



St. Francis
-Of Assisi-
Grapevine

Department of Evangelization & Catechesis

1st Annual
**CATECHIST
DAY**

July 30th, 2016



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Department of Evangelization & Catechesis

Welcome!

“Go, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you, and lo I am with you to the end of the age.”
Matthew 28:19-20

Welcome to our first annual Cat(echist) Day! We hope this will be an opportunity for those in our parish who are interested in this ministry to learn more and find help discerning if God is calling them to become catechists. We also hope this day will be a time for our catechists to grow and learn more about their ministry. Finally, we hope this will be a day of retreat to refocus on the mission and vision of evangelization and catechesis here at St. Francis of Assisi, and to spend some time praying and drawing closer to Jesus as a community.

We are living in an age when the Gospel Message of Jesus Christ and His Catholic Church are desperately needed. This is not unique to our time.

At St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church we are committed to preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ, because we believe that He matters today. People need His message of salvation, joy, and hope. This is the task of the Church, the task of evangelization and catechesis. We are called to use the “best resources in people and energy, without sparing effort, toil, or material means”. (Catechesi Tradendae, #16) We are called to do everything in our power to bring the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

We believe what Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI said “Being Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction.” (Deus Caritas Est, #1) We believe that when people encounter Jesus Christ, it changes the parish. It changes families. It changes the surrounding community.

At St. Francis, there are two main communities this task of evangelization and catechesis come in contact with: adults and youth. By presenting the Gospel of Jesus Christ and an invitation to a life changing personal relationship with Him, we truly believe that this Gos-



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pel can transform our parish, our families, and even Grapevine.

But we cannot do this alone. "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." (Matthew 9:37) We need adults and parents to join us in this ministry and mission.

We committed our lives to the mission of the Church. We feel that this is a very special and unique ministry in the Church today, and a very fulfilling ministry and community at that. We hope that you will prayerfully discern joining us in this ministry and mission. At the very least, we beg you for your prayers and know that we are here to serve the parish and journey with our community to the Father.

Thank you so much for all your love, support, and prayers. Know that you are in our prayers as well. Our doors are always open and we could not be more humbled and excited to be serving along side such a wonderful community.

+JMJ

Jared Zimmerer
jzimmerer@sfatx.org
Director of Adult Evangelization and Catechesis

Edmund Mitchell
emitchell@sfatx.org
Director of Youth Evangelization and Catechesis

Nic Gutierrez
ngutierrez@sfatx.org
Coordinator of Middle School Ministry

Laura Nelson
lnelson@sfatx.org
Coordinator of Children's Catechesis



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Building a Community of Missionary Disciples

*We're building a community of missionary disciples here at
St. Francis of Assisi by **reaching the poor**
and **preaching the Gospel**
of Jesus Christ.*

*"In virtue of their baptism, all the members of the
People of God have become missionary disciples."
Pope Francis in Evangelii Gaudium #120*



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Important Abbreviations

<i>GDC</i>	<i>General Catechetical Directory</i>
<i>CCC</i>	<i>Catechism of the Catholic Church</i>
<i>EN</i>	<i>Evangelii Nuntiandi</i> <i>(Evangelization in the Modern World)</i>
<i>CT</i>	<i>Catechesi Tradendae</i> <i>(On Catechesis in Our Time)</i>





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8:30 Welcome

9:00 General Session: What is Evangelization and Catechesis?

Edmund Mitchell

10:10 Breakout #1

Interested in being a K-6 Catechist? Room 104

Interested in being an RCIA Catechist? Room 105

Interested in being a Young Church Core Member? Room 106

Spirituality of a Catechist Room 205

Senses of Scripture Room 206

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Room 107

10:50 Break

11:00 Breakout #2

Interested in being a K-6 Catechist? Room 104

Interested in being a Young Church Core Member? Room 106

Catechumenal Discipleship Room 105

Spirituality of a Catechist Room 205

Senses of Scripture Room 206

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Room 107

11:40- 12:40 Lunch

12:50 Breakout #3

Interested in being a K-6 Catechist? Room 104

Interested in being a Young Church Core Member? Room 106

Catechumenal Discipleship Room 105

Spirituality of a Catechist Room 205

Senses of Scripture Room 206

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Room 107

1:30 General Session: Missionary Discipleship

Jared Zimmerer

2:00 Adoration and Sending Forth



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Breakout Sessions

Interested in being a K-6 Catechist?

Room 104

Elementary Catechesis is the foundation of our program here at St. Francis. This is where the children first learn about their faith in a formal setting outside their home. Children's catechesis (K-6th grade) is classroom based catechesis run by volunteer catechists. Learn more about this ministry in this breakout session.

Interested in being an RCIA Catechist?

Room 105

We've have begun a year-round RCIA process to allow for more opportunity for people to learn the Faith and join the Catholic Church. If you are interested in joining the RCIA team we need all sorts of volunteers and catechists to help live what Pope Francis has proclaimed to "Open wide the doors of the Church".

Interested in being a Young Church Core Member?

Room 106

Young Church consists of Middle School (7th and 8th) and High School (9-10th) Young Church nights and youth ministry at St. Francis. Core Members are a huge part of the ministry, as they walk with teens closer to Christ, building communities of missionary disciples. Come learn more from Core Members about this ministry.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Room 107

Devout Catholics Maria Montessori and Sofia Cavalettie spent years finding profound ways to open the scriptures to young children. This method of Catechesis brings the child directly into relationship with Jesus when they explore the truths of the faith in the Atrium.

Catechumenal Discipleship

Room 105

"The Catechumenate is not a mere expounding of doctrines and precepts, but a training period in the whole Christian life, and an apprenticeship duty drawn out, during which disciples are joined to Christ their Teacher." - Ad Gentes (On the Mission Activity of the Church) Jared Zimmerer will explain what the Catechumenal Model is and why it is so important to authentic discipleship.

Spirituality of a Catechist

Room 205

What are the characteristics of a catechist's personal prayer life? How should someone who is called to proclaim Jesus Christ and evangelize be rooted in Jesus Christ? We'll cover highlights from the "Guide for Catechists" published by the Vatican Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples.

Senses of Scripture

Room 206

According to an ancient tradition, one can distinguish between two senses of Scripture: the literal and the spiritual, the latter being subdivided into the allegorical, moral and anagogical senses. The profound concordance of the four senses guarantees all its richness to the living reading of Scripture in the Church (CCC 115). Why is this important? Catechesis will always draw its content from the living source of the Word of God transmitted in Tradition and the Scriptures, for "sacred Tradition and Sacred Scripture make up a single sacred deposit of the Word of God, which is entrusted to the Church (CT, 27).



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Matthew 28:19-20*

What is Evangelization?

“Evangelization must be viewed as the process by which the Church, moved by the Holy Spirit, proclaims and spreads the Gospel throughout the entire world.” GDC 48

“We wish to confirm once more that the task of evangelizing all people constitutes the essential mission of the Church. It is a task and mission which the vast and profound changes of present-day society make all the more urgent. Evangelizing is in fact the grace and vocation proper to the Church, her deepest identity. She exists in order to evangelize, that is to say, in order to preach and teach, to be the channel of the gift of grace, to reconcile sinners with God, and to perpetuate Christ’s sacrifice in the Mass, which is the memorial of His death and glorious resurrection.” EN 14

“Being Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction.”

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI in *Deus Caritas Est*, #1

Three Distinct Forms of Evangelization

(Redemptoris Missio, #33):

Preaching to those who have not heard the Gospel

Preaching to those who have heard the Gospel and are striving to live the Christian life

Preaching to those who may have heard the Gospel but have rejected it or have lost faith

Method of Evangelization and Discipleship

Jesus personally selects his evangelists: John 15:16, Mark 13:13-19, Luke 6:13-16

Jesus empowered and gave them a ministry: Mark 6:7-13, Luke 9:2, Matthew 10:8-14

Jesus sent them out: Matthew 2:18-20, Mark 16:15, Luke 24:27

“Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers it is because they are witnesses.” EN 41



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What is Catechesis?

“Very soon the name of catechesis was given to the whole of the efforts within the Church to make disciples, to help people to believe that Jesus is the Son of God, so that believing they might have life in His name, and to educate and instruct them in this life and thus build up the Body of Christ. The Church has not ceased to devote her energy to this task.” CT 1

“the definitive aim of catechesis is to put people not only in touch but in communion, in intimacy, with Jesus Christ: only He can lead us to the love of the Father in the Spirit and make us share in the life of the Holy Trinity.” CT 5

“Catechesis is an education of children, young people and adults in the faith, which includes especially the teaching of Christian doctrine imparted, generally speaking, in an organic and systematic way, with a view to initiating hearers into the fullness of Christian life.” CT 18

Catechesis: education in the faith of children, young people, and adults, especially the teaching of Christian doctrine with the goal of initiating the hearers into the fullness of Christian life (cf. CCC 5)

Catechism: a systematic and organic presentation of the fundamental contents of Catholic doctrine, as regards both faith and morals, in the light of the Second Vatican Council and the whole of the Church’s Tradition (cf. CCC 11)!

Catechist: a person who catechizes

Catechumen: A person who is preparing for baptism

Catechumenate: formation of catechumens in preparation for their Christian Initiation

Catechetics: the study of the craft of catechesis



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What is the Gospel Message?

1. Creation: God loves you and has a plan for you.

Catechism: God, infinitely perfect and blessed in himself, in a plan of sheer goodness freely created man to make him share in his own blessed life. For this reason, at every time and in every place, God draws close to man. He calls man to seek him, to know him, to love him with all his strength.

Scripture: Genesis 1,2, Ephesians 2:7, 1 Peter 5:10, John 17:21, Ephesians 2:7, Isaiah 43:1

2. Fall: Sin separates us from God, but not God's love for us.

Catechism: He calls together all men, scattered and divided by sin, into the unity of his family, the Church.

Scripture: Romans 7, Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23

3. Redemption: Jesus's life, passion, death, and resurrection redeem us from sin and restores God's plan, allowing us to become adopted Sons and Daughters of God.

Catechism: To accomplish this, when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son as Redeemer and Savior.

Scripture: John 3:16, Romans 6:23, Romans 5:8, 1 Timothy 2:6, 1 John 4:10

4. Restoration: Turn away from sin, turn to Jesus, and join God's Church, in the Holy Spirit.

Catechism: In his Son and through him, he invites men to become, in the Holy Spirit, his adopted children and thus heirs of his blessed life.

Scripture: Acts 2:38, John 3:5, 1 John 3:1, Galatians 4:6

The Plan in Ephesians 1:2-14

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavens, as he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and without blemish before him. In love he destined us for adoption to himself through Jesus Christ, in accord with the favor of his will, for the praise of the glory of his grace that he granted us in the beloved. In him we have redemption by his blood, the forgiveness of transgressions, in accord with the riches of his grace that he lavished upon us. In all wisdom and insight, he has made known to us the mystery of his will in accord with his favor that he set forth in him as a plan for the fullness of times, to sum up all things in Christ, in heaven and on earth. In him we were also chosen, destined in accord with the purpose of the One who accomplishes all things according to the intention of his will, so that we might exist for the praise of his glory, we who first hoped in Christ. In him you also, who have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and have believed in him, were sealed with the promised holy Spirit, which is the first installment of our inheritance toward redemption as God's possession, to the praise of his glory.



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What's next?

Pray

Continue to pray and discern if God is calling you to the ministry of catechist or core member. If you need help figuring it out, talk to a catechist, core member, or someone on staff!

Commit!

Let the right person know you have discerned a call to be a catechist. If you are a returning catechist, let the right person know that you are committed to continue being a catechist.

Adult Catechesis: Jared Zimmerer jzimmerer@sfatx.org

High School Young Church: Edmund Mitchell emitchell@sfatx.org

Middle School Young Church: Nic Gutierrez ngutierrez@sfatx.org

K-6 or CGS: Laura Nelson lnelson@sfatx.org

Safe Environment

All catechists are required to complete the Diocese requirements for working with or near minors. A background check and completion of online training of Keeping Children Safe is required. This is good for 3 years after completed. Contact Donna Buccino at dbuccino@sfatx.org for more information.

Catechist Training

Adult and K-6 Catechists

All new and returning catechists are required to complete Level 1 certification by the end of the catechetical year. After that Level 2 is completed by the end of the next catechetical year. (Dates and certification details on next page.)

High School and Middle School Core Members

August is the month of our annual core team retreat and planning day. Nic and Edmund will be sending out more info in the next couple days.



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Catechist Training Schedule

Level 1 (First Year)

Orientation - Sunday Aug. 28

11:30 Introduction / Catechesis

12:30 Lunch / The Story

1:30 Ecclesial Method

2:30 Breakout / Practicals, textbooks, etc

3:00 Prayer

Tuesdays 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Christocentricity/Incarnation - November 15th

Biblical Narrative/Script. and Cat. - Feb. 21st

Gospel Message - April 18th

Content

Formed Symbolon Creed 101 Part 1

Catechesi Tradendae

Required

Safe Environment Certified

Create a lesson plan

Be observed/get feedback

Level 2 (Second Year)

Orientation - Sunday August TBA

Schedule TBA

Tuesdays 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Catechumenal Model - Nov. TBA

Teaching with Liturgy and Sacraments - Feb. TBA

Witness/Art in Catechesis - April TBA

Content

Symbolon Part 2

Evangelii Nuntiandi

Required

Complete study questions for CT

Create three lesson plans

Be observed/get feedback



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NOTES



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Adult Evangelization and Catechesis



Young Adults / Adults / RCIA

Youth Evangelization and Catechesis



K - 6th Children's Catechesis



7th & 8th



9th - 12th