

ST. JOHN XXIII CATECHIST PROGRAM - ARCHDIOCESE OF MOBILE

THEOLOGICAL, SPIRITUAL AND METHODOLOGICAL COMPONENTS

The St. John XXIII Catechist Program has three components: theological, spiritual and methodological.

Theology Component

The theological component has three dimensions. Those seeking to complete the program will attend the Apologetics lectures which will be offered in parishes and are open to all people, including those who are not catechists. Those in the program will have reading/video assignments associated with the lecture (typically 1-2 hours per month), and will demonstrate mastery of the material through assessments offered on-line.

20 one-hour Apologetics lectures, offered monthly

Year I

1. What is truth? Catholic Church, Persecutor or Patroness of Science?
2. Why do bad things happen to good people? The problem of evil and suffering.
3. Is Jesus just a myth?
4. I don't need the Church, I have the Bible. The B.I.B.L.E. that's the book for me!
5. Archbishop, are dinosaurs real?
6. Are you saved?
7. When did Catholics make up purgatory and indulgences?
8. How many Churches does Jesus want there to be?
9. Pope? Who needs a Pope?
10. What's the matter with Sacraments?

Year II

11. "Eat my flesh." Seriously?
12. Confession and infant baptism
13. We need sexual healing. (Who am I to judge?)
14. Who says contraception is wrong?
15. What do you mean "til death do us part?"
16. Why do you Catholics not let your priests marry? You are just asking for trouble!
17. Introduction to Mary and the Saints
18. Immaculate Conception and Assumption
19. As long as you believe you are doing right, we're all good, right?
20. Can a pregnant woman have chemo? And 19 other tough questions.

In order to be certified with the St. John XXIII Catechist Certification Program, attendance is mandatory at the live presentations or the facilitated video showings of the apologetics lectures.

Spiritual Component

Participants will take part in two spiritual formation events per year. Such events are offered by the ORE or OYM, but options are not limited to these offerings. One cannot plan and execute such an event and have it serve to fulfill this requirement.

Methodology Component

Two methodology workshops are offered for catechists who do not have state education

certification. Teachers in schools who have state education certification are invited and encouraged to complete these workshops, but are not required to do so to complete the program.

Workshop #1 – suggested to be taken in fall of first year of catechetical ministry
Workshop covers: Role of the Catechist, Ministry and the Law and Planning Prayers and Liturgies

Workshop #2 - suggested to be taken in summer after 1st or 2nd year of catechetical ministry
Workshop covers: Faith and Moral Development, Learning Styles and Creative Catechesis

Additionally, PCLs and YMLs will be offered three additional workshops:

PCL/YML Workshop #1: Being a Knowledgeable Leader

Workshop covers: Understanding Catechesis and Evangelization, Catholic Social Teaching, Program Design and Resources

PCL/YML Workshop #2: Being a Pastoral Leader

Workshop covers: Leadership for Ministry, Pastoral Care and Design, Family and Multicultural Perspective

PCL/YML Workshop #3: Being a Prayerful Leader

Workshop covers: Liturgy; Christian Spirituality and Prayer; Designing Retreats, Reflection Days and Prayer Experiences

