

Catechist Certification Component

In keeping with the requirements of the Diocese, all catechists are asked to become certified in teaching catechesis by taking a CORE course in the Foundations of our Faith. This is adult enrichment that will refresh and renew your knowledge of the Catholic faith. Fr. Mike and I are strong proponents of certification for all those in the parish who are involved in Faith Formation. All parish catechists are asked to complete two components for certification:

1. Theology Component
2. Methodology Component

THEOLOGY COMPONENT

There are two options to complete this. We ask that you choose the one that best fits your schedule. See attached sheet for an explanation on each option below.

1. Notre Dame University CORE Course: Intro to the Catholic Faith, which is offered a few times during the year.

Their website is www.step.nd.edu/i-am-catechist/

2. My Catholic Faith Delivered - Theology Component: online course you do at your own pace over the course of a year.

Go to: www.trentoncatechist.com to register as a participant in the Trenton Diocese.

There are NO submitted tests or papers to complete either course. All fees for either course will be reimbursed to you once you complete the course.

METHODOLOGY COMPONENT

To complete this component, all catechists are asked to attend a day of *The Art of Teaching Catechesis*, which is offered throughout the year around the diocese.

Our parish will offer this on **May 21st; 9-3 in the Family Center.**

If you cannot attend on this date, we will email you when other offerings come up in the diocese.

TO OBTAIN A CERTIFICATE IN CATECHESIS:

1. Complete and submit to our office the *Certificate in Catechesis Application (ATTACHED)*
2. Complete one of the above courses online
3. Attend the *Art of Teaching Catechesis* offered throughout the year in our diocese.

We ask that you seriously consider beginning this process. Many of you are in the process or have completed certification and I think you would agree it is a wonderful learning process in renewing/updating your knowledge of the Catholic faith.

Please join with us in “protecting our children” by complying with the Trenton Diocese mandates.

Sincerely,

Msgr. Mike Walsh
Pastor

Nancy Lucash
Director of Religious Education

Certificate in Catechesis
For
Parish Catechists 1-2-3

1. Complete and submit: *Certificate in Catechesis Application*
2. Attend the 3 session (no cost): *The Art of Teaching Catechesis*
3. *Complete on-line:*

My Catholic Faith Delivered – Theology Component
 @www.trentoncatechist.com

OR

Notre Dame STEP: Core Course: Introduction to the Catholic Faith
 @http://step.nd.edu

Note: Steps 2 and 3 do not have to be completed in order and can be pursued concurrently.

Comparison Chart

<u>MyCatholicFaithDelivered</u>	<u>Notre Dame STEP</u>
44 session program, 5 modules, available 24/7	7 week scheduled course
30-40 contact hours depending on pace of catechist	35 contact hours
4 pillars of the Catechism PLUS an additional module on Scripture by <u>Matthew Kelly</u>	4 Pillars of the Catechism
\$45 (\$90 initial - \$45 reimbursement upon completion)*	\$49.50*
Pre session and post session quizzes	Participation in chat room, blog entry
Sessions independent of other students	Participate in a class of other students
All progress and completion visible to Diocese	Completion notification sent to Diocese

*Any remaining fees listed above will be reimbursed by St. James Church upon completion

Appendix E Certificate in Catechesis Application



Diocese of Trenton CERTIFICATE IN CATECHESIS APPLICATION

Catechist's Name: _____
(Please PRINT or TYPE name. Your name will appear on your certificate exactly as it is here.)

Address: _____
Street Town State Zip

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____

Parish Where You are REGISTERED: _____

CITY: _____ Parish Phone: (____) _____

Are you a Catholic School Teacher: YES NO

If Yes, Name of School: _____ Town: _____

I am currently serving as a catechist in *(Check all that apply)*

- Parish Religious Education Program
Parish Name: _____ Town: _____
- Catholic School Religion Class
School Name: _____ Town: _____
- Holy Innocents Society/SPRED
Site Name: _____ Town: _____

Intended Process to obtain the Certificate in Catechesis

Theology Component: *(Check only one)*

- Notre Dame STEP: Core Course *(Parish Catechists Only)*
- Notre Dame STEP: Catholic Faith & Tradition *(Catholic School Teachers Only)*
- My Catholic Faith Delivered

Methodology Component:

- The Art of Teaching Catechesis (Parish Catechists Only)*

Catechist's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Pastor/CL/Principal's Signature: _____ Date: _____