

MASTER CATECHIST/CATECHIST TRAINER CERTIFICATION

INFORMATION SUMMARY SHEET — 2011-2012

WHAT IS CERTIFICATION?

To be 'certified' simply means that one has the necessary qualifications to be a Catechist Trainer or Master Catechist in the Diocese of Phoenix. There is a broad scope of ministerial and professional skills and competencies necessary to be effective as a parish catechetical or youth evangelization leader that can be learned and developed. In their document 'Co-Workers in the Vineyard of the Lord', the US Bishops target four areas of development for those in lay ecclesial ministry: Human, spiritual, intellectual and pastoral formation.

WHAT TYPES OF CERTIFICATION DOES THE DIOCESE OF PHOENIX GRANT FOR THOSE INTERESTED IN FORMING CATECHISTS?

The Diocese of Phoenix grants a certification as either a 'Master Catechist' or 'Catechist Trainer'. Each of these certifications has the option to specialize in the areas of RCIA/Adult Faith Formation, Youth Evangelization or Children's Catechesis. A **Catechist Trainer** is a person who has met the diocesan requirements and qualifications to train parish/school catechists and parish leaders in the above mentioned specialization areas. A **Master Catechist** is a person who has met the diocesan requirements and qualifications to train parish/school catechists and parish leaders in doctrine and the above mentioned specialization areas.

SUMMARY OF CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Intellectual and Pastoral Education

- A. Degree: Bachelors or Kino *Prepare the Way* (Catechist Trainer) or Masters (Master Catechist) in Catechetics, Theology or equivalent
- B. Pastoral Formation: The Kino Institute Leadership Conference or equivalent
- C. Catechist Trainer Formation Seminar
- D. Interview with Kino Director Of Parish Leadership Credentialing and Certification
- E. Profession of Faith

2. Catechetical and Administrative Experience

Actual experience in performing the tasks required for parish leadership is essential. Prior, successful experience is needed both as a catechist and as an administrator. 2 to 3 years experience required.

3. Continuing Education

Sixty (60) hours of Continuing Education Units for each three-year period that has elapsed since completion of the degree/certificate are required. It is not necessary for the continuing education units to have been completed during any particular time period since the degree/certificate was awarded.

4. Human and Spiritual Development

Because of the importance of human and spiritual formation, each applicant for certification must submit references on their behalf testifying to the competencies in these areas. References include, pastor, co-worker at the parish, people served and a credentialed/certified mentor.

Equivalencies can be granted in each of the areas above.
Applications are processed in the Spring and are available online at
www.kinoinstitute.org