Questions for Table Discussion at Opening Leader Meeting

_NDC_ (p.238) “Since effective catechesis depends on virtuous and skilled catechists, their ongoing formation should enhance the human, spiritual, and apostolic and catechetical skills they bring to their ministry.”

**Question:** How do you and/or your parish encourage and provide ongoing formation/training for your catechists/ministers? How are you formed/trained in your ministry area?

_Chrustus Vivit_ (244) “At the Synod, many pointed to the shortage of qualified people devoted to accompaniment… The Synod also recognized the need to train consecrated persons and laypeople, male and female, to accompany young people.”

**Question:** What does “accompaniment” mean to you? How does “accompaniment” happen in your ministry and/or your parish?

_Chrustus Vivit_ (245) “There is also a special need to accompany young men and women showing leadership potential, so that they can receive training and necessary qualifications.”

**Question:** At your location, what are you doing to call forth and form younger people as catechists and ministers?

_Lay Ecclesial Ministry Standards_

Review the handout with the standards for your specific ministry. Pick three standards that are important to you at this time. How can we assist you in addressing these standards?
Building Intercultural Competence for Ministers, USCCB, (p.9)

**What is Intercultural Competence?**

Intercultural Competence is a capacity to communicate, relate, and work across cultural boundaries. It involves developing capacity in three areas: **Knowledge, skills, and attitudes.**

Knowledge involves the following:

- Knowledge of more than one perspective on things
- Knowledge of different interpretations of the same cultural reality
- Knowledge of general dynamics of intercultural communication

Skills entail the following:

- Ability to empathize
- Ability to tolerate ambiguity
- Ability to adapt communication and behavior

Attitudes include the following:

- Openness to others and other cultures
- Wanting to learn and engage other cultures
- Understanding intercultural interaction as a way of life, not a problem to be solved
- Mindfulness

Question: What are the challenges you face in evangelization/catechesis with the diverse cultures in your parish leadership?