



Office of Faith Formation and Lay Ecclesial Ministry
Directory for Catechesis

MISSION STATEMENT

The Office of Faith Formation and Lay Ecclesial Ministry of the Diocese of Youngstown is committed to catechesis, a ministry of the Word essential in the process of evangelization, which matures initial conversion into a living, conscious, and fruitful confession of faith.

Our principal goal is the catechesis of adults, the primary form of catechesis to which all other forms are oriented. This catechesis is a lifelong process of formation in faith, hope, and charity that shapes the mind, touches the heart, and leads persons to embrace Christ fully and completely. The Office strives primarily to enable adults to fulfill their responsibility and privilege to share this faith with other adults, youth and children.

Guided by the General Directory for Catechesis and the National Directory for Catechesis, the Office of Religious Education:

- Promotes the diocesan Church's mission for evangelization through lifelong faith formation.
- Analyzes and identifies the catechetical needs of the diocese.
- Collaborates with appropriate individuals, offices and agencies in developing a diocesan catechetical plan.
- Develops the processes for the recruitment, ongoing formation, and retention of parish ministers.
- Evaluates and recommends resources, programs and models for catechesis with adults, youth, and children and makes available through the Office of Faith Formation and Lay Ecclesial Ministry Library.
- Fosters the catechetical and evangelical character of all diocesan institutions and ministries.
- Advocates for the necessary personnel and material resources at the diocesan and parish levels.
- Embraces the intimacy of liturgy and catechesis and collaborates with the Office of Worship especially for catechumenal and initiatory catechesis.
- Maintains a full service/theological library for catechetical and other pastoral ministries.

Entrusted with catechesis for the Diocesan Church by the Bishop of Youngstown, we minister in cooperation with other diocesan offices and with the support of the Diocesan Council for Catechesis to promote the mission of the Roman Catholic Church.