

## Catechist Certification Upcoming Workshops

(Registration Forms Available Online)

**Faith Beyond 2000** sponsored by the Office of Parish Services, Catechetical Ministry. Monday evenings from 6:45-9:00 P.M. \$8.00 for the workbooks. Check [the DSJ Catechetical Ministry webpage](#), for registration and information



**Lighting the Fire of Young People Faith** (Counts for the Person of the Catechist) St. Mary, Los Gatos. Sponsored by Pflaum.  
▪ September 26, 7:00-9:00 P.M.  
RSVP to [tcotting-mogan@pflaum](mailto:tcotting-mogan@pflaum)



**Faith Formation Conference** ([click here](#) for workshops that count toward certification) Registration closes October 19.

November 9, and November 10  
Santa Clara Convention Center.  
Cost: \$31-72. Register online at  
<http://www.faithformationconference.com/>



\***Knowledge of the Faith: Focus on Lectio Divina** (Counts for Prayer and Spirituality, Part 2) Presented by Fr. Tony Mancuso. Registration closes February 11  
▪ February 20, 2:30-5 P.M. Chancery. Cost \$15



\***Liturgical Life, Parts I & II** (counts for Liturgy and Liturgy and Christian Life) Registration closes April 12. April 24 & 25, 2:30-5 P.M. Chancery. Cost \$30



\***Moral formation** (counts for Moral Formation I & 2) Registration closes June 7 June 14, 9 A.M.- 2:30 P.M. Chancery. Cost \$40 include lunch.

## Common Questions

### How can I start the certification process?

Simply talk with your Catechetical Director/Coordinator and tell them of your interest.

### How much does FAITH beyond 2000 cost?

The parish pays the fee for FAITH beyond 2000. The catechist is asked to buy some inexpensive workbooks.

### Who teaches catechist certification sessions?

In the parish, catechist certification sessions are facilitated either by the Catechetical Director/Coordinator, a Master Catechist, or an experienced catechist.

FAITH beyond 2000 sessions are taught by Master Catechists of the Diocese or by other qualified people.

### How can I register for FAITH beyond 2000?

All that you need to do is to let the Catechetical Director/Coordinator in your parish know that you are interested. He or she will take care of the details. Online registration is available at:

<http://www.dsj.org/faith-beyond-2000-part-2-online-registration>

# OBTAINING & RENEWING A CATECHIST CERTIFICATE

*For Parish Catechists  
in the Diocese of San Jose*



Department of Catechetical Ministry

THE DIOCESE OF SAN JOSE

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# Catechist Certification

Being a catechist is a great privilege. Catechists are called by God to help adults, youth, and children come to a closer, more intimate relationship with Jesus Christ. They do this by sharing their own faith and the faith of the Church.

Catechists also have a great responsibility. The responsibility of continuing their own spiritual development is primary. It is no secret that catechists teach first by who they are.

Along with growing in their own life of faith, catechists are also called to grow in their understanding of Scripture and the teachings of the Church and to acquire the skills they need to communicate the Gospel effectively.

Because effective catechesis is so essential to the life of the Church, all catechists in California are expected to be certified according the guidelines approved by the California Bishops.

## The Catechist Certification Process

The process of catechist certification enables catechists to carry out their responsibilities. It is designed to nourish their spirituality, help them learn the basics of what the Church believes, celebrates and lives, help them understand their role and learn the skills involved.

The process of certification in the Diocese of San Jose has three parts:

### I. Introduction to Catechetical Ministry.

The first step in the process of catechist certification usually takes place in the parish or in a cluster of parishes. It focuses on the following areas:

The Person of the Catechist  
Getting Started as a Catechist  
The Roles of the Catechist  
Methods for Grades 1 and 2, 3 and 4, 5 and 6, 7 and 8, high school or adult

### 2. FAITH beyond 2000.

The second step in catechist certification is a basic formation program which is offered monthly in two parts, over two years. The topics covered are:

**FAITH beyond 2000, Part 1**  
Revelation and Faith Response  
Jesus, the Fullness of Revelation  
The Holy Spirit  
The Church  
The Christian Creed  
Introduction to Scripture  
Introduction to the Old Testament  
Introduction to the New Testament, Pt. 1  
Introduction to the New Testament, Pt. 2  
Prayer  
The Prayerful Life

**FAITH beyond 2000, Part 2**  
Liturgy  
Liturgy and Christian Identity  
Christian Initiation: Baptism and Confirmation  
Christian Initiation: Eucharist  
Sacraments of Healing  
Sacraments at the Service of the Community  
Morality, Part 1  
Morality, Part 2  
Social Justice  
The Learner, Part 1  
The Learner, Part 2  
Faith and Culture

Although ideally a catechist would begin with the Introduction to Catechetical Ministry followed by FAITH beyond 2000, parts 1 and 2, the coursework may be done in any order. A record of attendance is kept by the catechist and also the parish.

### 3. Catechist Performance.

The last step in the process of certification consists of the following:

- Successful completion of at least one year as a catechist
- An observation and evaluation of a catechetical session by a Master Catechist
- An observation and written evaluation of an experienced catechist
- Diocesan completion of Safe Environment Training at <https://www.shieldthevulnerable.org/>

When all requirements are met, the parish Catechetical Director/Coordinator requests a certificate from the diocesan office.

## Catechist Certification:

- Builds confidence
- Promotes effective catechesis
- Nurtures personal faith growth
- Confirms ability to catechize

## Catechist Recertification

Catechists are certified for four years. The certificate may be renewed for another four years by attending 10 hours of courses and workshop each year or by repeating Faith beyond 2000