



Catechetical Leader

Department of Family Catechesis

E-Update

Latest News

"You seek Jesus of Nazareth, the crucified. He has been raised " (Mk. 16:6).

1. **Minor revisions to the Confirmation/First Eucharist Policy** coming later this month. A revised version of the Confirmation/First Eucharist policy will be released later this month. Feedback received from Catechetical Leaders around the Diocese last year stated that the policy was being well-received in the parishes. The revisions will be aimed at clarifying that, canonically, Confirmation can be received as early as the age of discretion; it will also highlight the unique role in the Latin Church of the Bishop as the ordinary minister of Confirmation.
2. **Input on Proposed Catechist Formation Plan.** Thank you to all those who attended this last round of deanery meetings for catechetical leaders. We appreciate tremendously the input you gave us to the proposed catechist formation process that will be presented to Bishop Olmsted later this month. Please look for information regarding the new catechist formation plan in the upcoming editions of e-update.

Announcements/Prayer Intentions

If you have any special prayer intentions, please share them with us so we can ask other leaders to pray for them.

The Pope's intentions for May are:

1. General Prayer Intention: That the laity and the Christian communities may be responsible promoters of priestly and religious vocations.
2. His mission intention: That the recently founded Catholic Churches, grateful to the Lord for the gift of faith, may be ready to share in the universal mission of the Church, offering their availability to preach the Gospel throughout the world.

Please pray for those catechetical leaders who will be transitioning from parish work at this time. We thank God for them and their generous service to the Church.

Resources

Pew Study. Fallen Away Catholics make up the 2nd largest religious group in the US. A new report from Pew Forum illustrates that over 70% drifted away for social reasons, and a vast majority of those became unaffiliated. Take a few moments to read this report reviewing why people left, when they left and where they went. The good news is that we are still retaining more of our people than any other Christian tradition, but much work in Adult Evangelization and Catechesis still needs to be done. The study can be accessed at <http://pewforum.org/docs/?DocID=411>.

Still Looking for Vacation Bible School Resources? Check out 'Crocodile Dock' at <http://www.brainshark.com/harcourtrp/CrocodileDock> from Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Religion.

Upcoming Events

1. **Celebration of Gratitude and Hope.**
The annual Celebration of Gratitude and Hope will be taking place on Thursday, May 28th, from 10am to 2pm. To register for this event, please go to www.catecheticalleadershipphx.org and click on 'Formation Opportunities'. You will see the link to the Gratitude and Hope celebration on that page.
2. **Catechist Formation Opportunities.**
Do you have upcoming catechist formation opportunities in your parish? Many catechists are looking for sessions to complete their catechist certification, so please contact us at the email addresses below so we can put these sessions on our catechist formation website, www.catechistphx.org.
3. **2009-2010 Calendar for Catechetical Leaders.** Please be on the lookout later this month for our new calendar for Catechetical leaders. It will be available at the Celebration of Gratitude and Hope later this month, and will be online at www.catecheticalleadershipphx.org shortly after that event.
4. **Fall RCIA Training.** This Fall we hope to offer a series of regional RCIA Team Training days. This series would equip an RCIA team with the skills needed to run a successful initiation process with sessions on conversion, the Catechumenal process, age-appropriate catechesis, children catechumenate, etc. If you would like to host one of these series please contact Ryan at rhanning@diocesephoenix.org.

Contact Us

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