

## COMPETENCIES OF THE CATECHIST

Competencies refer to the skills of a catechist as a “facilitator of the learning process.”

- **A Solid Grasp of Catholic Doctrine and Worship** - The catechist has a mature understanding of the basic teachings of the Catholic Faith and understands the sacramental nature of the Christian life.
- **Familiarity with Scripture** - The catechist is familiar with The Bible and is able to use it for teaching, prayer and reflection.
- **Good Communication Skills** - The catechist is able to effectively utilize a variety of communication and group interaction skills and selects suitable activities for desired learning objectives.
- **Knowledge and Ability to Use Various Methodologies** - The catechist has the knowledge and skills to be a facilitator of both the faith experience and the learning process of the students. S/he recognizes the unique needs of the students and is able to adapt and plan a class to meet these needs.
- **Understanding of the Stages of Development** - The catechist understands the stages of faith and moral development and is able to integrate these into teaching.

The above qualities reflect an ideal toward which all catechists should strive. A good catechist is simply a far more experienced learner committed to continuing self-improvement.

In view of this, it is also important to be aware of attitudes as well:

- The attitude of openness to the Spirit, to people, to new ideas
- The attitude of readiness to grow in the art of learning
- The attitude of respect for the dignity of every person
- The attitude of willingness to collaborate with others.