

FORMING DISCIPLES... BY SUITABLE CATECHESIS...



The word, catechesis, comes from a Greek word meaning “to echo.” We “echo” what we ourselves have received. Sometimes, that takes place in a formal classroom setting. As RCIA 75.1 states, a suitable catechesis should lead to “an appropriate acquaintance with dogmas and precepts,” with what the Church teaches. That’s necessary; but by itself that is not enough. RCIA 75.1 continues: catechesis includes instilling a “profound sense of the mystery of salvation” – and that’s something that is caught more than taught. In other words, catechesis is more than what catechists do; we are all responsible for being able to share why we are Christians and what impact our faith has in our lives.¹

3 Questions

What are the many ways that we “echo” the faith to others, not just in a formal classroom setting but by the other ways we share our faith?

Are our catechists well-prepared for their ministry, able to not only explain dogmas and precepts, but invite and accompany others into the mystery of Christ’s love for us?

Are we comfortable sharing our faith, what we believe and why... and what difference it has made in our lives? If not, what can we do to get more comfortable doing so?

Resources

Maria Harris, *Fashion Me a People: Curriculum in the Church*. Westminster John Knox Press, 1989.

Diana Macalintal, *Your Parish is the Curriculum: RCIA in the Midst of the Community*. Liturgical Press, 2018.

Nick Wagner, *Field Hospital Catechesis: The Core Content for RCIA Formation*. Liturgical Press, 2018.

Other resources may be found on our Vision 2020 website:

<https://www.davenportdiocese.org/evangelization-resources>

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¹Diana Macalintal, *Your Parish is the Curriculum: RCIA in the Midst of the Community* (Liturgical Press, 2018), 74-7.