



Certification at a Glance for Catechists of Adults and RCIA

RCIA Catechists, small group facilitators, Bible study leaders should be well-prepared for their ministries. Below is a summary of the requirements for the three levels of certification of Adult Catechists in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. For further information or assistance, contact your parish's Catechetical Leader, or call your Regional Office of Evangelization and Catechesis.

Basic Certification

- † Basic Beliefs
- † Introduction to Scripture
- † Adult Catechetical Process
- † Prayer Workshop
- † One Personal Faith Activity
- † Catechist Reflection Guide
- † Observation
- † Post Observation conference
- † Plan of Study for Further Growth
- † One year as Catechist
- † Orientation on Child Protection Decree

General Certification

- † Four Theology Learning Modules (See Below)
- † Three Skills/Competencies (See Below)
- † Two Personal Faith Activities
- † Catechist Reflection Guide
- † Observation
- † Post Observation conference
- † Plan of Study for Further Growth
- † Two years as Catechist

Advanced Certification

- † Remaining Four Theology Learning Modules (See Below)
- † Three More Skills/Competencies (See Below)
- † Two Personal Faith Activities
- † Catechist Reflection Guide
- † Observation
- † Post Observation conference
- † Plan of Study for Further Growth
- † Three years as Catechist

THEOLOGY LEARNING MODULES *for General and Advanced Levels*

1. Hebrew & Christian Scriptures
2. Christian Morality
3. Sacraments
4. Church History
5. Justice and Peace
6. Liturgy and Rites
7. Jesus
8. Church: Vision, Mission, Ministry

Please note that the lists below are examples/recommendations of the kinds of learning experiences that would be appropriate.

SKILLS/COMPETENCIES for Catechists of Adults

1. Write learning outcomes for program/sessions that reflect goals and principles of adult learning.
2. Share personal faith experiences with adult participants as appropriate.
3. Name and integrate life experiences with scripture and teaching of formation session.
4. Use a variety of methods for assessing growth in faith of participants.
5. Employ techniques of effective group process.
6. Engage participants in theological reflection process.
7. Demonstrate sensitivity to a variety of personalities and relationships within the group.
8. Involve participants in preparing for and celebrating prayer experiences.
9. Develop variety of activities for formation sessions using media, art, story, music, discussion, etc. Demonstrate good public speaking principles in formation session presentations.

SKILLS/COMPETENCIES for R.C.I.A. Catechists

1. Demonstrate understanding of periods of RCIA and importance and celebration of major liturgical rites.
2. Recognize differences among Catechumens, Candidates and children and make adaptations as needed.
3. Facilitate a dismissal session based on Sunday scriptures.
4. Facilitate Lectionary-Based catechetical session based on sound catechetical process and using Sunday scriptures &/or an RCIA rite.
5. Implement a Service of the Word during the Catechumenate, including the presentations, anointings and minor exorcisms.
6. Incorporate active listening into discernment throughout the initiation process
7. Invite and train parishioners in responsibility to sponsor catechumens and candidates on RCIA journey.
8. Incorporate opportunities for social outreach ministry for catechumens and candidates.
9. Promote parish reflection and welcome in mystagogical period by planning regular sessions for neophytes and parishioners.
10. Design ways to lead assembly into effective participation in the rites