

§1400 CATECHIST FORMATION

"...catechists should certainly seek to acquire the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed to communicate the gospel message effectively. They must have a solid grasp of Catholic doctrine and worship; familiarity with scripture; communication skills; the ability to use various methodologies; understanding of how people grow and mature and of how persons of different ages and circumstances learn." (NCD, # 211)

1401.1. Policy All catechists shall participate in ongoing formation in faith, catechetical training and education. Parish catechists are required to be working toward Archdiocesan catechist certification. They shall have a sufficient knowledge of Roman Catholic doctrine and worship, familiarity with Scripture, ability to communicate and an understanding of developmental stages and learning styles.

Procedures

- a) All parish catechists in the Archdiocese must be certified or working toward Archdiocesan Catechist Certification or continuing post-certification study.
- b) Parish catechists are certified through catechetical training sessions developed according to *Fostering Faith/Fomentando La Fe: The Archdiocesan Process for Catechist Formation and Certification*. Certification can be achieved through training programs sponsored by the Archdiocese, Vicariate, Deanery, or Parish or through other regional formation events.
- c) Catechists involved in programs with participants of specific cultures or with special needs are to receive training and formation which prepares them to work effectively with such groups.