list of Echoes Modules that are required for credits and hours in the *2015-16 revised Catechist/Campus/Youth Minister Certification Process*. Go to the Christian Formation page of the diocesan website to access the process. **New teachers must use the 2015-16 process. Anyone who is already working in the 2012-13 version of the certification process has the option of staying in that version or transferring all credits to the July, 2015-16 version.**

Put an X next to the modules that you intend to take online and have not taken as workshops. Modules taken previously as workshops **may not** be repeated online for credits or hours:

Level I:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Getting Started as a Catechist | <input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to Sacred Scripture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I Believe, We Believe (Introduction to Basic Doctrine) | <input type="checkbox"/> Catholic Morality |

Level II:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Roles of the Catechist | <input type="checkbox"/> Person of the Catechist |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Methods for your grade level. What grade do you teach? _____ (no online for high school) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Liturgy and Sacraments | |

Level III:

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer and Spirituality | <input type="checkbox"/> Church (Ecclesiology) | <input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to the Learner |
|--|--|--|

- Eventually, a **Multicultural Catechesis module will be added**. Once added, it will be required for new teachers/catechists (total = 12 modules). **Those already working in the program are required to complete only the original 10 modules plus the Church module if not previously taken as workshops.**
- **There are other Echoes Modules included in the license that are not required. We offer no hours or credits for Methods Modules that are not focused on the grade that you teach and no hours or credits for Adult Catechesis unless you are working toward certification in Adult Catechesis.**
- **There are other certification requirements in Levels I, II, and III that are not Echoes Modules.**

I understand that I have one year from the date of first use (when I sign in for the first time) to complete the license. If I choose to extend/renew the license, I understand that I must go through the registration process again and pay \$25 for the second year.

Signature of Applicant _____

**DIOCESE OF LAFAYETTE
CATECHIST/CAMPUS/YOUTH MINISTER
CERTIFICATION PROCESS
LEVEL I APPLICATION
28 credits**

Name: _____
Last
First
MI

Address: _____ City/Zip _____

Phone: cell _____ home _____ Work _____ email _____

Church Parish/School: _____ City: _____

Workshop	Credits Required	Credits Earned	Date	Instructor/ Facilitator	Location
Safe Environment Initial Training	2				
Getting Started as a Catechist (Echoes online)	6				
Introduction to Sacred Scripture (Echoes online)	6				
I Believe, We Believe (Echoes online)	6				
Catholic Morality (Echoes online)	6				
Certification Process Requirements	2			Ann Broussard	

Total Credits earned _____ (28 required)

 Signature of Applicant Date _____

I certify that all requirements for Level I have been met. _____
Signature of Catechetical Leader or Pastor/Chancellor

Date _____

Attach copies of Certificates of Completion for workshops in this level.

**Mail to: Office of Christian Formation
 Diocese of Lafayette
 1408 Carmel Drive
 Lafayette, 70501**

**DIOCESE OF LAFAYETTE
CATECHIST/CAMPUS/YOUTH MINISTER
CERTIFICATION PROCESS
LEVEL II APPLICATION
30 credits**

Name: _____
Last
First
MI

Address: _____ City/Zip _____

Phone: cell _____ home _____ Work _____ email _____

Church Parish/School: _____ City: _____

Workshop	Credits Required	Credits Earned	Date	Instructor	Location
Roles of the Catechist (Echoes online)	6				
The Person of the Catechist (Echoes online)	6				
Methods for Grade Levels (your grade level only) (Echoes online)	6				
Liturgy and Sacraments (Echoes online)	6				
Catechist Retreat Sponsored by Off. of Christian Formation Title:	4				
Safe Environment Continuing Education	2				

Total Credits Earned _____ (30 required)

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

I certify that all requirements for Level II have been met. _____
Signature of Catechetical Leader or Pastor/Chancellor

Date _____

Attach copies of:

- *Level I Certificate of Completion and Certificates of Completion for workshops in this level.*

**Mail to: Office of Christian Formation
 Diocese of Lafayette
 1408 Carmel Drive
 Lafayette, LA 70501**

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

(Specialized Methods)

Levels IV and V

The workshops offered in each area of specialization enable catechists/campus/youth ministers to be proficient in teaching specific ages, grade levels, cultures, or groups with special needs. All of these workshops are considered specialized methods. Once the Area of Specialization is chosen in Level IV, the catechist/campus/youth minister must continue with the same choice in Level V. A catechist/campus/youth minister may choose to specialize in another area once Levels I – V are completed.

The area of specialization determines an individual's choice to be certified as a catechist, or campus/youth minister.

ADULT CATECHESIS

ELEMENTARY CATECHESIS

ADOLESCENT CATECHESIS

CAMPUS/YOUTH MINISTRY

**DIOCESE OF LAFAYETTE
CERTIFICATION PROCESS
LEVEL IV: CERTIFIED CATECHIST/CAMPUS/YOUTH MINISTER
APPLICATION
38 credits**

Name: _____
Last First MI

Address: _____ City/Zip _____

Phone: cell _____ home _____ Work _____ email _____

Church Parish/School _____ City: _____

Area of Specialization: _____

Number of years teaching religion/campus/youth ministry: _____ (3 yrs required)

Please list the parishes/schools where you have ministered as a catechist/campus/youth ministry and the number of years for each:

Total Credits Earned _____ (38 required - includes 3 years experience)

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

I certify that _____ **has satisfactorily completed all requirements for the Diocese of Lafayette Certification Process in Level IV: Catechist OR Campus/Youth Minister**

Signature of Catechetical Leader or Pastor/Chancellor _____ **Date** _____

Attach copies of Certificates of Completion for: Levels I, II, and III and workshops in this level.

**Mail to: Office of Christian Formation
Diocese of Lafayette
1408 Carmel Drive
Lafayette, LA 70501**

LEVEL IV: CATECHIST/CAMPUS/YOUTH MINISTER

Workshop	Credits Required	Credits Earned	Date	Instructor	Place
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Safe Environment Continuing Ed	2				
New Testament Studies	6				
Catholic Social Teachings Title:	3				
Elective Title:	3				
Elective Title:	3				
Specialized Methods Title:	3				
Specialized Methods Title:	3				
Specialized Methods Title:	3				
Specialized Methods Title:	3				
Day of Reflection/Prayer (5 hrs or longer) Title:	6				

LEVEL V: ADVANCED CATECHIST/CAMPUS/YOUTH MINISTER

Workshop	Credits Required	Credits Earned	Date	Instructor	Place
Safe Environment Continuing Ed	2				
Church History	6				
Specialized Methods Title:	3				
Specialized Methods Title:	3				
Specialized Methods Title:	3				
Specialized Methods Title:	3				
Specialized Methods Title:	3				
Specialized Methods Title:	3				
Elective Title:	3				
Elective Title:	3				
Elective Title:	3				
Day of Reflection/Prayer (5 hrs or longer) Title:	6				

**DIOCESE OF LAFAYETTE
CERTIFICATION PROCESS
LEVEL VI: DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (DRE)
APPLICATION
44 credits**

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name _____

Address _____
Street city zip

Phone: cell _____ home _____ Work _____ email _____

Church Parish _____ City _____

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

SCHOOL/CITY	DEGREE	AREA
HIGH SCHOOL		

COLLEGE		

GRADUATE SCHOOL		

WORK DATA

How long have you been involved in catechesis? _____

In what capacities have you served? _____

In what capacity are you currently involved? _____

How long have you served in this current position? _____

PLEASE LIST YOUR PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE IN THE CATECHETICAL MINISTRY:

POSITION	LOCATION	DATES
1. _____		
2. _____		
3. _____		
4. _____		
5. _____		

LEVEL VI: Director of Religious Education D.R.E.

CATECHIST CERTIFICATION
DATE: _____

ADVANCED CATECHIST CERTIFICATION
DATE: _____

DIOCESE: _____

DIOCESE: _____

SPECIALIZATION: _____

WORKSHOP	CREDITS REQUIRED	CREDITS EARNED	DATE	INSTRUCTOR	PLACE
Safe Environment Continuing Ed.	2				
Orientation/Training Weekend	15				
Conflict Resolution	3				
Spirituality of the Catechetical Leader	3				
Elective Title:	3				
Elective Title:	3				
Elective Title:	3				
Day of Reflection/Prayer (5 hrs or longer) Title:	6				
Support Gp. Mtg. /Diocesan DRE Mtg.	2			Host	
Support Gp. Mtg. /Diocesan DRE Mtg.	2			Host	
Support Gp Mtg. /Diocesan DRE Mtg.	2			Host	

Total Credits Earned _____ **(44 required)**

Required Letters of Recommendation (Please attach both letters to this form.)

- 1) Pastor
- 2) Current Experienced Director of Religious Education

Attach copies of: Catechist and Advanced Catechist certifications and Certificates of Completion for workshops in this level.

**DIOCESE OF LAFAYETTE
CATECHIST CERTIFICATION PROCESS
LEVEL VI: CERTIFIED RELIGION ADMINISTRATOR (CRA)
APPLICATION
44 credits**

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name _____

Address _____

Phone: cell _____ home _____ Work _____ email _____

School _____ City _____

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

SCHOOL/CITY	DEGREE	AREA
HIGH SCHOOL		

COLLEGE		

GRADUATE SCHOOL		

WORK DATA

How long have you been involved in catechesis? _____

In what capacities have you served? _____

In what capacity are you currently involved? _____

How long have you served in this current position? _____

PLEASE LIST YOUR PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE IN THE CATECHETICAL MINISTRY:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

LEVEL VI: CERTIFIED RELIGION ADMINISTRATOR C.R.A.

CATECHIST CERTIFICATION
DATE: _____

ADVANCED CATECHIST CERTIFICATION
DATE: _____

DIOCESE: _____

DIOCESE: _____

SPECIALIZATION: _____

WORKSHOP	CREDITS REQUIRED	CREDITS EARNED	DATE	INSTRUCTOR	PLACE
Safe Environment Continuing Ed.	2				
Conflict Resolution	3				
Spirituality of the Catechetical Leader	3				
Preparing Liturgies for Children	3				
Elective Title:	3				
Elective Title:	3				
Elective Title:	3				
Elective Title:	3				
Elective Title:	3				
Day of Reflection/ Prayer (5 hrs or longer) Title:	6				

Required Experience:

Religion Administrator Meetings Attended (minimum 2 meetings/year @ 2 credits each) Anyone working on this level **must be an active religion administrator in a school** in order to fulfill this requirement.

	DATE	DATE
1 st year	_____	_____
2 nd year	_____	_____
3 rd year	_____	_____

Total Credits Earned _____ **(44 required)**

Required letters of recommendation: 1) Pastor/Principal; 2) Current Experienced Religion Administrator
Please attach both letters to this form.

Attach copies of: Catechist and Advanced Catechist certifications and Certificates of Completion for workshops in this level.

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

LEVEL I

ECHOES 3.0 ONLINE

GETTING STARTED AS A CATECHIST - 6 credits

This workshop addresses the first and most important responsibilities of a beginning catechist. The six skills addressed in this module are: Creating the physical environment for catechesis; Shaping a social environment in which faith can be nurtured; Using creative activities in learning; Developing successful lesson plans; Managing positive behavior in the catechetical setting; Helping learners pray together.

INTRODUCTION TO SACRED SCRIPTURE - 6 credits

The workshop content includes: What is the Bible? Why is the Bible holy? The formation of the Scriptures over time; The importance of context in reading the Bible; Some literary forms found in the Bible; The meaning of inspiration; The establishment of the canon of Scriptures; The biblical themes of covenant and freedom; The root story of the Exodus; The relationship of Jesus' saving action to the Exodus event; The basic message of Jesus in the gospels; The role of Paul in spreading the good news of Jesus Christ; Is there a specific Bible that should be used in the classroom?

INTRODUCTION TO BASIC DOCTRINE - I BELIEVE, WE BELIEVE - 6 credits

This workshop acquaints the beginning catechist/youth minister with the central creedal statements of the Catholic community. It includes: God, the Creator of all that exists; God's revelation in human history; The call to relationship that God offers to each human being; Faith as response to God's call; Scripture and Sacred Tradition as the primary modes of God's revelation; Jesus Christ as the fullness of God's revelation; God as a Trinity of persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit; The Incarnation; The Holy Spirit as animator of the community of faith; The Church as the Body of Christ, the community of believers; Creeds as summary statements of the community about its core beliefs; The Nicene Creed.

CATHOLIC MORALITY – 6 credits

This workshop addresses how we live as followers of Jesus Christ, who described himself as “the way, and the truth, and the life.” (John 14:6) It includes: Human dignity and community as the foundations of the moral life; The meaning of virtue and its foundations in the teaching of Jesus; The implications of the Beatitudes for daily life; The meaning and validity of objective morality; The sources for arriving at objective moral truth and subjective, or personal responsibility; Moral actions as the responses one makes to the grace offered by a loving God; Moral actions as a combination of act, intention, and circumstance; The nature, origin, and degrees of sin; The effects of sin on the individual and the community; The nature of conscience and the process of informing one's conscience; The timeless quality and universal validity of the Commandments; The relationship of the Commandments to the new law of Jesus Christ.

CERTIFICATION PROCESS REQUIREMENTS - 2 credits

This workshop will introduce catechists/youth ministers to the Diocese of Lafayette Certification Process for Religious Education/Youth Ministry. Questions that will be addressed include: What is certification? How do I get it? Why do I need it? What are the requirements? What are the levels of certification? What courses are approved or sponsored and what is the difference? How will I know when they are offered? Who keeps track of the courses I take? What happens after I am certified?

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

LEVEL II

ECHOES 3.0 ONLINE:

ROLES OF THE CATECHIST - 6 credits

True catechists are symbols of the faith community. They have received and responded to a call from God to lead others toward growth in faith and an understanding of the Church and its doctrine and tradition. The catechist assumes four critical roles: that of storyteller, teacher-companion, leader of prayer, and witness for justice. The course content includes: Storytelling in religious education; The quality of the catechist as teacher-companion; The importance of leading prayer in the catechetical setting; The role of the catechist as a witness for justice with his/her learners.

THE PERSON OF THE CATECHIST - 6 credits

Many catechists begin simply as well-intentioned volunteers. Not all will embrace the richness of the catechetical ministry. To do so, they must come to appreciate that a catechist is one who “must also receive and respond to a ministerial call that comes from the Lord and is articulated in the local church.” (National Catechetical Directory, 206) This module invites catechists to reflect on the nature of the catechetical ministry and to explore their own level of commitment to it. The workshop includes: The vocation of the catechist; The role of catechesis in the Church’s ministry; The qualities of a catechist as expressed in contemporary Church documents; The importance of the catechist’s continued growth and understanding of the catechetical ministry; The role of the Spirit in the catechetical ministry of the Church.

METHODS FOR SPECIFIC AGE/GRADE LEVELS - 6 credits

The methodology modules assist participants in gaining practical skills related to the grade levels they are teaching. Each of the modules begins with an overview of the lifelong faith journey of the Christian. This overview reminds participants that they, too, are growing in faith, and provides them with a context in which to place the faith needs of their particular age group. The flow of the content is similar in each module, although the strategies and activities provided vary with each age group. The specific goals and learning objectives of each module vary according to the developmental needs of that age group. Each module includes: Human developmental characteristics; Developmental faith needs; Strategies for introducing the Scriptures and Sacred Tradition; The relevance of activities to faith development; Appropriate prayer forms; Inclusion of children with special needs.

ADULT EDUCATION METHODS - 6 credits

This module will help catechists to work effectively as facilitators in a number of small group settings such as Scripture study, prayer groups, small faith communities, or RCIA.

LITURGY & SACRAMENTS - 6 credits

This workshop includes: the meaning of ritual, the nature of liturgy, the relationship of liturgy to the Paschal Mystery, the celebration of liturgy in a cycle of time, the role of space, music, and cultural expression in liturgy, the importance of the assembly in liturgical celebration.

This workshop includes: the way in which symbolic actions express meaning and invite participation in the saving action they celebrate; the sacramental principle; the relationship of the seven sacraments to the fundamental experience of human life; the centrality of the Eucharist in the church; Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist as the sacraments of initiation; Penance and Reconciliation and the Anointing of the Sick as the two sacraments that celebrate healing; the sacraments of Holy Orders and Matrimony as celebrating the two central vocations at the service of communion.

CATECHIST RETREAT – 4 credits

Must be sponsored by the Office of Christian Formation. May be attended annually for hours.

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

LEVEL III: BASIC CATECHIST/CAMPUS/YOUTH MINISTER

ECHOES 3.0 ONLINE:

PRAYER AND SPIRITUALITY – 6 credits

This workshop explores the relationship with the living God that we call prayer. It places prayer within the context of one's spirituality the name given to the entire life lived in response to God's call. It includes: The basic dynamic of prayer as listening and responding to God's call; The *Angelus* as an example of the dynamic of prayer; Mary as the perfect model of acceptance and response to God's call; The relationship between personal prayer and the community of faith; The various prayer forms through which we make our response to God; Obstacles to the life of prayer; The Holy Spirit as source of our prayer response; Prayer, service, and asceticism as the three foundations of the spiritual life; The *Our Father* as the bedrock of Christian prayer.

INTRODUCTION TO THE LEARNER – 6 credits

This workshop introduces the participants to the continuous cycle of growth and development that occurs throughout life. It provides an introduction to cognitive, psycho-social, moral, and faith growth. It includes: The nature of learning; The relationship of religion and science; Principles of developmental theory; The process of human knowing and the work of Jean Piaget; The psycho-social development of the human person and the work of Erik Erikson; Moral decision making and the work of Lawrence Kohlberg; The role of imagination in moral decision making; The relationship between moral decisions and moral actions; The relationship of human knowing, relating, and acting to religious faith; James Fowler's theory of faith development; The journey of faith through the seasons of childhood, discipleship, and stewardship.

CHURCH (ECCLESIOLOGY) - 6 credits

As members of the Catholic community of faith, we share in the history and tradition of Christ's Body. This course offers participants insights into Catholic beliefs and traditions i.e., Revelation – Scripture & Tradition; Catholic understanding of One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic; The hierarchical structure of the Church and the magisterium; The Communion of Saints; the Parousia.

MULTICULTURAL CATECHESIS – 6 CREDITS

Description not available at this time.

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION – 3 credits each

The workshop descriptions for the Areas of Specialization are included on flyers from the Office of Christian Formation as the workshops are offered.

DAY OF REFLECTION/PRAYER – 6 credits

Each year individuals may attend and use the Day of Reflection/Prayer in Levels III, IV, V, or VI because the content and speakers change each year.

OR they may participate in any workshop/seminar/retreat that challenges them to grow personally or spiritually. The event (actual presentation time) must be **4 hours** in length or longer.

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

LEVEL IV

NEW TESTAMENT STUDIES - 6 credits

This workshop provides participants with a basic overview of the Christian Testament. It includes brief historical, literary, and theological interpretations of the synoptic gospels; Luke's gospel and its connection to Acts of the Apostles; John's Gospel and its connection to the Book of Revelation; and a look at the Epistles as messages of instruction and encouragement.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHINGS - 3 credits

The workshop should be one that raises awareness of the Social Teachings of the Church.

ELECTIVES – 3 credits each

The workshop descriptions for the electives are included on flyers from the Office of Christian Formation as the workshops are offered.

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION - 3 credits each

The workshop descriptions for the Areas of Specialization are included on flyers from the Office of Christian Formation as the workshops are offered.

DAY OF REFLECTION/PRAYER – 6 credits

Each year individuals may attend and use the Day of Reflection/Prayer in Levels III, IV, V, or VI because the content and speakers change each year.

OR they may participate in any workshop/seminar/retreat that challenges them to grow personally or spiritually.

The experience (actual presentation time) must be no less than **5 hours in length**.

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS LEVEL V

CHURCH HISTORY – 6 credits

This workshop covers the history of Christianity, beginning with an overview of Judaism, the early development and spread of the Christian Church, and major events in the church's history to the present time.

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION - 3 credits each

The workshop descriptions for the areas of specialization are included on flyers from the Office of Christian Formation as the workshops are offered.

ELECTIVES – 3 credits each

The workshop descriptions for the electives are included on flyers from the Office of Christian Formation as the workshops are offered.

DAY OF REFLECTION/PRAYER – 6 credits

Each year individuals may attend and use the Day of Reflection/Prayer in Levels III, IV, V, or VI because the content and speakers change each year.

OR they may participate in any workshop/seminar/retreat that challenges them to grow personally or spiritually.

The experience (actual presentation time) must be no less than **5 hours in length**.

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

Level VI: CERTIFIED RELIGION ADMINISTRATOR (Catholic School)

Level VI: DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (Parish)

CONFLICT RESOLUTION – 3 credits

Through lecture and discussion, participants will identify sources of conflict, especially as related to dysfunction within family systems; how these behavior patterns are displayed in the classroom; how compassion and understanding are the basis for establishing relationships without which discipline is void of effect.

SPIRITUALITY OF THE RELIGION ADMINISTRATOR/D.R.E. – 3 credits

The workshop content will focus on deepening the spirituality of the Religion Administrator/D.R.E. in order to better guide and instruct others. Main areas of concentration will focus on...

- *Spiritual readings as a source of meditation*
- *Importance of the Eucharist (daily Mass)*
- *Personal retreats (at least once a year)*
- *Understanding personal devotions, i.e. Mary, saints, etc.*
- *Making use of availability of missions, workshops, classes, etc. offered by the local parish*

PREPARING LITURGIES FOR CHILDREN – 3 credits

This workshop gives assistance on preparing children for liturgy and also on preparing liturgy for children. The Liturgy Documents are explored, paying close attention to those areas that affect liturgies in which the majority present are children. Participants are made aware of the services offered by the Office of Worship.

ELECTIVES – 3 credits each

ORIENTATION/TRAINING WEEKEND FOR D.R.E.'S AND C.R.E.'S – 15 credits – must attend entire weekend

This is an intense overnight training for new D.R.E.'s. Topics addressed include: Job descriptions, record keeping, planning, goal setting, recruiting volunteers, budgeting, sacramental programs, planning good liturgies, personal time management, selecting textbooks, lesson planning, discipline, certification process, resources, religious education and the law, and Safe Environment. Participants must attend the entire weekend (Friday evening through Saturday afternoon) to earn required credits.

DAY OF REFLECTION/PRAYER – 6 credits

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OR they may participate in any workshop/seminar/retreat that challenges them to grow personally or spiritually.

The experience (actual presentation time) must be no less than **5 hours in length**.

