



## ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA

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OFFICE of the ARCHBISHOP

October 2023

Dear Catechists and Directors of Religious Education,

I am deeply grateful for your critical work in Catechetical ministry and the many sacrifices you make to serve the people of our local Church.

Catechists have always played a vital role in our efforts to evangelize and help others grow as Missionary Disciples. I echo the sentiments of Pope Francis who said, “Catechists are people who keep the memory of God alive; they keep it alive in themselves and they are able to revive it in others.”

By sharing the Good News and your love of God, you are helping a new generation of believers become fully alive. With joyful gratitude for your dedication to the Church and Her people in Philadelphia, I invite you to join me at the annual Religious Education Mass on.

**Saturday, January 13, 2024**

**11:00 a.m.**

**Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul**

After the celebration of the Eucharist, I will distribute the Annual Catechetical Awards for Catechists as well as Directors and Coordinators of Parish Religious Education. The Office for Catechetical Formation will be in touch to share more information about the Mass and awards ceremony in the coming weeks.

I hope you will be able to join me for this celebration recognizing your many good works. Please be assured of my prayers for you and your intentions. May God bless you and your loved ones abundantly.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nelson J. Pérez".

Most Reverend Nelson J. Pérez, D.D.  
Archbishop of Philadelphia