

Will You Help Us Share Our Faith?

Our faith is learned from others - passed down from generation to generation. As a **Parish Community**, we are responsible for supporting and helping parents with their child's religious education. As **parents**, the primary responsibility for the Faith Formation of our children is ours. To help us with this responsibility, we have the religious education programs offered to us by our parish.

We have a wonderful program designed to help children learn about their faith and prepare them for the sacraments that are an integral part of our faith. The real essence, the backbone, and the lifeblood of this religious education program are the catechists.

What are we asking for? We ask for a commitment to teaching one class per week (Sunday, for 35 weeks) and the weekly preparation time (approximately 1-2 hours per week). We also ask that all catechists attend the catechist workshops for in-service training (3-4 hours, 3 times a year).

We know that it takes a lot of work to coordinate these activities into very busy lifestyles.

WHAT DO WE DO TO TRAIN AND SUPPORT OUR CATECHISTS? Our curriculum and catechist's manuals are designed to be user friendly. They provide a step-by-step process in lesson planning as well as suggestions for additional supporting activities. Each year, we have three catechist workshops for our volunteers. These workshops are held on site.

The Diocese also provides workshops which are open not only to the catechists, but to all involved in religious education of our children in the Diocese. These workshops bring in nationally known speakers who cover a wide variety of topics.

We need catechists in all grade levels. We are estimating eventually approximately 350 children and students to be enrolled in our program from nursery age (6 months to 3 years), Pre K ((3, 4, and 5 year olds), and then grades 1-12. Our goal is to have two catechists per classroom and a class size no larger than 20 students for preschool through Grade 8.

SCHEDULE:

Please note: Catechists who teach during Mass attend Mass during one of the two other weekend Masses. Serving as a catechist

does not fulfill your Sunday obligation to attend Mass.

During 8:30 Mass and 11:00 Mass: Three-year olds through Kindergarten age students.

We are looking at students from grades 1-5 to have class from 9:45 to 10:45 AM (between the Masses). We will be discussing when we will be having classes for grades 6 through 12.

If you would like more information, call Jennifer Salmon at 615-302-8180. If you are interested in being a catechist, please complete the form below and return it in the collection or mail it to the Parish Office.

Please note: All volunteers are required to complete a volunteer application form, a profile form, provide authorization for a background check and complete Safe Environment Training, either in person or through the diocesan website.



This is a great way to learn and grow in your faith, while sharing our faith with others!

Watch the bulletin for information about our Catechist Workshop!

We are hoping to have the Nursery and CCD classes running in Feb.!

I would like to help with the Church of the Nativity Religious Education Ministry!

Please print.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ E-Mail: _____

City, Zip Code: _____

Student volunteers must note their age and grade level as of September 1, 2008: _____

I am interested in teaching Religious Education this year. Please consider me for the following grades (indicate order of choice, i.e. 1,2,3, etc.). Please note, high school students are invited to be considered for catechist positions and junior high age students can be teacher's aides. Either are able to help out in the nursery. They also must be currently enrolled in Religious Education as well.

During the 8:30 a.m. Mass

During the 11:00 a.m. Mass

_____ I would be interested in the rotating teacher opportunity.

_____ Preschool (3 year olds)

_____ Preschool (3 year olds)

_____ Pre-kindergarten (4 year olds)

_____ Pre-kindergarten (4 year olds)

(See box on below for more information about this option.)

_____ Kindergarten (5 year olds)

_____ Kindergarten (5 year olds)

The grade levels below do not use the rotating teacher option. Our 1st through 5th grade students meet between Masses, from 9:45 to 10:45 AM. Grades 6—12 will be announced in the near future.

1st grade

4th grade

7th grade

2nd grade (First Penance and First Communion)

5th grade

8th grade (Confirmation)

3rd grade

6th grade

High School Program

I cannot help by being a catechist, but I can help with:

— **Substitute Teaching:** (Circle all that apply) Between the Masses During 8:30 Mass During 11:00 Mass

Grades: _____

— **General:** Helping in the office during the program year on **Sunday** or **during the week**. (Circle one or both.) Weekdays that work best for me are _____ morning or afternoon. (We will notify you as needed.)

I am interested in helping out with the Nursery Program : Please state your availability:

Our 6-12th grade program may need to run either Sunday after the 11 am mass, Sunday evenings, or on a week night. Please list your first , second, and third preferences for when you can teach:

1st choice: _____ **2nd choice:** _____ **3rd choice:** _____