

# **Children's Ministry Catechist Volunteer Description**

At St. Mary of Lourdes, we seek to have 2 adult catechists for each of our grade levels. Within our PreK/Kindergarten program, we utilize a team approach with a minimum of a 1 catechist to every 5 children.

## **Gifts & Qualifications of a Catechist**

- Have a desire to share their faith with others.
- Be an active, practicing Catholic in good standing.
- Enjoys working with children and youth.
- Participates regularly in the Sacraments of Holy Communion and Confession.
- All who serve as catechists and those involved within any catechetical program within the Diocese of Peoria will witness by their public behavior, actions and words a life consistent with the teachings of the Catholic Church.

## **Expectations**

- Create a welcoming, comfortable, and safe environment for learning and faith formation.
- Plan and prepare weekly lessons.
- In cooperation with your co-catechist, be present within your classroom to greet the children and/or youth when they arrive.
- Teach students our Catholic doctrine and our faith traditions.
- Notify the Director of Faith Formation of a planned absence by submitting a Substitute Request Form a week or more prior to the planned absence.
- When absent, provide written lesson plans/details to Director of Faith Formation the Sunday before the planned absence. This allows the Substitute Catechist sufficient time to prepare.
- Continue your own faith formation and education.
- Encourage students' gifts and participation in Mass and parish activities.
- Complete the Diocesan screening process and "Safe-Environment Training".

## **Time Required**

- 8:45/8:50 – 10:15am Sunday mornings, Late August – May;
- 1-2 hours preparation time depending on your understanding of the materials;
- Additional opportunities for involvement are available according to your schedule and interest;

## **Training Provided**

- Parish catechist orientation meetings.
- Diocesan Workshops/Retreats.
- Parish In-service meetings.
- Resources provided from the Dir. of Faith Formation via emails or web links.
- Mentoring by seasoned catechists.

## **Check-In & Evaluation**

- Regular check-ins will occur throughout the catechetical year through emails and/or one-on-one conversations after CCD, on the phone or at a scheduled time.
- End-of-the year feedback form.

**Responsible to:** Director of Children's Faith Formation