



## **Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana Catechist Formation Policy**

It is the responsibility of the Bishop to insure that catechists are properly prepared to pass on the Faith (Canon 780). Therefore, catechists, paid or volunteer, who direct or assist in the religious education formation of youth, young adults, or adults are required to work towards, receive, and maintain their diocesan catechist certification. The program they are to use is the diocesan sponsored program called F.I.R.E.- Fan the Flame, Inspiration through Religious Enrichment.

It is the responsibility of the Pastoral Office for Catechesis to oversee and manage the F.I.R.E. formation program. This responsibility is fulfilled through the collaboration with the parishes in providing the leadership, time, and funding for these formation opportunities.

It is important for the continual and consistent formation of catechists, for catechetical leaders in the parishes to make this expectation known when they recruit volunteers, interview for employment, renew contracts, and / or organize ministries. It is the responsibility of the pastor of each parish, who is the chief catechist for the parishioners of the parish, to insure that the F.I.R.E. program is implemented and that F.I.R.E. workshops are offered on a regular basis for the catechists in their parish.