

Syllabus: Catechist Methods

Title: Catechist Certification In-Service Training: Methodology

Dates, times: 3rd Sunday of the month (Sept-May), 12 Noon until 2 pm.

Instructors: Fr. Joe Geleney and Julie Arensman.

Prerequisites

None

Topics

The person and role of the catechist and the language of catechesis. Planning and preparation. Selecting learning activities. Learning styles, special needs, and diversity. When things That go wrong. The learning environment. Understanding learners. Power of prayer. Discipline problems. Techniques. Textbooks and catechetical materials. Using the Bible. Technology. Using questions to get beneath the surface. Assessing progress. Teaching and learning by doing.

Text

The Catechist's Toolbox by Joe Paprocki, published by Loyola Press

Assignment

Simple: Read the chapters assigned prior to the monthly in-service meeting, attend the in-service meetings and be prepared to discuss the material.

Additional requirements

None

Additional information

Upon completion of this in-service training and the theology classes , catechists will be Level I Certified. This in-service training is not mandatory, but highly encouraged. A catechist who misses four in-service sessions will be ineligible for certification.

Goals

The goal of this in-service training is to help catechists learn and practice some of the basic skills needed to thrive as a religious education catechist.

Description

A monthly in-service discussion seminar intended to help catechists learn and practice basic skills necessary to thrive as a religious education catechist.

Schedule

Introduction (1 hour) – 12 Noon, Jul 30, 2017

In-service 1 (2 hours) – 12 Noon, Sep 17, 2017

1. Shop Talk: The Language of Catechesis
2. Blueprints: Planning and Preparation

In-service 2 (2 hours) – 12 Noon, Oct 15, 2017

3. Socket and Wrench Set: Finding Activities That Fit
4. Color Charts: Selecting Learning Activities

In-service 3 (2 hours) – 12 Noon, Nov 19, 2017

5. Different Types of Wood: Adapting to Learning Styles, Special Needs, and Diversity

6. Drop Cloths: Preparing for Things That Can Go Wrong

In-service 4 (2 hours) – 12 Noon, Dec 17, 2017

7. Applying Primer: Preparing the Learning Environment
8. Spotlights: Shifting the Focus onto Learners

In-service 5 (2 hours) – 12 Noon, Jan 21, 2018

9. Extension Cords: Plugging into the Power of Prayer
10. Sandpaper: Smoothing Out Discipline Problems

In-service 6 (2 hours) – 12 Noon, Feb 18, 2018

11. Furniture Polish: Polishing Your Technique
12. Instruction Manuals: Using Textbooks and Catechetical Material

In-service 7 (2 hours) – 12 Noon, Mar 18, 2018

13. Samples and Illustrations: Looking to the Bible for Vision
14. Power Tools: Using Technology

In-service 8 (2 hours) – 12 Noon, Apr 15, 2018

15. Scrapers: Using Questions to Get Beneath the Surface
16. Tape Measure: Assessing Progress

In-service 9 (2 hours) – 12 Noon, May 20, 2018

17. Apprenticeship: Teaching and Learning by Doing

Conclusion: Looking for Results; A Guided Reflection

Supplementary material (available for purchase in the parish gift shop)

1. Echoes of Faith Workbooks and DVD's, published by RCL Benzinger
2. Joseph Paprocki's other books published by Loyola Press, including:
Beyond the Catechist's Toolbox, A Well-Built Faith, The Bible Blueprint, Practice Makes Catholic, The Catechist's Backpack,