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What is the Catechetical Formation Series?

The **Catechetical Formation Series** is a free, online catechist training resource provided by Loyola Press. The series consists of 10 learning sessions that are accompanied by downloadable documents that invite catechists to apply concepts learned in the sessions to their ministry experience.

In the **Catechetical Formation Series**, Joe Paprocki, D.Min., a Master Catechist, author, and speaker, will facilitate meaningful formation experiences for catechists in the areas of BEING, KNOWING, and DOING.

Drawing from his popular Toolbox Series, Joe and his co-presenter Deirdre Mullane will assist catechists in acquiring the **basic knowledge and skills they need to effectively serve as catechists and to engage people of all ages in faith formation that is evangelizing.**

How can I use this formation series?

The **Catechetical Formation Series** can be viewed on an individual basis or in a group setting. Additionally, catechetical leaders can have their catechists complete and submit the downloadable document for assessment.

The learning sessions in this formation series can be used to train new catechists and provide a refresher training for veteran catechists.



What concepts are covered?

Learning Session 1: Getting Started & Getting to Know Your Learners (DOING)

In this session, catechists will learn about:

- the importance and benefits of planning and preparation;
- creating measurable learning outcomes;
- the stages of development and age-appropriate activities and methodologies for learners age three to adult;
- various learning styles and common characteristics that require lesson adaptation.

Learning Session 2: The Catechetical Process (DOING)

In this session, catechists will learn about:

- the foundation of faith formation—creating opportunities for learners to encounter Jesus Christ;
- incorporating the “language of mystery” in every aspect of faith formation sessions;
- creating a climate of prayer;
- the catechetical process and how this process, the language of mystery, and climate of prayer all come together to help catechists transmit our faith to learners.

Learning Session 3: Prayer and Leading Prayer (DOING)

In this session, catechists will learn about:

- the importance of prayer and how to lead others in prayer of various types—reflective prayer, liturgical prayer, spontaneous prayer, and traditional prayer.

Learning Session 4: Facilitation Skills and Handling Difficult Situations (DOING)

In this session, catechists will learn about:

- the skills to facilitate learning in group settings;
- difficulties that arise in catechetical situations and how to handle them;
- maintaining discipline and responding to disciplinary concerns, including when to notify others (i.e. the catechetical leader or parents);
- the skills and approaches for minimizing the likelihood of misbehavior by establishing an authoritative and positive presence.



What concepts are covered?

Learning Session 5: What We Believe – The Creed (KNOWING)

In this session, catechists will learn about:

- the basic beliefs of our Catholic faith— Revelation, Scripture and Tradition, the Magisterium, and an overview of the Four Pillars;
- the Creed, which will include an in-depth review of the Trinity, the Church, Mary and the Saints, the Marks of the Church, and the afterlife.

Learning Session 6: What We Believe – The Sacraments (KNOWING)

In this session, catechists will learn about:

- Catholic sacramental life, the liturgical year, and the Sacraments of Initiation, Healing, and Service of Communion.

Learning Session 7: What We Believe – The Moral Life (KNOWING)

In this session, catechists will learn about:

- Catholic morality, including human dignity, conscience, sin, and the principles of Catholic Social Teaching;
- how the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes develop our sense of morality.

Learning Session 8: What We Believe – Prayer (KNOWING)

In this session, catechists will learn about:

- additional forms of prayer in all its expressions;
- the seven petitions of the Lord's Prayer, the Liturgy of the Hours, and the central form of Catholic prayer—the Eucharistic Liturgy.

Learning Session 9: Understanding God's Word – Scripture (KNOWING)

In this session, catechists will learn about:

- how the Bible is put together, how to navigate it, how to locate passages and characters, and how to interpret what we read.

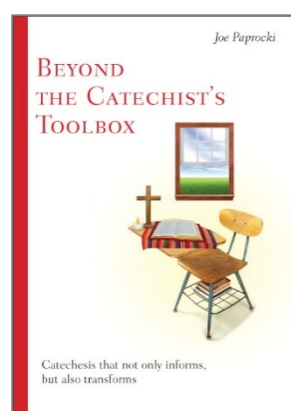
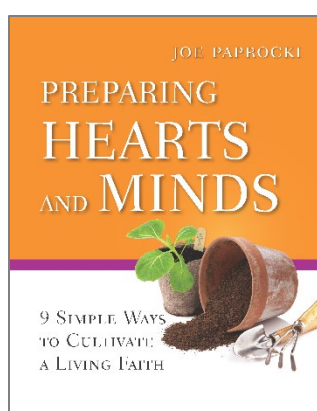
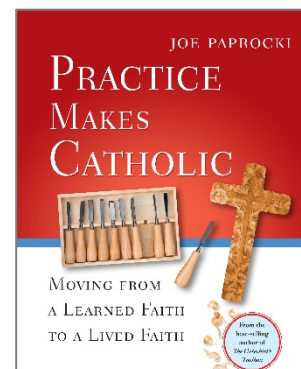
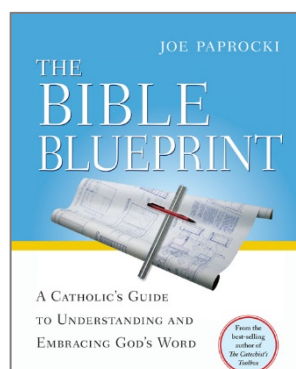
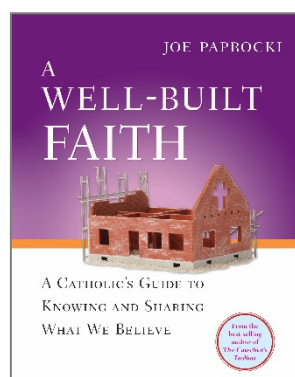
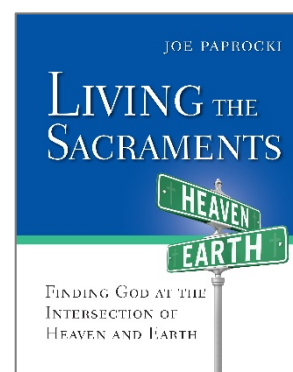
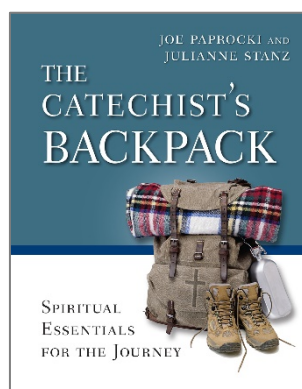
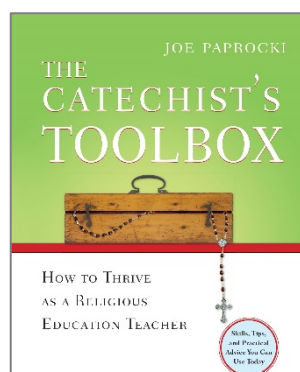
Learning Session 10: The Person of the Catechist (BEING)

In this session, catechists will learn about:

- their vocation as a catechist;
- the unique components of the spirituality of the catechist.



Resources Featured in this Series



These resources, and many more, are available for purchase online or by phone.