

Level I

Course Objectives

Role of the Catechist ----- when completed, the catechist will be able:

- to share what they have in common with the teaching style of Jesus
- to witness how their personal talents and skills can be utilized in the religion classroom.
- to describe and be able to plan a religion lesson for a particular grade level.
- to share with the other catechists elements of a successful classroom experience.
- to be familiar with current classroom management techniques
- to know and share creative ideas for the following: prayer, Scripture, liturgy, traditions...
- to demonstrate an understanding of the various learning styles in a classroom and how to teach to each.
- to be able to set up a religion classroom
- to be aware of how the Directory for Catechesis describes this role

Church ----- when completed, the catechist will be able:

- to articulate the essential characteristics of the Church as described in *Lumen Gentium*
- to appreciate the historical and cultural images the Church uses to understand herself.
- to name the model of the Church under which they operate.
- to reflect on how they might present these concepts of Church to their students.
- to know basic historical highlights of the Church's History
- to be able to discuss the hierarchy of the Catholic Church
- to overview recently published Church documents (Popes Leo XIV and Francis

Faith Development ----- when completed, the catechist will be able:

- to know where to locate suitable materials for catechesis
- to know and describe Fowler's stages of faith development.
- to apply this knowledge of the stages of faith development to those found in their students.
- to identify the three aspects of faith (cognitive, affective and behavioral)

to identify the difference between the words faith, religion and belief.

to know the stages of moral development (Kohlberg and Piaget) and how these apply to the classroom.

to discuss the basic principles of the Church's social teachings.

to know and practice with the catechetical process

Practical Skills ---- when completed, the catechist will be able:

to recognize some of the characteristics of personality development and know the implications of these for teaching.

to describe new techniques or activities learned during a workshop

to discuss appropriate teaching techniques for a particular age level.

to become familiar with resources for the classroom

to be able to know the key elements of classroom discipline

Liturgy and Sacraments----- when completed, the catechist will be able:

to describe briefly an updated theology of each of the seven sacraments.

to describe the ritual of the seven sacraments.

to reflect on the ways that symbol and ritual work within the liturgy.

to discuss the nature of liturgy and the function of symbol.

to know the parts of the Mass and some ideas on how to teach these parts.

to know and describe the history of the main feasts of the liturgical year.

Scripture ---- when completed, the catechist will be able:

to describe how and why the Bible was written.

to appreciate the various types of literature contained in the Bible

to utilize a method for reading Scripture then helps them discover and apply its meaning to their lives.

to state the essence of the message of Jesus as found in the Gospels and to know the implications of this message for themselves and their students.

to know and demonstrate that the Bible is the Word of God alive for believers today.

to understand the use and abuse of Scripture

to be able to demonstrate lectio divina and lectio visio

to be able to create lesson plans that encourage children and teens to read the Bible

to identify a Catholic Bible

Catechetical/Administrative/Legal ----- when completed, the catechist will be able:

to know the current copyright laws that govern print and media resources.

to describe the differences between canon and civil law and the implications for the religion classroom

to learn some basic guidelines for liability and prevention of liability

to describe the current legislation regarding administrating programs in the Diocese of St. Augustine.

to be made aware of the current moral issues and be committed to teaching and living them

to be able to describe negligence and how it can be lessened

to understand adaptations for special needs children

to know the basic working of the Tribunal

Basic Beliefs ----- when completed, the catechist will be able:

to articulate the Church's teachings about Mary

to discuss the Church's teaching about the Trinity

to describe the marks of the Catholic Church

to articulate the role of the clergy and lay faithful in the Church

to discuss the Church's teaching on the endtime: heaven, hell and purgatory

to discuss the Paschal Mystery

(all elements of the Creed would be suitable for this requirement)