

## Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee, Office for Catholic Schools

### Catechetical Certification Program for Teachers

#### **Option A: Completion of the Diocesan Lay Formation Institute under the direction of Msgr. Flaherty**

The Lay Formation certificate would count as initial catechetical certification. Continuing education could either be earned through Lay Formation or through the Option B Continuing Education model.

*The Lay Formation Institute is an initiative of our Diocesan vision, the Church Fully Alive. The Institute prepares the laity for leadership roles in our parishes and helps lay ministers eventually become accredited as ministers. The program is also available to anyone in the diocese to deepen their knowledge of the faith and the call to be disciples. Institute curriculum is comprised of online classes through the University of Notre Dame's STEP program, and spiritual and pastoral formation days held locally. The basic program is 2 years.*

#### **SPIRITUAL AND PASTORAL FORMATION SCHEDULE FOR LAY FORMATION INSTITUTE (Cohort 2016)**

*Saturday, August 13th 2016      Theological Reflection and STEP registration Meeting at St. John the Evangelist Catholic School, Pensacola Bring your laptop, if you have one, and your credit card! We will be registering for the online classes (cost will be \$79). Lunch will be provided for this meeting. 9:00AM to 5:00PM, in the school cafeteria.*

*Saturday, September 17th 2016      Formation Meeting at St. Joseph the Worker Parish, Chipley*

*Saturday, October 1st 2016      Bishop Ricard Conference, St. Sylvester Parish, Gulf Breeze*

*Saturday, December 3rd 2016      Formation meeting at St. Margaret Parish, Defuniak Springs  
(this meeting was originally scheduled for November 19)*

*Saturday, February 4th 2017      Formation Meeting at St. Rita Parish, Santa Rosa Beach*

*Saturday, March 18th 2017      Formation Meeting at St. Margaret Parish, Defuniak Springs*

*Friday, April 28th through Sunday, April 30th 2017      End of Year Retreat, Laguna Beach Christian Retreat Center,  
Panama City Beach*

#### **STEP COURSE SCHEDULE FOR LAY FORMATION INSTITUTE (\$79 per course)**

##### YEAR ONE

###### ACADEMIC YEAR 2016-2017

*The Core Course: An Introduction to the Catholic Faith  
(Starting Aug. 29, 2016)*

*The Doctrine of Salvation in Jesus Christ  
(Starting Oct. 10, 2016)*

*Ecclesiology  
(Starting Jan. 9, 2017)*

*Introduction to the New Testament  
(Starting Feb. 27, 2017)*

*Christian Conscience and Ethical Dilemmas  
(Starting Apr. 17, 2017)*

##### YEAR TWO

###### ACADEMIC YEAR 2017-2018

*Introduction to Sacraments  
(Starting Sep. 4, 2017)*

*Biblical Literary Forms  
(Starting Oct. 16, 2017)*

*The American Catholic Experience  
(Starting Jan. 8, 2018)*

*Catholic Social Teaching  
(Starting Feb. 12, 2018)*

*Eucharist: Source and Summit of the Christian Life  
(Starting Apr. 16, 2018)*

### **Option B: Completion of the Office for Catholic Schools Catechetical Certification program**

The OCS program will be administered through *My Catholic Faith Delivered*, which currently works with 55 dioceses. All courses give the user a timeline of twelve months to complete each course, with the format being online and on-demand. The records management of the program will be housed on an online system through *My Catholic Faith Delivered*, with principals and the OCS being able to track an individual's progress. The OCS will pay the one-time fee of \$1,500 for the complete online records management and tracking system. The costs of individual classes will be covered either by the school or the individual, with it being a site-based decision. MCFD has discounted all courses to \$29.00 apiece.

There will no longer be levels of certification, as formation is equally important in all grades and subjects under a philosophy of *Christ Across the Curriculum*. A teacher would have until March 31 of the third school year of full or partial employment, regardless of what point in the year employment began, to complete initial certification requirements. All teachers and administrators, regardless of faith or teaching subject, will be required to fully participate in the program. Teachers who have earned a master's degree in theology from a Catholic university would automatically be granted certification and would move into the continuing education pool. Teachers who had previously earned Level III certification under the former program and teachers transferring from another (arch)diocese who had attained Level III certification would be given credit for *Catechesis 101, Creed, and Liturgy & Sacraments*. Teachers who had previously earned Level II certification under the former program and teachers transferring from another (arch)diocese who had attained Level II certification would be given credit for *Catechesis 101 and Creed*. Teachers who had previously earned Level I certification under the former program and teachers transferring from another (arch)diocese who had attained Level I certification would be given credit for *Catechesis 101*. Continuing education requirements for all catechists who have completed the initial certification would consist of completing one of the elective courses in the program by March 31 of each school year, with *Theology of the Body for Adults and Educators* being the mandatory continuing education course in year one.

Teachers who fell behind one year on years one or two of the roadmap to certification or who teachers who fell behind one year on continuing education would be given a one-time extension to make up the course and complete the next course in their path.

The retreat component of the OCS program would fall under the Day of Reflection that each school has in January. The retreat's contents will be site-based, with content approved by the OCS. If a teacher were to miss this required day, the teacher would have to attend another retreat hosted by a Catholic parish, pending approval of the superintendent, by March 31 of that school year. The six half-days a school has for professional development could now all be used for academic purposes at the discretion of the principal.

Failure to meet the requirements of the program will result in non-renewal of contract for the following school year.

**Catechetical Certification Requirements through *My Catholic Faith Delivered*:**

***Year One:***

Catechesis 101	8 contact hours	\$29.00
Theology of the Body with Adults & Educators	6 contact hours	\$29.00

***Year Two:***

Faith Foundations Pillar 1 – Creed	9 contact hours	\$29.00
Faith Foundations Pillar 3 – Life in Christ	11 contact hours	\$29.00

***Year Three:***

Faith Foundations Pillar 2 – Liturgy & Sacraments	8 contact hours	\$29.00
Faith Foundations Pillar 4 – Prayer & Spirituality	8 contact hours	\$29.00

**Continuing Ed: one course per year from the following courses (more will be developed by MCFD):**

Understanding Scriptures with Scott Hahn	22 contact hours	\$29.00
Didache: History of the Church	21 contact hours	\$29.00
Didache: Our Moral Life in Christ	22 contact hours	\$29.00
Didache: Catholicism	25 contact hours	\$29.00

**Catechetical Certification – Option B**  
*My Catholic Faith Delivered*

<b>1</b> *Catechesis 101 - 8 Theology of the Body - 6	<b>2</b> **Creed – 9 Life in Christ - 11	<b>3</b> ***Liturgy & Sacraments - 8 Prayer & Spirituality - 8	<b>4</b> Didache Catholicism - 25 Understanding Scripture - 22 History of the Church - 21 Our Moral Life in Christ - 22
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A maximum of three years is allowed to complete certification, with one continuing education elective required each year after certification

THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE  
PENSACOLA-TALLAHASSEE

## Course Catalog - Descriptions:

### **Catechesis 101**

**8 contact hours**

**\$29.00**

*Catechesis 101 is an innovative, 8-lesson course designed to give all Catholic catechists a solid foundation. This course provides a solid understanding of the Church's vision for catechesis as well as practical, hands-on methodology that is proven to bear fruit in catechetical sessions. Each lesson contains high quality video instruction paired with quick quizzes and text that references the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the General Directory for Catechesis, and the National Directory for Catechesis. Lessons: Catechesis, A Moment of Evangelization; The Nature of Catechesis; The Content of Catechesis; Inculturating Gospel the Message; Those Who are Catechized; Methodology - Part 1; Methodology - Part 2; The Person and Spirituality of the Catechist*

### **Faith Foundations Pillar 1 – Creed**

**9 contact hours**

**\$29.00**

*Creed takes the learner on a journey from the beginning of God's loving creation of mankind to the Church's divine understandings of the End Times. During this excursion you will delve into our creation in the Image and Likeness of God, the impact of Original Sin entering the world and its effect on all of humanity, and how in God's infinite love He gave us His only Son, Jesus Christ, to redeem us from our fallen state and grant us life eternal. Through God's wisdom you will appreciate our need for Holy Mother Church and the role she plays in Christ's redeeming salvation.*

### **Faith Foundations Pillar 2 – Liturgy & Sacraments**

**8 contact hours**

**\$29.00**

*Liturgy and Sacraments are essential to God's plan to lead us to Him, body and soul. In this Pillar we explore their transforming power to unite us to Christ and His mystical body. Come and know the vital role that the sacraments have in initiating us in God's kingdom, healing us in our physical and spiritual lives, and calling us to service in the community of believers.*

### **Faith Foundations Pillar 3 – Life in Christ**

**11 contact hours**

**\$29.00**

*Life in Christ unfolds the fullness of God's law revealed through Christ. Founded in God's roadmap for happiness, this Pillar covers the elements of moral decision-making. Included here is the structure of sin, the role of the human conscience, and the biblical directives of the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes. Finally, we see how Mary is our example of a Christ centered existence.*

### **Faith Foundations Pillar 4 – Prayer & Spirituality**

**8 contact hours**

**\$29.00**

*Prayer and Spirituality is friendship with God, and this Pillar navigates us through the joys and difficulties of the spiritual life. Founded on Christ's examples and teachings on prayer, we explore the diversity of the spiritual life, and practical applications to be utilized for personal growth. This series provides a roadmap from common Catholic devotions, to the heights of contemplation.*

### **Understanding Scriptures with Scott Hahn**

**22 contact hours**

**\$29.00**

*This course by Dr. Scott Hahn presents a Catholic approach to Scripture, highlighting the theme of covenant. Tracing a path through salvation history, the course explains the various books of the Bible and the importance of each event in salvation history. Understanding the Scriptures will provide an understanding of Sacred Scripture so critical to the Catholic Faith.*

**Didache: History of the Church****21 contact hours****\$29.00**

*This comprehensive history of the Catholic Church includes every major event in the Church's history from the life of her founder, Jesus Christ, to the present day. This text places the Church in her context throughout history and explains the role that the Church and her leaders have played in the shaping of history for better and worse. Complete with maps, timelines, sidebars, paintings, and photographs, The History of the Church is a critical historical resource for Catholic and non-Catholic historians alike.*

**Didache: Our Moral Life in Christ****22 contact hours****\$29.00**

*Our Moral Life in Christ presents the more complex theological concepts of the Catholic Faith. With particular emphasis on the Catechism of the Catholic Church and Veritatis Splendor, this book provides the formation necessary to live a moral life and a foundation to pursue advanced theological studies.*

**Didache: Catholicism****25 contact hours****\$29.00**

*Catholicism, 2nd Edition, contains the same Catholic teaching found in the popular original textbook, with expanded topics. Based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church, this text covers the basic tenets of the Faith and what it means to be Catholic; includes an additional 200+ pages, a new design layout, and additional pieces of full-color liturgical art. This textbook, one of four in the Didache Complete Course Series, is used by high schools, home school groups, RCIA, and is also suitable for anyone looking to broaden their Faith knowledge.*