Family: The Missing Piece in Religious Education
(Keynote Speaker – Dr. Joseph White)

Level I Certification Course Prayer and Spirituality (Ms. Nancy Doran) 10:30 AM–3:30 PM

The Catechetical Classroom/The Upper Room (Ms. Peg Hoblin) AM/ PM Sessions
Very often catechists are the last ones to realize their lineage to the Apostles and the lessons they learned in that upper room. Come and reflect on what Jesus taught and promised and how it pertains to your weekly lesson in your “upper room” where you meet, greet, teach and form the Church’s future evangelists. (TS)

“Amarás a tu prójimo como a tí mismo” (Mc 12,31) (Dr. Rogelio Cuesta)
El difícil arte de amarse a sí mismo. El “amor propio” como modelo de amar al prójimo. Consecuencias psicológicas y espirituales en el crecimiento humano y cristiano. (P)

I Didn’t Know That! (Sr. Janet Baxendale, SC)
As a Professor in the Institute of Religious Studies, at the end of my classes on the Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Penance, Anointing of the Sick and the other sacraments students often say: “I didn’t know that!” or “Nobody ever told me that!” This workshop will attempt to insure that those participating will NOT have reason to make these statements in the future. Please come to the workshop with your own questions! (TS)

La Nueva Evangelización de Nuestras Familias (Mr. Oscar Cruz)
Este taller presentara nuevas formas de evangelización y catequesis para las familias que participan en nuestros programas de catequesis parroquiales. Vamos revisar métodos nuevos para mejor incluir familias Católicas en la vida de la parroquia, en las practicas de oración y en actividades de caridad. Vamos escuchar cuentos de éxito y cuentos de desafíos sobre este ministerio. (T)(S)

Taking 7th and 8th Grade Out Of The Box (Ms. Andrea M. Tighe) AM/ PM Sessions
Techniques for making 7th and 8th grade curriculum more hands on and memorable. (TS)

Teaching Morality to Teens and Adults (Mr. John Thompson)
Practical examples of laying a solid moral foundation followed by specific examples of teaching about murder, sex, and marriage. (T)

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Making Sense Out Of Suffering (Mr. John Thompson)
Is God all-powerful, all-knowing and all-good? Yes! Well, then what about all the evil and suffering around us? The question of why God permits evil in the world ("theodicy") is one of the most basic struggles for believers and the trump card of atheists. From the book of Job to the present day, people have struggled with this question. Come hear some good approaches to answering questions from both believers and non-believers. (C)

Orando en el Desierto de la Vida (Sr. Yliana Hernández, PBVM)
En la vida de oración, todos encontramos momentos de luz y momentos de tinieblas. Este taller nos ofrecerá guías para ser fiel a la oración en tiempos en que sentimos la aparente ausencia de Dios y nuestra propia oscuridad, vacío e insuficiencia. (S)

“Let The Children Come To Me…” And Their Families (Ms. Charlane Faught)
We will go over ideas to give children and their families a complete one day retreat. Ideas from this will be able to be used in the classroom as well. We will explore the Last Supper and the Great Amen. Scripture stories will be used, as well as suggestions for drama, songs and arts and crafts to further catechize families. It is hoped that this will help children and families have a better understanding and appreciation for the Eucharist. (TS)

Coping With Stress, Fear, Anger In a Changing Environment (Ms. Donna Demetri- Friedman)
This workshop will address ways to cope with change. It will include examples of situations and how people got through the changes. (P)

Considering The Council Of The Laity 50 Years Later (Rev. Michael P. Kerrigan)  AM/PM Sessions
The Second Vatican Council has often been called the “Council of the Laity”. Apostolicam Actuositatem, the Decree of the Apostolate of the Laity, issued 50 years ago (November 18, 1965) ushered forth a renewed understanding of the important role of the laity in the life and mission of the Church. Key topics from this decree will be considered and evaluated (vocation, “leaven in the world”, call to holiness, sharing in the priestly, prophetic, and royal office of Christ, spirituality, role of women, family life, formation, lay movements). (C)

Children of Abraham: Dialogue With Muslims (Rev. James Loughran, SA)
This workshop will identify key concepts in the relationship between Christians and Muslims. It will focus on some common misunderstandings as well as addressing concerns. (P)

La caridad de Cristo nos transforma (Rev. Hernan Paredes, SJ)
Como dice San Pablo “La caridad de Cristo nos transforma”, eso mismo es lo que en fidelidad al mandamiento del amor nos pide el Papa Francisco a todos los creyentes. (T)

Engaging Parents With Home Activities for 5th and 6th Graders (Ms. Linda DeMarkey)
Attention catechists of students in Grades 5 and 6! How do we involve the parents with home activities? They assist children with school homework in math, science projects and spelling, so why not with religion activities? (TS)

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Being A Resource For The Youth In Your Parish *(Ms. Louise Pisano)*

“I (God) have filled him/her with skill, ability and knowledge in all kinds of crafts. He/she can make beautiful patterns in gold, silver and bronze. He/she can cut and set stones. He/she can work with wood. In fact, he/she can work in all kinds of crafts.” (Exodus 31). How do we prepare our children? What do we teach them about gifts and talents? How do we help them be ready when God wants them to use their gifts for His service? This workshop will look at ways to encourage our youth to use the gifts given to them by God in our community and parish families. *(TS)*

POWERPOINT: Tips and Tricks *(Ms. Linda Fitzsimmons)*

Informative and entertaining presentations can be created using Powerpoint. Learn how to bring your ideas to life by incorporating sounds and music into your presentations. Unleash your creativity by the use of various slide transitions. Learn how to insert content into your presentations. Bring your questions and ideas to share with your colleagues. *(TS)*

Celebrating Catechetical Ministry: A Forum At The Forum *(Ms. Eileen Budnick)*

Calling Catechists, Coordinators, Directors! Do you have a story about your ministry that still makes you laugh out loud? An idea that really worked when no one, maybe even you, thought it would? Still helplessly committed to this ministry you love, but sometime wonder if you should just be “committed”? Let’s bring our stories together to celebrate and encourage each other: the people who just can’t help ourselves from thanking God for calling us to the catechetical ministry. *(P)*

Recognizing The Gift: Welcoming Children With Disabilities *(Ms. Linda Sgammato)*

Meeting the needs of children with disabilities takes time and is accomplished with a step-by-step approach. The Catechetical Office has published a Resource Guide that will increase your awareness of what is needed for a successful experience. In this workshop you will learn how to welcome and support the family, observe the child’s abilities, gather information and choose simplified and appropriate curriculum. As you meet the challenge of accepting and assisting the child with disabilities, expect your own faith to grow as you discover the giftedness of those very persons whom Jesus, in his earthly ministry, repeatedly touched with his kindness. *(TS)*

Catechetical Leadership: This Isn't What I Thought it Would Be! *(Mr. Jonathan Schott)*

The ministry of today's Catechetical Leader is changing quickly, enormously and sometimes without any input from us and is beyond our control. This doesn't mean we give up! We grow, we adapt and we change alongside our catechetical ministry. Using personal experiences and stories of others who do what we do and a large dose of poking fun at ourselves, Jonathan will help us to navigate change, accept the future, and move to embrace becoming who we are called to be as Catechetical Leaders in the Third Millennium. *(P)*

Sacrament of Reconciliation – What Say You? *(Rev. Francis Amodio, O.Carm.)*

Explore the meaning of the sacrament as a sign of God’s love in the flesh of his son Jesus. We need to look at our relationship with the Lord Jesus if we are truly to understand the merciful love God has for us in this sacrament. *(T)*

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The reality of violence in our society cannot fail to be a grave concern for the catechist. While teaching teachings of Our Lord as interpreted and expanded by the Church (*The Catechism of the Catholic Church* and *The Compendium of Social Doctrine*) are certainly basic to catechetical instruction; Franciscan Father Romano Stephen Almagno – a more than 30 year professor at the University of Pittsburgh – holds that some prior ground-work must be done. His presentation, then looks at the reality of violence as a catechetical challenge and offers some suggestions to what is often called: pre-evangelization. (*TS*)

**La Paz Sea con Ustedes: El Sacramento de la Reconciliación, la Misericordia de Dios, y Perdonando a Nuestros Hermanos** *(Rev. George Sears)*

El P. Sears expondrá un resumen bíblico, histórico, y teológico del Sacramento de la Reconciliación. Explicará como cuando participamos del Sacramento de la Reconciliación nos ayude a seguir el mandamiento de Nuestro Señor de amarnos unos a otros. (*T*)

**Nurturing My Faith in Stressful Times** *(Rev. Arthur Mastrolia)*

Change is often a recipe for stress. “Abiding Faith” is a remedy – because “Jesus Christ Is The Same Yesterday And Today And Forever” (Hebrews 13:8) (*C*)

**Living Bread** *(Mr. Tony Bellizzi)*  **AM / PM Sessions**

The Eucharist is the ultimate miracle. Our Lord has blessed us with many miracles of the Eucharist to help us to believe. This inspirational multimedia presentation is a concise record of the Eucharistic miracles. (*L*)

**Teaching Scripture Through Arts and Crafts** *(Ms. Elizabeth Foer)*

This workshop examines the Scriptures as well as providing practical insights in the use of Scripture and various activities for children of elementary school age. (*TS*)

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