

Catechetical
Convocation

Sharing the
Good News
of Jesus



Saturday, March 23, 2024

Archbishop John Carroll High School,

299 Matsonford Rd. Radnor, PA 19087

Office for Catechetical Formation | PhillyOCF@archphila.org





THE CATECHETICAL CONVOCATION

The Catechetical Convocation is an annual faith formation event cosponsored by the Office for Catechetical Formation and the Archdiocesan Association of Parish Directors, Coordinators, and Administrators of Religious Education (PD/C/ARE). What is the Catechist Convocation? In the early 1980's, a group of Parish Directors of Religious Education created a grass roots venue known as the "Catechist Showcase." Using a parish site, this event provided an annual opportunity for the most experienced and gifted volunteer catechists to share their practical insights and best practices in teaching the faith to children. In 1989, the "Catechist Showcase" was retitled the "Catechetical Forum" as professional presenters and broader topics were added. The Catechetical Forum was later named the Catechist Convocation as participants included both parish catechists and Catholic school teachers. Though the name has changed over the years, the PD/C/ARE Association keeps true to the original mission of its Catechetical Convocation:

The professional and spiritual growth of the parish catechist through a sharing of theological insights, teaching methodologies, and practical applications.

SCHEDULE

8:00 am	REGISTRATION, REFRESHMENTS, AND EXHIBITS
8:15 AM	HOLY ROSARY (OPTIONAL)
8:50 am	MOVE TO AUDITORIUM
9:00 am	WELCOME/OVERVIEW OF THE DAY
9:10 am	CELEBRATION OF MASS
10:40-10:45 am	INTRODUCTION OF KEYNOTE PRESENTERS: PAUL SANFRANCESCO AND KATHIA ARANGO
10:50-11:50 am	KEYNOTES PRESENTATIONS
11:50 am -12 Noon	MOVE TO SESSIONS
12:00-12:45 pm	SESSION 1/LUNCH
12:55-1:40 pm	SESSION 2/LUNCH
1:50-2:35 pm	SESSION 3/LUNCH
2:45-3:15 pm	PROCESSION WITH EUCHARIST FROM CHAPEL REFLECTION: FR. DELACY BENEDICTION: FR. DELACY DISMISSAL

The Thirty-Third Annual Catechetical Convocation

KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS

Sharing the Good News of Jesus - *English Track*

Paul Sanfrancesco

National Technology Consultant

Catechists are dealing with technology, social media and AI issues from students, teachers and parents almost every day. This presentation will help catechists to connect challenging digital dilemmas to Catholic values, social and emotional skills through discussion questions, lessons, and digital tools that target key SEL skills and Catholic identity. Paul will also provide ideas on Social Media/ Cyberbullying and the appropriate use of technology, social media and AI for catechist/parish programs and at home.

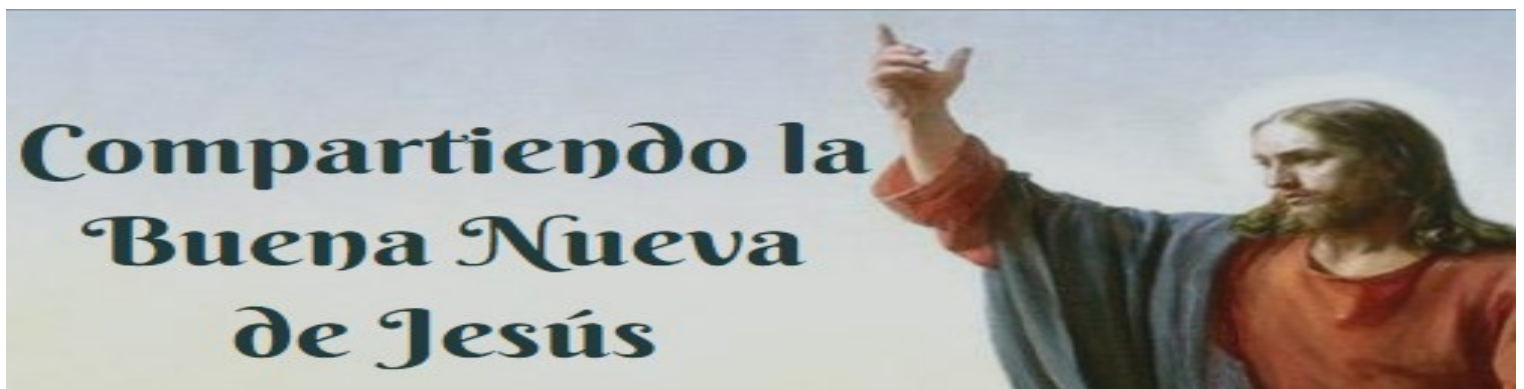


Compartiendo la Buena Nueva, el Kerygma - *Presentación en español*

Kathia Arango

Directora, Oficina para Católicos Hispanos

El anuncio del Kerygma es un llamado para todos los cristianos. En esta charla presentaremos algunas ideas de cómo compartir la Buena Nueva de una forma eficiente y con un nuevo ardor. Reflexionaremos sobre nuestro ser de testigos y evangelizadores.



SESSION 1: WORKSHOPS

A-1. Ain't No Mountain High Enough: Spreading the Good News

Rev. Stephen Thorne, Pastor, Saint Barbara Church, Philadelphia, and Co-Chair of ACRH

In this session, participants will learn how to promote the Good News of Jesus Christ in the midst of challenges and be inspired by Missionary Disciples of the past. Special emphasis will be on the "Holy Six", African American Catholics on the road to sainthood in the Church.

A-2. From Ritual To Encounter

Rev. Louis P. Bellopede - Pastor, Saint Agnes Parish, West Chester

A lively discussion with catechists as they accompany our young people to encounter Good News of Jesus through the Celebration of the Sacraments.

A-3. Storytelling and Scripture

Donna Heene, Director of Religious Education, St. Robert Bellarmine Parish, Warrington

We are all familiar with the stories of Jesus from scripture. Come and see ways to make these come alive using storytelling techniques and other ideas.

A-4. The Holy Spirit: Animator and Illustrator

James Malinowski, Director of Religious Education, St. Pius X Parish, Broomall

Each of us, no matter our age, is called to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. This presentation will focus on the middle school grades (6-7-8), and how learning about, and being open to, the working of the Holy Spirit can transform us and our ability to share the Good News.

A-5. Jesus Blesses and Teaches the Children

S. Marie Garman, IHM, , Director of Religious Education, SS Philip & James Parish, Exton

Jesus lifts up the lowly ones, including the little ones. In this session we will sing, pray, and play as we learn of Jesus' great love.

A-6. "Let the Children Come to Me" - All of Them

Kathy Ross, St. Martin of Tours Parish, New Hope

Parents and catechists will delve into various ways to bring the Good News to children with challenges.. Sacramental preparation ideas will be presented along with practical suggestions for Mass participation.

Spanish Track—Presentación en español

A-7. La Evangelización como Preámbulo a la Catequesis

Padre Thomas Whittingham, Pastor, San Lorenzo, Upper Darby

La evangelización tiene un rol vital antes de iniciar con el proceso catequético. Es fundamental que los estudiantes y sus padres desarrollen un vínculo con Jesús antes de recibir información acerca de Él.

A-8. Lunch

SESSION 2: WORKSHOPS

B-1. Sharing the Good News with Joy

Rev. Christopher Walsh, Pastor, St. Cecilia Parish, Philadelphia

In the midst of challenges in our families and ministries, how do we remain joyful? Allow Saint Paul's insight assist us as we commit to being sharers of the Good News once again.

B-2. Good News! Sharing Lessons for Level 3-5

Marie Milano, Director of Religious Education, Stella Maris Parish, Philadelphia

Practical lessons to use in your Level 3, 4, and 5 classrooms! The lessons will be curriculum based and utilize various learning styles.

B-3. Shepherding the Shepherds

Sally Grande, Director of Religious Education, St. Eugene Parish, Primos

Why do some Catechists continue to return year after year? Who are these people who inspire our children each week and how can we keep them engaged in this ministry? This presentation will include catechists Anita Zaffiri and Nancy Cassidy.

B-4. Sharing the Good News of Jesus with the Missions

Paul Cillo, Missionary Childhood Association, Archdiocese of Philadelphia

The presentation will focus on how we help our students become Missionary Disciples by expanding their view of the global Church, sharing the work of Missionaries and helping them see how they can participate in the missionary work of the church. It will also include information on how catechists and D/CREs can collaborate with MCA within their Religious ed programs and Sacramental PREP.

B-5. The Three "C's" of Sharing the Good News"

Sr. Michele Fisher, Director of Continuing Formation, Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth

Taking the gifts of CREATION, CULTURE and CREATIVE EXPRESSION", learn to share the Good News of Jesus in experiential and meaningful ways with learners of all ages.

B-6. Using Artificial Intelligence to Bring Our Students Closer to Jesus

Julie Reed, Director of Religious Education, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Hilltown

Learn how to use artificial intelligence and technology to enhance your lessons and reach your students. We will discuss ChatGPT, Google Tools, and other online based programs as time permits, to assist with lesson planning and engagement in the classroom.

B-7. Lunch

SESSION 3: WORKSHOPS

C-1. How beautiful are the feet of those who bring the Good News

Sr. Barbara Jude Gentry, IHM, DRE, SS. Simon & Jude Parish, West Chester

We are called to follow the footsteps of Jesus Christ, the Master Teacher and to walk humbly as His missionary disciples. Using various creative teaching methods, the students will be on their toes echoing the Gospel, the Good News. Using liturgical resources, together we will stand up strong for our Catholic faith and avoid the swirl of quicksand in our daily life.

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C-3. John 13:35 By this all people will know, you are my disciples

Deacon James Mahoney, St. Athanasius Parish

Does "Our Father" have a call on your life? What is my call? Am I ready? These are three critical questions that a catechist may want to answer. We are prepared before we are conceived. We are instructed and nourished by the word of God through the scriptures, in our participation in liturgy, and by the word made flesh!

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C-7. El Esplendor de la Verdad del Evangelio

Padre Francesco D'Amico, Administrador Paroquial, St. William Parish, Philadelphia & Decano Regional para el Ministerio Hispano

Esta charla ayuda al catequista a analizar el significado y el beneficio que viene de la fidelidad a la verdades del evangelio. Sin el verdadero conocimiento de la verdad, el amor a Dios se puede deformar en relativismo y subjetivismo. La verdad que invita al discipulado es muchas veces incómoda, por eso tiene que ser vivida antes que enseñada. En este itinerario de descubrimiento de la verdad moral que el catequista está llamado a enseñar y a vivir, la relación entre pecado original y gracia tendrá un primer lugar.

C-8. Lunch

HOW DO I REGISTER?

Registration is online. You will need a credit card.

*This year we are offering a group rate for a parish/school who are registering **four or more people**.*

Individual rate: \$45.00

Group rate: 4 or more people: \$35 / person

In order to get the group rate, please contact Kathy Pfeffer at kpfeffer@archphila.org for the code. You will need to input this code, and it will automatically calculate the registration fee.

*If you register more than one person, at the end of the first registration (thank you page) you have the option to add another person. You may add up to eight people without leaving the website. **Sessions are first come first serve.***

Registration deadline is March 11, 2024 at noon.

The link for registration is : <https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=EHMvdt>

A confirmation email will be sent to the payer. Please share the information with the participants.

CÓMO REGISTRARSE?

Las registraciones están en línea. Necesitarán una tarjeta de crédito.

*Este año estamos ofreciendo una tarifa grupal para una parroquia/escuela que inscriba **a cuatro o más personas**.*

Tarifa individual: \$45.00

Tarifa de grupo: 4 o más personas: \$ 35 / persona

Para obtener la tarifa de grupo, comuníquese con Kathy Pfeffer en kpfeffer@archphila.org para obtener el código. Deberá ingresar este código y calculará automáticamente la tarifa de registro.

*Si registra a más de una persona, al final del primer registro (página de agradecimiento) tiene la opción de agregar a otra persona. Puede agregar hasta ocho personas sin salir del sitio web. **Las sesiones son por orden de llegada.***

La fecha límite de inscripción es el 11 de marzo del 2024 al mediodía (12:00 PM).

El enlace para la registración es: <https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=EHMvdt> . Una confirmación será enviada al correo electrónico de la persona que pague. Por favor comparta la información con los participantes.