

JOB DESCRIPTION: CATECHIST

Religious Education teachers are called catechists. A catechist (from the Greek word “to echo”) is someone commissioned by the parish to hand down its faith tradition.

Qualities

- A practicing Catholic, baptized and confirmed in the Catholic faith
- A desire to grow in and share the Catholic faith
- An awareness of God’s grace and the desire to respond to that grace
- A commitment to the Church’s liturgical and sacramental life and moral teachings
- A generosity of spirit, respect for diversity, and a habit of hospitality and inclusion

Knowledge and Skills

- Basic understanding of Catholic teaching, Scripture, Catholic Tradition and a willingness to learn more
- Honest and caring relationships with the age group being served and their parents

Requirements

- Complete initial application (interview with staff and background check)
- Complete Virtus training (including any supplemental training, if required)
- Attend Catechist Kickoff Meeting and Fall and Winter Meetings
- Advise RE staff of any substitute needs at least one week in advance
- Maintain safety and privacy of students
- Communicate via email weekly with parents
- Willingness to use Zoom or other remote learning platform to deliver lessons if lockdown occurs

Expectations

- Attend Mass regularly
- Foster an environment of prayer each week to include a variety of forms
- Prepare lessons in advance, giving careful consideration to the developmental level of the grade being taught
- Work as a team with co-catechist(s), substitutes, parents and other volunteers
- Support parents in their role of fostering the faith at home
- Arrive early to set up classroom and welcome children
- Incorporate a variety of techniques (visual, verbal, musical, physical) to facilitate varying learning styles of students
- Restore and clean classroom at the end of each class

Time Commitment

- Four-hour kickoff workshop (4 hours for new catechists, 2 hours for returning catechists)
- Two 60 min. Catechist meetings on Sundays after class (fall and winter)
- 1-2 hours weekly at-home class preparation
- 90 minutes of teaching on Sundays (extra 10 minutes for prep and cleanup time) from September – May (holidays excluded)
- Complete 3 Pre-requisite classes (for new catechists) or continued learning, at a minimum, 1 class each year for returning catechists