



Office for Catechetical Formation
Sowing the Seeds of Faith

34TH CATECHETICAL CONVOCAATION



SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2025

ARCHBISHOP JOHN CARROLL HIGH SCHOOL, RADNOR, PA

Keynote Speakers:
English Track: Julianne Stanz
Spanish Track: Rev. Thomas Viviano

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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 Catechetical Convocation? In the early 1980's, a group of Parish Directors of Religious Education created a grass roots venue known as the "Catechetical 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 "Catechetical Showcase" was retitled the "Catechetical Forum" as professional presenters and broader topics were added. The Catechetical Forum was later named the Catechetical 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: JULIANNE STANZ AND REV. THOMAS VIVIANO
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-Fourth Annual Catechetical Convocation

KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS

Behold the Face of Jesus: Feeding the Hungry Heart - *English Track*

Julianne Stanz

Director of Outreach for Evangelization and Discipleship for Loyola Press

Through the lens of Matthew 25:35–40, Julianne Stanz invites participants to encounter the face of Jesus in all those we serve. Aligning with Julianne's heart for discipleship and passion for storytelling, attendees will be equipped to build a culture of encounter in their families, parishes, and communities. Julianne's signature storytelling style will weave together Scripture, personal experiences, and practical insights to inspire participants to live out their faith in practical and compassionate ways.



"Señor, ¿cuándo te vimos hambriento?" Mateo 25:37 - *Presentación en español*

Rev. Thomas Viviano

Presidente del Departamento de Teología Moral, St. Charles Borromeo Seminary

Parte de la vida cristiana es dar de comer a los hambrientos. Pero hay muchas formas de hambre. Esta charla explorará cuatro tipos de hambre que la gente hoy sufre — hambre de Dios, hambre de la verdad, hambre de saber que importa, hambre de ser desafiado — y cómo el catequista puede satisfacer estos hambres con su servicio al Señor y su Iglesia.



SESSION 1: WORKSHOPS

A-1. Foundations for Intentional Accompaniment

Meghan Cokeley - Director, Office for the New Evangelization, Archdiocese of Philadelphia

The deepest hunger of the human heart is for God. In this session, you will learn how to help others satisfy that hunger through intentional accompaniment. Meghan will introduce you to "The Baseball Diamond," a tool that can help us to understand where a person is spiritually and what it is they need from us in order to move forward into friendship with God. This will be paired with a practical application activity that will help you apply these principles to real-life scenarios. Come and learn how to more intentionally walk alongside your PREP families!

A-2. How Can Our 3rd/4th Graders Become the Hands and Feet of Jesus?

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

Let's explore how to teach our 3rd and 4th graders to live out their faith and become the Hands and Feet of Jesus in today's world. Using Scripture and the Works of Mercy, we'll discover practical ways to help children embody Christ's love through service and kindness. This is a wonderful opportunity to equip young hearts to make a difference in their communities.

A-3. "Give them food yourselves" (Matthew 14:16)

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

The Gospels frequently recount Jesus taking care of those in need, while also instructing the Apostles to do likewise. This session will help those preparing for Confirmation and the recently Confirmed to understand what that means in their lives.

A-4. "Open My Eyes, Lord!"

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

"Help me to see your face" first by finding you in myself.

Let's explore ways to share our Lord with our youngest students empowering them to do the same for others.

A-5. Old Testament Covenant Relationships and Their Fulfillment in the Sacraments

Rev. Louis Bellopede - Pastor, St. Agnes Parish, West Chester

This presentation will examine key biblical covenants, such as those with Noah, Abraham, and Moses, and demonstrate how these covenants prefigure the sacraments, highlighting their relevance in the spiritual formation of students. Participants will gain insights into how to teach these connections effectively, fostering a deeper understanding of God's ongoing covenant with His people.

Additional workshops for Session I are listed on the next page.



SESSION 1: WORKSHOPS

A-6. Catechesis as an apprenticeship into a Christian Way of Life: Christian Initiation as the model for Catechesis

Christine Flack - Director of Religious Education, Our Lady of Grace Parish, Penn del

The concept of apprenticeship goes beyond teaching curriculum. It means passing on our faith in a way that lasts. As the Directory for Catechesis tells us, we will use the Christian Initiation process as our inspiration and try to answer questions such as: How do we mentor children into a Christian way of life? How do we incorporate moments of personal encounter with Jesus into our class time? How do we accompany the parents & families? How do we connect them to the larger worshipping community?

Spanish Track—Presentación en español

A-7. Sembrando las semillas en tierra buena

Padre Wesley Taveras, Vicario Parroquial, Saint Aloysius Parish

En la misión de catequesis el Señor nos invita a sembrar La Semilla, que es su Palabra. Primero tenemos que recibir nosotros la semilla, para después dar lo que hemos recibido. Podemos usar algunas herramientas para esta misión, pero Dios nos ha elegido a nosotros como la herramienta principal que es compartir nuestra experiencia del sembrador.

A-8. Lunch

SESSION 2: WORKSHOPS

B-1. Year of Jubilee and the Classroom

Rev. Stephen DeLacy - Vicar, Office for Faith Formation with Youth & Young Adults, Archdiocese of Philadelphia
We will understand the theology of the Jubilee Year. We also will discuss projects and ways to catechize from the Jubilee.

B-2. We are all hungry. Who are you responsible to feed?

Stacy Williams - Director, Office for Black Catholics, Archdiocese of Philadelphia

We will discuss all of us needing to learn more about our faith and who Jesus is. We must all know that we are responsible for others learning about Jesus in the classroom and beyond the classroom.

B-3. God's Hunger for You in Prayer

Chris Massaro - Director of Mission Advancement, Biking for Babies

This session will dive into mental prayer and the essential role it ought to play in every Christian's life, especially the life of a catechist. In addition to speaking about prayer, Chris will guide participants through a short experience of mental prayer.

B-4. From the Classroom to the Streets: Transforming Teaching into Evangelization

Sophia Van Horn - Outreach Coordinator at Christ in the City

Do we see hunger beyond a physical need? If so, how do we respond to the emotional and spiritual hunger in our world? In this session, we will gather an understanding of how to feed those who are hungry to hear of their inherent truth, beauty, and goodness through intentional accompaniment and teaching.

B-5. Prayer and Service: Balancing the Martha and Mary in Ministry

Sister Marie Faustina Wolniakowski, RSM - Delegate for Consecrated Life & Cathedral Manager

The union and complementarity of the lives of Martha and Mary offers a hospitality of love. Learn how their lives provide essential insights on how to balance prayer and service.

B-6. Youth in Action: Forming the Next Generation of Missionary Disciples

Andrea Rodríguez - Director, Missionary Childhood Association, Archdiocese of Philadelphia

This presentation aims how to engage young people, according to their ages, in conversations about the faith in order to set their hearts on fire, and fill them with conviction, so they may become Missionary Disciples anywhere they go.

B-7. Lunch

SESSION 3: WORKSHOPS

C-1. Year of Jubilee and the Classroom

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Spanish Track– *Presentación en español*

C-7. Hambre y Sed de infinito - Jn. 6:24-35

Sr. Maria Arbeláez Vargas, SSVM - Hermana Religiosa y Catequista, St. Veronica Parish, Philadelphia
*En lugar de buscar bienes efímeros, mejor esforzarse en encontrar un alimento que sacie la sed de infinito.
Es opción personal de querer nutrir nuestra vida con la fe y conocimiento del Verbo de Dios hecho carne que habita entre nosotros.*

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 Friday, March 14, 2025 at noon.

The link for registration is : <https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=q74Jya>

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 14 de marzo del 2025 al mediodía (12:00 PM).

El enlace para la registración es: <https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=q74Jya>

Una confirmación será enviada al correo electrónico de la persona que pague. Por favor comparta la información con los participantes.