



[www.echoesoffaith.com](http://www.echoesoffaith.com)

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Echoes of Faith 3.0 is the most comprehensive Digital Learning Center available for catechist formation. The newly revised and fully interactive online design provides flexible learning and communication options for group members and leaders. Get complete access for one year with each paid subscription (individual or group) and start enjoying these features and benefits:

- Formation and skills training on your schedule—work at your own pace
- Fourteen modules that answer three essential questions new catechists ask: Who am I and what do I do? (Three Catechist Modules) What do I teach? (Five Theology Modules) How do I teach? (Six Methods Modules)
- In-depth interviews by recognized experts in the catechetical field
- New bonus interviews and enrichment articles to extend learning
- Accessible on desktops, laptops, tablets, and mobile devices

Echoes of Faith 3.0 and its DVD-based predecessor Echoes of Faith Plus are the most widely used catechist/teacher formation program in North America. Both include videos that demonstrate effective catechetical approaches, methodology, and theology. Companion booklets provide the learning design for each participant and include valuable resources, reflection questions, articles, and prayers. Over 60 renowned specialists in catechetics and theology brought their knowledge, expertise, and skills to the project.

### **Our Diocese's Certification Requirements**

Echoes of Faith is a product of RCL Benziger (as a project of the National Conference of Catechetical Leadership) and is available worldwide. As a result it was not designed specifically for the Albany Diocese so there are some differences in organization and content with our present formation/certification requirements. Not all modules are required for certification here in the Albany Diocese and in some cases you may have to take parts of two or more modules to complete the requirements for one of our certification topics.

Our Diocese has slightly different certification requirements based on the particular track or specialization you are concentrating on: catechist of children, youth minister, catechist of adults, intergenerational catechist and lower or upper grade Catholic school religion teacher. Certification is awarded upon completion of the first four of eight basic topics (provisional certification), the second set of four basic topics (basic certification), the twenty intermediate certification topics specific to your track or specialization (full certification, with each four intermediate topics completed qualifying for one level of intermediate certification), and advanced certification (full certification plus eight hours in each of eight theology/scripture topics, sixteen hours of methodology and electives and eight hours of spiritual renewal). Refer to the Diocese's *Guidelines and Policies for the Formation and Certification of Catechists, Youth Ministers and Catholic School Teachers* for details.

While the Diocese continues to offer a variety of ways for those engaged in catechetical ministry to pursue their formation and certification, including our annual Spring Enrichment program, we are pleased to offer the following opportunities through Echoes of Faith 3.0:

Topic #	Topic Title	Echoes of Faith 3.0 Module & Segment #s
A01	Call & Mission of the Catechist & Youth Minister	Role of the Catechist, 1-4 Person of the Catechist, 1-4
A03	Catechetical Techniques	Getting Started, 4 Methods Grades 1 & 2, 1-4 / Grades 3 & 4, 1-4 / Grades 5 & 6, 1-4
A04	Adolescent Catechesis	Getting Started, 4 Methods Grades 7 & 8, 1-4
A06	Creative Discipline with Children	Getting Started
A12	Introduction to Hebrew Scripture	The Scriptures, 1-3
A13	Introduction to Christian Scripture	The Scriptures, 1, 2 & 4
A14	Jesus, Who do you say that I am?	I Believe/We Believe, 2 The Scriptures, 4
A15	Introduction to the Creed	I Believe/We Believe, 1-4
B02	Church	Church
B04	Faith Development	The Learner, 4
B06	Introduction to Morality	Catholic Morality, 1-4
B09	Introduction to the Sacraments	Liturgy & Sacraments, 3 & 4
B17	Learning Styles	The Learner, 1-3
B26	Prayer	Prayer & Spirituality, 1-4
B27	Psychology of the Learner	The Learner, 1-3
B28	Worship	Liturgy & Sacraments, 1-2

When a catechist, youth minister or teacher has completed all modules/segments necessary for a particular topic they may be credited as having completed that topic for diocesan certification. The Diocesan Echoes of Faith 3.0 administrator will provide parishes with information on an annual basis as to their members' participation in this online formation platform so that the parish's catechetical/youth ministry leader or Catholic school principal may credited completed topics can on the individual's official certification transcript.

### Cost

Access to Echoes of Faith 3.0 is through an annual subscription (good for 365 days from date of activation). Purchased individually from RCL Benziger the cost is \$34.95. The Albany Diocese's Catholic School Office has purchased a large number of subscriptions and is able to offer them at the cost of \$14. To purchase one or more subscriptions (one user per subscription) contact Stephen Mawn at the CSO.

Individuals can register themselves, or parishes & schools can purchase subscriptions for a group of parishioners/teachers.

### Administration

The Diocesan Director of Catechist Formation serves as the administrator of the Albany Diocese group and can view the progress of anyone registered through that group. In consultation with the administrator, a parish, school, vicariate or other collective may be set up as a local if they will be having a number of people taking courses through Echoes of Faith 3.0.