

## *Volunteering for the Religious Education Program*

The Religious Education Program at Sacred Heart is made up of many generous volunteers who offer their time and gifts to our parish; our volunteers are . We always welcome new volunteers to our program, and encourage parents (and grandparents or other family members) to prayerfully consider joining us! Volunteers often find that they grow in and learn about their own Catholic faith through their involvement here, and there are tuition benefits for each volunteer role, as explained below.

**We are currently looking especially for catechists (teachers) and catechist aides. You do not have to be a teacher to be a catechist or an aide!** We provide support and training right here within our own parish, and there are online options for learning as well. We also have a wonderful group of catechists and other volunteers here – both new and “veteran” – who, along with the parish Religious Education staff, provide support and guidance.

If you are interested in volunteering, please review the general descriptions of the positions below. If you are interested in any of these volunteer roles and would like more information, please contact Jessica at 609-267-6319, ext. 307 or via email at [jdonohue@parishofsacredheart.org](mailto:jdonohue@parishofsacredheart.org).

**Thank you for your consideration!**

**Catechist:** A catechist is the main teacher in the classroom. Our catechists come from many different backgrounds, but they all have one wonderful and essential trait in common: the desire to hand on the Catholic faith to our children. Each catechist is given a catechist's manual as a guide through the textbook, a teaching schedule, and is supported by the Director of the program. Catechists also have opportunities to grow in faith as Catholics and as catechists through classes and workshops offered through the diocese, in the parish and online.  
**Tuition for all children of catechists is waived.**

**Catechist Aide:** Catechist aides assist the catechist in all aspects of the classroom. Our hope is that each aide can also support the catechist as a substitute when necessary, offering the children continuity. Catechist aides are also welcome to pursue catechist classes as described above.  
**Tuition for children of catechist aides is \$25 for each child.**

**Hall Monitors** Hall monitors are very important in our program, due to the number of children in our classrooms during each session. Each hall monitor is given an assigned station to ensure that an adult is present in all areas of the building, especially near the doors leading in and out of the building.  
**Tuition for children of hall monitors is \$50 for each child.**

**Substitute Volunteers:** Substitute volunteers are placed on our substitute roster and are called in the event that a catechist, catechist aide or hall monitor is unavailable for their assigned session. Substitutes are most needed for catechists and are provided with lesson plans and any materials needed for the classroom.  
**Volunteers who substitute during the year receive a \$10 discount in tuition for each child for the 2017-2018 Religious Education year.**

### ***For all volunteer positions***

All employees and volunteers in a parish or Catholic school who work with children must participate in the Diocesan Safe Environment program; please contact the Religious Education Office for more information.

# ❧ *Catechist Certification* ❧

The Certificate of Catechesis involves two components:  
a methodology course, and a theology course.  
These are the courses as currently offered by the Diocese of Trenton:

## **Methodology (One Option)**

### *Art of Catechesis*

Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 9 am in the library  
(To register, please get in touch with Jessica)  
This will run until about 1:00. There is no cost for this class.

## **Theology (Two Options)**

### *Notre Dame* **STEP**

- ⌘ Completely online
- ⌘ Spans four weeks

⌘ Uses the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults (can be purchased or borrowed from us)

Register online at: <http://step.nd.edu/registration/complete-catalog/core-course/>

\*\*Courses start on August 29<sup>th</sup>, January 9<sup>th</sup>, and June 12<sup>th</sup>.

When registering, you can choose to take the Diocesan discount, which prices the course at \$49.50.  
When you are finished with the course, the parish will reimburse you for this amount.

OR

### *My Catholic Faith Delivered*

- ⌘ Completely online
- ⌘ Self-paced (i.e., you can download the material and work according to your own timeline)

Register online at [www.trentoncatechist.com](http://www.trentoncatechist.com)

This course is \$90; when you are finished, the Diocese will reimburse you for half and the parish will reimburse you for the other half.