

PARISH COMMISSIONING RITE FOR CATECHISTS ON CATECHETICAL SUNDAY

Presider: The catechetical ministries within our parish are carried out by many people on behalf of the Church. Today we have called these catechists to be commissioned for this coming year. All these people are united in their task of making God's love real and active in the lives of our children. Today we are going to ask them to commit themselves to this ministry with conviction and hope.
But before we call these formal leaders forward I want to acknowledge the first and most important catechists among us. I ask all parents, grandparents and carers who are raising children to stand up where you are.

You have been gifted with the lives of your children and to the precious task of their care. You are the first educators of your children in the ways of faith. So I now ask you - Are you prepared to accept this special responsibility and re-commit yourselves to it?

Parents: We are

Presider invites the catechists to come forward and stand before the assembly

My friends, you are all entrusted with the formal catechesis of children in this parish and with breaking open the Word with them. I ask you now to recommit yourselves to this important ministry.

Catechists: On behalf of all the catechists, leaders of children's ministries and sacramental catechesis, we commit ourselves to the formal sharing of faith with the children in our parish. We will be careful in our preparation and faithful to our own prayer and to the parish celebration of Eucharist. We will continue to seek a deeper relationship with our God, - Father Son and Holy Spirit and we will continue to work in partnership with parents and parish leaders.

Presider: (with hands extended over the people)
May the Spirit of God empower all these catechetical leaders and catechists commissioned today to proclaim the message of Jesus Christ to our children.
May their faith in Jesus and in his Church be strengthened and deepened.
May they each experience the power of your presence in their ministries over this coming year.

All: Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

For catechists and all who break open the Gospel with children. May they be always open to the presence God in their lives and joyfully share the Gospel with children.

Lord, hear us

Response: Lord, hear our prayer

For families, as they initiate children into the life of faith: May parents, by their love and care, enable children to experience God's love. May our faith communities always support parents in their task in both material and prayerful ways.

Lord, hear us

Response: Lord, hear our prayer