

Religious Education Catechists for Preschool through Fifth Grade
Catechists, Substitutes, Sacramental Preparation

CATECHIST – The word catechist comes from the Greek word “echo”. Catechists are people who ECHO the Word of God. Pre-School and Elementary students need the leadership of Christian adults who will guide them as they grow in their understanding of themselves, of God’s love, His Church, and its mission.

Catechist Job Description:

- Teach one hour and 15 minutes each week (September-end of April)
- Approximately 1 to 2 hours of preparation time for each lesson
- Arrive at least 15 minutes before class to prepare the materials and set up classroom
- 10-15 minutes to clean up classroom and put things away after each session
- Complete a criminal background check
- Attend a Protecting God’s Children session before the start of the first class
- Read and sign documents from the diocese
- Attend scheduled catechist meetings
- Receive your Basic Catechist Certification within a year (8 hours of formation) and continue to keep certification up-to-date

Skills to be Used/Developed:

Catechists are called to prepare for this important ministry by acquiring the knowledge, skills and abilities needed to communicate Gospel values and Church teachings effectively for different age groups. It is required that you be a worshipping person of faith by attending Mass, participating in the sacraments, and making time for your own personal prayer. Additional qualities which are helpful: leadership, patience, like to tell stories, ability to be a good listener, sense of humor (big time), flexibility, and enjoy being around children. Materials are provided with supplemental materials in the resource room.

Training:

The diocese requires that our Catechists receive their Basic Level I certification by the first year. This is accomplished in a variety of ways. Certification allows catechists to be formed in their own adult faith. You will have the opportunity to update and renew your understanding of Catholic teachings in an adult context. It will give you greater confidence both in your ministry and your own personal growth as a disciple of Christ.

Catechist for Sacramental Preparation:

Sometimes we need a catechist who would be willing to prepare a child(ren) for sacraments not received; such as reconciliation, and/or communion. Materials are provided and you would meet with the child(ren) at a safe place and a time that works for all involved.

Substitute Catechists:

The RE program is always in need of substitutes for all sessions. Catechists may become ill or other things arise. You might be called in advance or last minute. Materials and lessons will be ready for you. **Please consider being a substitute. Substitutes are a very important component to this ministry.**

Questions? Contact Debbie at 878-1619 or debbie@stsebastianmi.org

_____ **Cut Here** _____

Name _____ E-Mail _____ Phone _____

I am interested in being a:

___Monday Catechist~circle all that you are interested in: Grades 1 2 3 4 5

___Tuesday Catechist~circle all that you are interested in: Grades 1 2 3 4 5

___Wednesday Catechist~circle all that you are interested in: Grades 1 2 3 4 5

___Sunday Catechist ~circle all that you would be interested in: Preschool 3 Yr Olds Preschool 4 Yr Olds Kindergarten

___Substitute Catechist~What day would you prefer? Circle all that apply. Sunday Monday Wednesday

Any specific grade level? Please list:

___Catechist for Sacramental Preparation

___Please call me, I have more questions

Please place in an envelope and put it in the offertory basket or bring to the Parish Hall.

Religious Education
Classroom Assistants and Substitutes
Preschool through Fifth Grade

You will need to bring a smile, enthusiasm and positive attitude. You are a role model for the kids and your behavior is to reflect the values that we are teaching. It is required that you be a worshipping person of faith by attending Mass, participating in the sacraments, and making time for your own personal prayer. Additional qualities which are helpful: leadership, patience, an ability to be a good listener, sense of humor (big time), flexibility, and enjoy being around children.

Job Description:

- For those in Grades 6-Adult
- Your job is to support the Catechist.
- As a classroom assistant you should participate in activities as much as possible; it helps the kids relate to you and sets a good example for them.
- This ministry entails one hour and forty minutes each class from September through April. Class is one hour and fifteen minutes, however, you will need to arrive about 10-15 minutes before class and will need to stay and clean up at the end of class.
- Depending on the catechist you are with, you might be asked to take attendance, help set up the classroom before class, encourage children to pay attention or behave themselves, prepare notes for absent children, help set up the room, make sure the room is clean before leaving, run copies, or help children with projects, among other things.
- If you are 18 years or older, you must attend a Protecting God's Children session, complete a criminal background check, and read and sign documents from the diocese

Substitutes for Classroom Assistants

Please consider being a substitute. This is an area that we never have enough people. Classroom Assistants may become ill or other things arise. You might be called in advance or last minute.

More questions? Contact Debbie at 878-1619 or debbie@stsebastianmi.org

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Name _____ E-Mail _____

Phone _____

Please circle the day(s) that works best for you:

	<u>Grades 1-5</u>		<u>Preschool & Kindergarten</u>
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Sunday

Classroom Helper* Substitute Classroom Helper

Any specific grade you would prefer to work with? _____

*18 years and older, would you be willing to sub for the catechist when they are unable to be there? Yes No

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