

Catechist/Elementary Teacher Religious Education Certification

Beginning October 2021

All religious education catechists (PSR, Faith Formation, Family Faith, etc.) and elementary school grade-level teachers must complete the following Religious Education Certification requirements. (Catechists/teachers may teach religion while working toward their certification.)

1. Complete the online courses requirements in **each competency area** listed below, from either the University of Dayton's VLCFF online courses or the University of Notre Dame's STEP (total of 6 courses)*
2. **AND** complete **2 Formation Opportunities** offered through the Archdiocese. These are one-time events that provide for catechist/teacher formation and collaboration with practical ideas for teaching religion. Click [here](#) for upcoming events. NOTE: Formation Opportunities do NOT count for renewal.

*Catechists/teachers may also submit any college credit courses in theology/religious studies (from a Catholic institution) to be reviewed for the competency areas by sending a transcript to the Director of Religious Education at samanthagrone@archstl.org.

For catechists who receive training for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, information on alignment with religion certification requirements can be found [here](#). Copies of certificates should be sent to the Director of Religious Education.

Renewal: Catechists/teachers have 5 years from the time certification is completed to renew their certification. Certification must continue to be renewed every 5 years. Renewal is achieved by taking one course from either the [Catechetical Leader Certification requirements](#) or from the [Electives List](#). NOTE: For renewal courses to count toward the Catechetical Leader Certification, be sure to take courses that meet those requirements. Yearly, on-going spiritual formation is encouraged, but will not be collected by the Office of Catholic Education and Formation.

Take one course from each competency area, either from Dayton **OR** Notre Dame.
It is suggested that you take the RE and ST courses before taking the other courses.

Competency Areas	Dayton VLCFF	Notre Dame STEP
RE Religious Education (Catechesis)	Roman Catholic Catechesis for Faith Formation (formerly called Introduction to Catechesis)	The Art of Catechesis
ST Systematic Theology (Catholic Doctrine)	Survey of Catholic Doctrine	Foundations of Catholic Belief
LT Liturgy/Sacraments	Sacraments	Introduction to Sacramental Theology
SS Sacred Scripture	Introduction to Scripture	Preface to the Study of Scripture
MT Moral Theology	Introduction to Christian Morality (Course is currently being updated, please do not sign up for this course until further notice)	The Christian Conscience & Ethical Dilemmas
SP Spirituality/Prayer	Introduction to Prayer	On Prayer

All information for requirements, registering for courses, and formation opportunities can be found at: www.catholicfaithstl.com/catechetical-formation-religion-cer