

DIocese OF VICTORIA

PASTORAL INSTITUTE SHORT-TERM PROGRAM

The Pastoral Institute under the direction of Bishop David E. Fellhauer is committed to making catechist education and faith formation a priority in the Diocese of Victoria.

Catechetical documents of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops state:
"Diocesan pastoral programs must give absolute priority to the formation of lay catechists."
(*General Directory for Catechesis*, #234)

"Like all Christians, catechists are called to continual conversion and growth in their faith and, for this reason...opportunities should be provided for spiritual and pedagogical formation, especially as society, teaching methods, and culture change."
(*National Directory for Catechesis*, 55C)



BASIC CATECHETICAL COURSES

Catechetical modules help catechists and Catholic school religion teachers build a firm foundation with practical teaching ideas. **Three hours are required for each module.**

- Getting Started
- Roles of the Catechist
- Person of the Catechist

Human Development module familiarizes catechists with the growth and development which occur throughout the lives of their learners. **Six hours are required for this module.**

- The Learner

Methodology modules provide essential teaching skills needed for specific grade levels. Catechists are expected to **take only** the appropriate course for the grade they are teaching. **Two hours are required for each module.**

- Methods for Grades 1 & 2
- Methods for Grades 3 & 4
- Methods for Grades 5 & 6
- Methods for Grades 7 & 8

THEOLOGICAL COURSES

Theology modules provide in-depth doctrinal themes contained in the Catechism of the Catholic Church along with compelling stories to connect faith to everyday life. These courses can be taken by anyone who wants to further his/her understanding of the basics of the Catholic faith. **Six hours are required for each module.**

- I Believe, We Believe
- Catholic Morality
- The Scriptures
- Church (not *Echoes* class)
- Prayer and Spirituality
- Liturgy
- Sacraments



**DIOCESE OF VICTORIA
PASTORAL INSTITUTE EXTENDED PROGRAM**

Continuing Adult Faith Enrichment

The Pastoral Institute under the direction of Bishop David E. Fellhauer is committed to making adult education and faith formation a priority in the Diocese of Victoria. Understanding and living the Catholic faith is a lifelong commitment. As a baptized person each of us is called to grow continually and to respond openly to Christ in our lives.

The United States Conference Catholic Bishops document, *Our Hearts Were Burning Within Us*, #39-40 states, "We are convinced that the energy and resources we devote to adult faith formation will strengthen and invigorate all the charisms that adults receive and the activities they undertake, in the Church and in society, to serve the Gospel of Christ and the people of today... Adult faith formation also benefits children and youth. An adult community whose faith is well-formed and lively will more effectively pass that faith on to the next generation. Moreover, the witness of adults actively continuing their own formation shows children and youth that growth in faith is lifelong and does not end upon reaching adulthood."

The Hebrew & Christian Scriptures

Old Testament

Introduction to the Bible & the Pentateuch
The Historical & Prophetic Books
Psalms and Wisdom

New Testament

Intro. to New Testament & the Synoptic Gospels
The Gospel of John & the Book of Revelation
The Pauline Writings & New Testament Letters

Sacramental & Systematic Studies

Liturgy	Church
Sacraments of Initiation	Trinity
Sacraments of Healing & Vocation	Morality

Courses are once a week (6 weeks per course) for two-hours (12 hrs. total).

Two courses offered per semester. Cost for each six-week course is \$20, book fees vary.

Advanced Catechist Certificate Requirements

The Advanced Catechist Formation Certificate is issued for successfully completing the catechetical short-term classes as well as the Pastoral Institute Extended Program courses. (Catechetical classes 17 hours + P.I. Extended Program courses 144 = 161 total clock hours)

Catechetical Short-Term Classes

Catechetical modules:

Getting Started, Roles of the Catechist, Person of the Catechist (3 hrs. each) 9 hrs

Human Development module (6 hrs.) 6 hrs

Methodology modules: (2 hrs. each)

Methods for grades 1/2, 3/4, 5/6, 7/8 2 hrs