

# DIOCESE OF BOISE

## OFFICE OF CATECHESIS



The Office of Catechesis supports the mission of the Diocese of Boise by assisting the Bishop in carrying out his role as the chief catechist of the diocese.

### Catechist Certification



### Introduction to Catechesis: Sewing the Seeds of Faith

Kathy Barkdull, Presenter





# Planting Seeds Prayer

It helps, now and then, to step back and take a long view.

The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is beyond our vision.

We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work.

Nothing we do is complete, which is a way of saying that the kingdom always lies beyond us.

No statement says all that could be said.

No prayer fully expresses our faith.

No confession brings perfection.

No pastoral visit brings wholeness.

No program accomplishes the church's mission.

No set of goals and objectives includes everything.

It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest.

We may never see the end result, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker.

We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs.

We are prophets of a future not our own.

This is what we are about: We plant the seed that one day will grow.

We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promises.

We lay foundations that will need further development.

We provide yeast that produces far beyond our capabilities.

We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that.

This enables us to do something, and to do it very well.

Amen

By Bishop Ken Untener of Saginaw

# Introductions

1. What is one word that you would use to describe yourself?
2. Where was the first place you heard the Gospel?



## Questions/Comments??

Use the “Chat” box option in your tool pane on the right side of your screen.



The screenshot shows a meeting tool pane with the following elements:

- Tools | Help** header with navigation arrows.
- Buttons for **Showing my Screen** (with a dropdown menu), **Give Control**, **Change Presenter**, and **Record**.
- Buttons for **Mute Me** and **Mute All**.
- A section for **John Doe (Host, Me)** with a microphone icon.
- Audio** settings:  Use Telephone (with [Edit](#) link) and  Use Mic & Speakers.
- Microphone and speaker volume sliders with a [Setup](#) link.
- Buttons for **Annotation** and **Start Webcam**.
- A **Chat** section with a [view chat history](#) link, a text input field containing `[type message here]`, and a **Send** button.
- At the bottom, an **Invite** button, **Meeting ID: 1493-1447**, and the **R-HUB** logo.



“Go, therefore, and make disciples of  
all nations...teaching them to observe  
all that I have commanded you.”  
(Matt 28:19-30)



# Discipleship: The Missionary Mandate of Jesus

The Church “exists in order to evangelize,” that is “the carrying forth of the Good News to every sector of the human race so that by its strength it may enter into the hearts of men and renew the human race.”

GDC 46

The background of the slide features several faint, concentric circular ripples, resembling water droplets, scattered across the lower half of the blue background.

# Discipleship: The Ultimate Goal of Catechesis

Catechesis aims to bring about in the believer an ever more mature faith in Jesus Christ, a deeper knowledge and love of his person and message, and a firm commitment to follow him.

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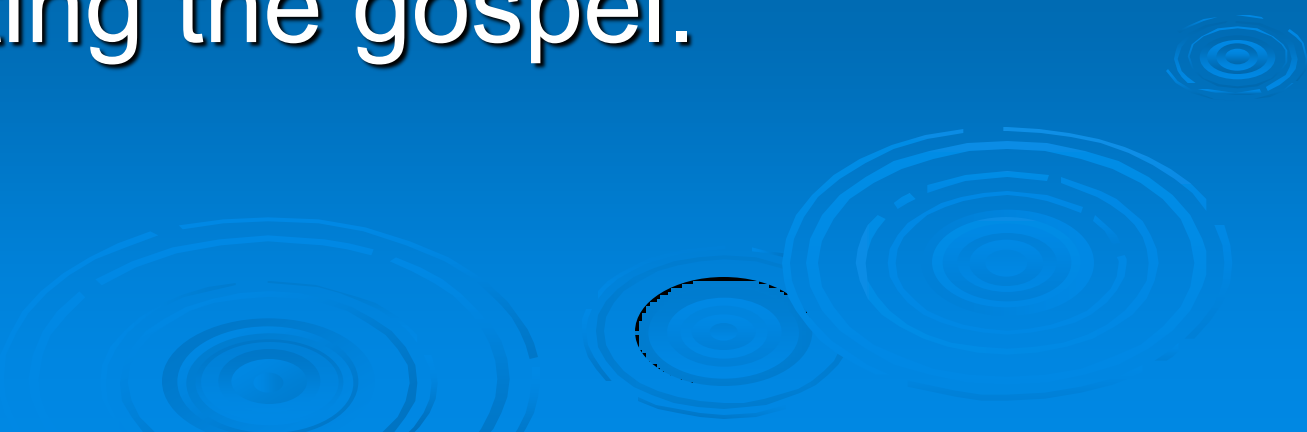
The background of the slide features several concentric, light blue circular ripples that resemble water droplets hitting a surface, scattered across the lower half of the frame.



# Catechesis

From the Greek word *katakein* meaning “to echo” or “to sound again”.

Catechesis is the process of transmitting the gospel.

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# Source of Catechesis

Scripture



Tradition



The Magisterium



# The word of God: source of Catechesis

The source from which catechesis draws its message is the word of God:

*“Catechesis will always draw its content from the living source of the word of God transmitted in Tradition and the Scriptures, for sacred Tradition and sacred Scripture make up a single sacred deposit of the word of God, which is entrusted to the Church.”*

GDC 94

# Sacred Scripture

“The speech of God as it is put down in writing under the breath of the Holy Spirit.”

GDC 96

The background of the slide is a solid blue color. In the lower half, there are several faint, concentric white circles that resemble ripples on water, scattered across the bottom of the slide.

# Sacred Tradition

“Transmits in its entirety the word of God which has been entrusted to the apostles by Christ the Lord and the Holy Spirit.”

GDC 96



# The Magisterium

Has the duty of “giving an authentic interpretation of the word of God,” and in doing so fulfills, in the name of Christ, a fundamental ecclesial service.

GDC 96





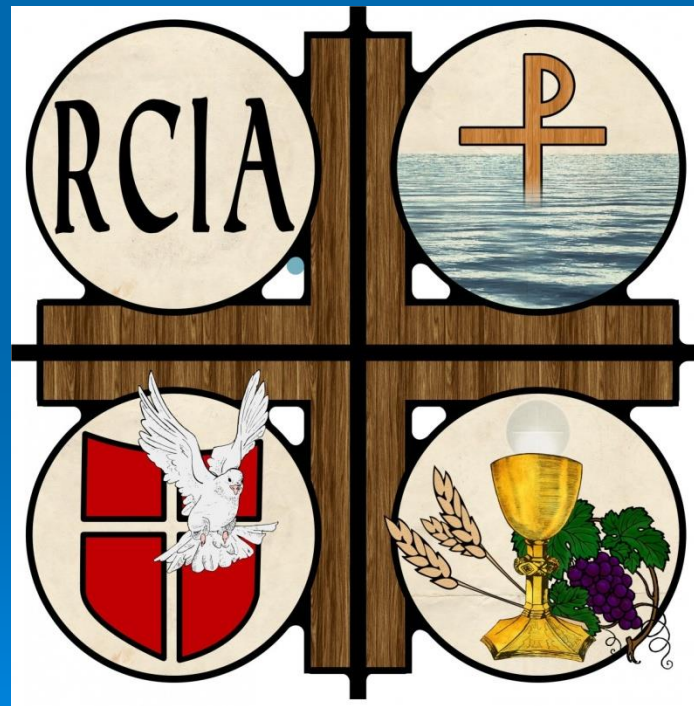
# Object of Catechesis

To develop an intimate relationship with  
Jesus Christ



# Inspiration for Catechesis

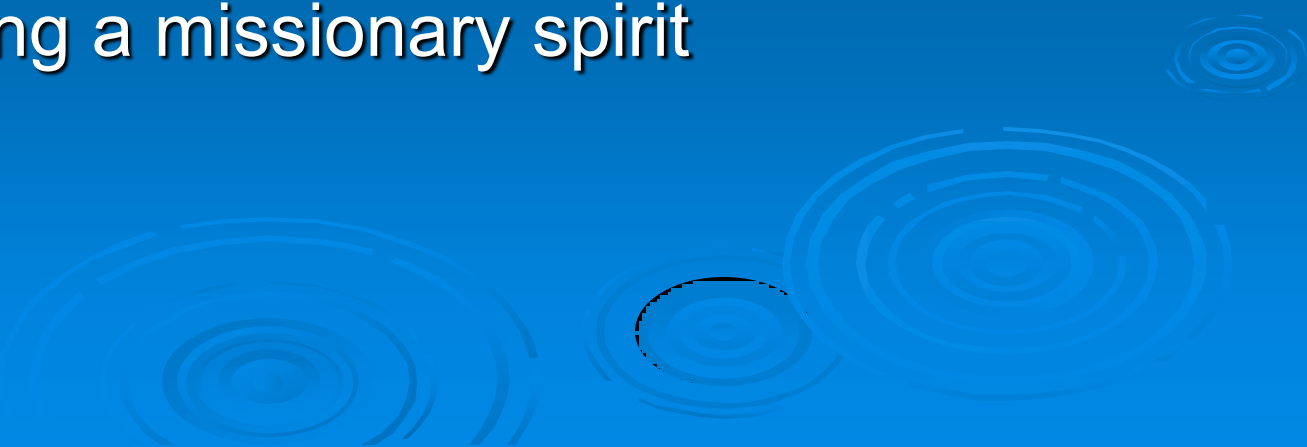
## The Baptismal Catechumenate



# Rite of Christian Initiation

- Precatechumenate – the point of the first evangelization leading to conversion and the first proclamation of the Gospels.
- Catechumenate – the context of fundamental catechesis beginning with the handing on of the Gospels.
- Purification and Enlightenment – intense period of preparation for the sacraments of initiation and handing on of the Creed and Lord's Prayer.
- Mystagogy – characterized by the experience of the sacraments and entry into the community.

# Six Fundamental tasks of Catechesis

1. Promote Knowledge of the Faith
  2. Participation in liturgical and sacramental life
  3. Moral Formation
  4. Teaching to Pray
  5. Preparation and participation in community
  6. Developing a missionary spirit
- 

# Who, What, How

## Who is Catechized?

- Young Children
- Jr. High and High School
- Adults
- The Elderly “the Aged”
- Adults and Children with Special Needs
- In other words - EVERYONE

# Our Role as Catechist

Story tellers and witnesses

Teachers – Mentors –  
Companions

Prayer Guides

Witnesses of Justice





# The Catechist

“A catechist is a person who facilitates the process of faith formation first by echoing the word of God in his or her own life and second by helping others to do so.”

## The Catechist Toolbox

The background of the slide features several sets of concentric circles in a lighter shade of blue, resembling ripples in water, scattered across the bottom half of the page.

# The Vocation of the Catechist

“The vocation of the laity to catechesis springs from the sacrament of Baptism. It is strengthened by the sacrament of Confirmation.”

“The Church awakens and discerns this divine vocation and confers the mission to catechize. The Lord Jesus invites men and women, in a special way, to follow him, teacher and formator of disciples.”

GDC 2 31

# A Catechist's Role Description

“As a catechist, you pray for grace and, no doubt, wonder at times what qualifies you to serve in this ministry. The fact is, you've been called because you exhibit (or show potential for developing) certain qualities and skills.”

The Catechist Toolbox

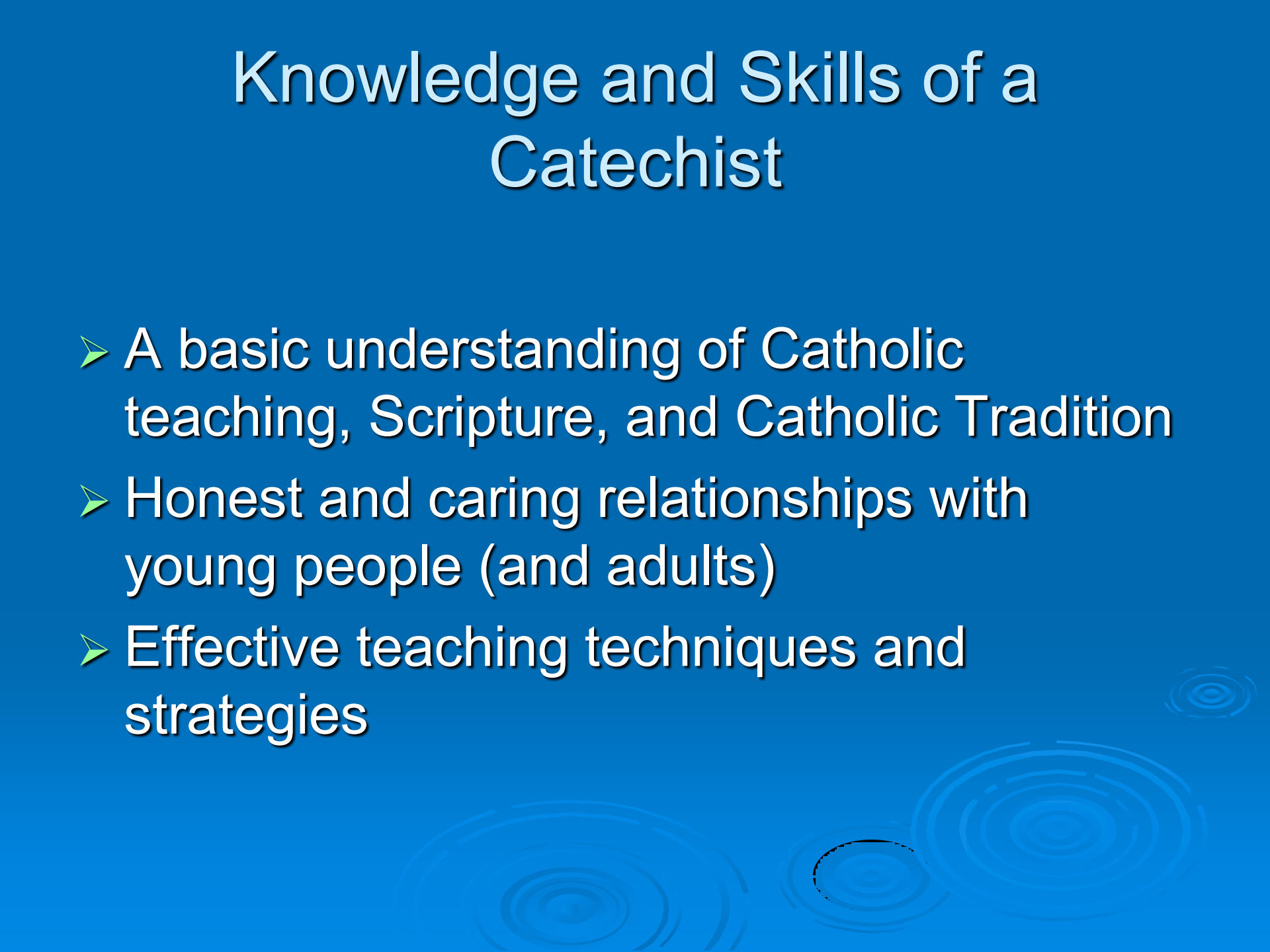


# Qualities of an Effective Catechist

- A desire to grow in and share faith
- An awareness of God's grace and the desire to respond to that grace
- A commitment to the church's liturgical and sacramental life and moral teachings
- A strength of character built on patience, responsibility, confidence, and creativity
- A generosity of spirit, a respect for diversity, and a habit of hospitality and inclusion

The Catechist Toolbox

# Knowledge and Skills of a Catechist

- A basic understanding of Catholic teaching, Scripture, and Catholic Tradition
  - Honest and caring relationships with young people (and adults)
  - Effective teaching techniques and strategies
- 

**God doesn't call  
the qualified -  
He qualifies  
the called.**





# Catechist Formation

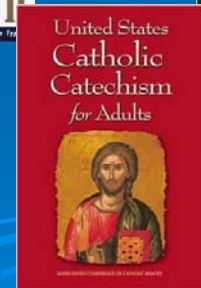
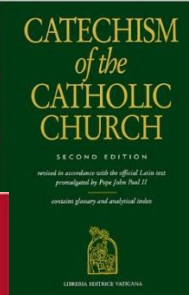
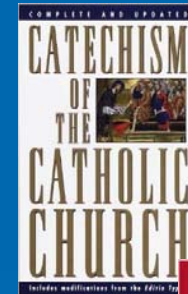
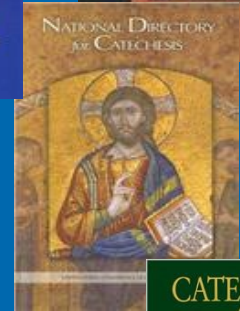
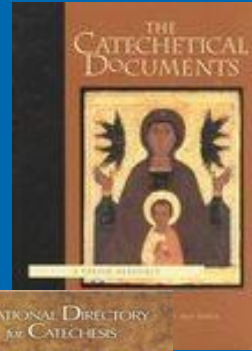
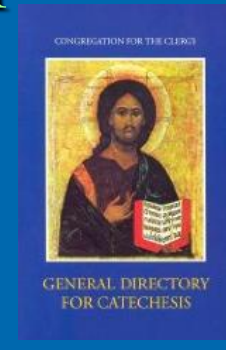
Catechists are to be formed so they can:

- Introduce people in the person of Christ
- Evangelize in the present historical context
- Initiate and educate
- Teach as they have been taught
- Be people of Faith who know the Faith
- People who can communicate this message of the Faith

# INTERCONNECTEDNESS WITH THE GLOBAL CHURCH

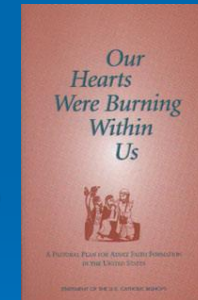
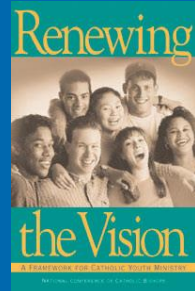
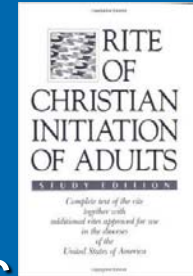
## ➤ Implementation of Catechetical Documents

- ❖ General Directory for Catechesis – 1971
- ❖ National Directory for Catechesis – 1979 Revised in 2003
- ❖ The Catechetical Documents – 1996
- ❖ Revised Catholic Catechism – 1995
- ❖ 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of the Catholic Catechism - 2000
- ❖ United States Catechism for Adults - 2006



# Catechetical Focus Resources

- Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults – 1988
- Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry – 2002 (Update to A Vision For Catholic Youth Ministry – 1997)
- Our Hearts Were Burning Within Us: A Pastoral Plan for Adult Faith Formation in the United States - 1999



# CATECHIST FORMATION

## ➤ Echoes of Faith

Catechetical Skills  
Theology  
Methodology

## ➤ Publisher Resources

The Catechist Toolbox – Loyola Press

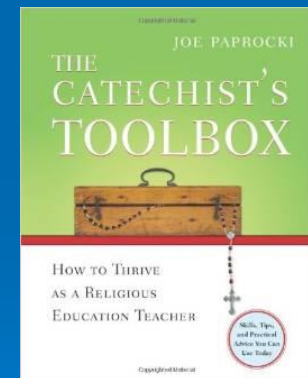
[www.catechist.com](http://www.catechist.com) - online companion to  
Catechist Magazine

[www.faithfirst.com/teachers.html](http://www.faithfirst.com/teachers.html)

## ➤ Other Opportunities

Courses offered by & throughout the diocese

- Servant School
- Webinars
- University of Dayton (VLCFF)
- Retreats, Workshops, Conferences





# DIOCESE OF BOISE OFFICE OF CATECHESIS



Bottom row l-r: Sr. Chela Gonzalez, Director of the Office of Catechesis;  
Cathy Wheaton, Administrative Assistant & Resource Center  
Manager

Top row l-r: Santiago Robles, Coordinator of Adult & Family Catechesis;  
Jackie Hopper, Coordinator of Children's Catechesis; Chris Kreslins,  
Coordinator of Youth & Young Adult Catechesis

*We're here to serve – and only a phone call  
or email away!*

# We are here to serve!

Visit us at: <http://www.CatholicIdaho.org>

Call us for

- Catechetical consultation
- Catechist formation

If you want to host a day of catechist formation or any deanery or diocesan event, please call us!

Office of Catechesis  
Roman Catholic Diocese of Boise  
1501 South Federal Way, Suite 400  
Boise, ID 83705  
208-342-1311



# Basic Catechist Certification

2<sup>nd</sup> Session Webinar: “The Fundamental  
Tasks of Catechesis”

Thursday, September 25, 2014

7:00 pm MST – 6 pm PST

