



Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church  
Evangelization and Catechesis

July 29, 2016

Praised be Jesus Christ!

Dear Catechists,

The first stanza of the hymn from Liturgy of the Hours for the feast of St. Augustine (Doctor of the Church) reads:

“Those who teach others sound and sacred doctrine shine, say the Scriptures, as the stars of heaven. Such is Augustine, shedding light unending, down through the ages.”

**Our goal** as a Lay Catechist at SEAS is to teach others sound and sacred doctrine.

**Our prayer** is that through a life of holiness and fidelity to the Church’s prayer, teaching, and morality we may reflect the Light of Christ to our students.

**Our hope** is that our life and teaching will not block or dim the unending Light of Christ. May we cooperate with the Holy Spirit to allow the Light of Christ to shine down through the ages.

The formation of Lay Catechists must be the foundation if evangelization and catechesis is going to be accomplished within the parish. Formation helps equip the Lay Catechist with a greater love and knowledge of Christ and His Church and give the Lay Catechist the surety and courage necessary to hand on the Faith.

**Requirements for a SEAS Lay Catechist**

**Safe Environment (class and/or renewal)** – more info: [seascc.org/safe-environment](http://seascc.org/safe-environment)

**Commitment Date (Aug. 10)** – the commitment date for the 2016-17 academic year is August 10, 2016

**Catechetical Sunday** – September 17-19, 2016 (attend any Mass, you will stand and be commissioned)

**Corporate Communion (Mass, Dinner and Speaker)** – During the Easter Season 2017 (TBA)

**Father Hardon Course** – more info and registration: [seascc.org/hardoncourse](http://seascc.org/hardoncourse)

This is a basic catechism course that consists of 16 lessons. On average catechists complete 4 lessons per semester and attend one clergy class (2 hours) per semester. Catechists usually complete the course in two years. The course is a self-study course. Once lessons are complete the student will mail, fax or e-mail the lessons in to be graded. The graded lessons will be returned to the student. Classes with the clergy take place each January and again in May/June. You will be e-mailed the “Classes with the Clergy” schedule about 6 weeks prior to the class. When a student has completed lessons 1-4 they will meet with Deacon Sandoval; 5-8 with Fr. Picou; 9-12 with Fr. Greco; 13-16 with Deacon Petzold. Students may complete more than 4 lessons a semester if they wish. Please register and pay on the website listed above. After registration Wendy Collins will contact you to set up a time to pick up books and answer any questions.

**CATECHIST FOR 7<sup>TH</sup> - ADULTS** - must register for the Fr. Hardon Course by August 10, 2016.

**CATECHIST FOR K-6<sup>TH</sup>** – please enroll in the course your third year as a catechists (year one being 2016-17)

Peace.  
Be Holy.

Matthew Gill  
Director of Evangelization and Catechesis

**Catechist Commitment Form 2016-2017 – Must be submitted no later than Aug. 10, 2016**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Pre-K	Tu(5:15)	W(5:15)	W(7:15)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Kindergarten	Tu(5:15)	W(5:15)	W(7:15)
<input type="checkbox"/>	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	Tu(5:15)	W(5:15)	W(7:15)
<input type="checkbox"/>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade (Sacramental Preparation)	Tu(5:15)	W(5:15)	W(7:15)
<input type="checkbox"/>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	Tu(5:15)	W(5:15)	W(7:15)
<input type="checkbox"/>	3 <sup>rd</sup> -4 <sup>th</sup> Grade (Sursum Corda Program)	Sun(9:00)	and W(5:00)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	3 <sup>rd</sup> -4 <sup>th</sup> Grade (RCIA for children)	Sun(9:00)	and W(5:00)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Tu(5:15)	W(5:15)	W(7:15)
<input type="checkbox"/>	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Tu(5:15)	W(5:15)	W(7:15)
<input type="checkbox"/>	5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> Grade (Sursum Corda Program)	Sun(9:00)	and W(5:00)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> Grade (RCIA for children)	Sun(9:00)	and W(5:00)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Tu(5:15)	W(5:15)	W(7:15)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Middle School (EVANGELIZATION)	W(6:30) and catechist meeting Thurs (5:30)		
<input type="checkbox"/>	7 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grade (RCIA for teens)	Sun(9:00)	and W(5:00)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	High School (EVANGELIZATION)	W(6:30) and catechist meeting Thurs (5:30)		
<input type="checkbox"/>	High School (CATECHESIS)	W(6:30) and catechist meeting Thurs (5:30)		
<input type="checkbox"/>	High School (CONFIRMATION)	W(6:30)		
<input type="checkbox"/>	SUBSTITUTE TEAM	Tu(5:15)	W(5:15)	W(7:15) M.S. H.S.
<input type="checkbox"/>	ADULTS (RCIA and Catechism Classes)	VARIOUS TIMES		

Area of Interest:

OTHER (Please write in any other interest)      VARIOUS TIMES

Area of Interest:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

# AFFIRMATION OF PERSONAL FAITH

"I **believe** and profess all that the holy Catholic Church teaches, believes and proclaims to be revealed by God."

## In particular:

### Dignity of Human Life

I **affirm and believe** the Church's teaching about the inviolability of human life. In accord with that teaching I affirm that human life is sacred and must be protected and respected from the moment of conception until natural death. I affirm that I reject direct, intentional abortion and I do not recognize the legitimacy of anyone's claim to a moral right to form their own conscience in this matter. I am not pro-choice. I further attest that I am not affiliated with, nor supportive of, any organization which supports, encourages, provides or otherwise endorses abortion or euthanasia. (cf. CCC 2270-2283)

### Contraception

I **affirm and believe** the Church's teaching about the sinfulness of contraception. I affirm, in accord with the teachings of the Church that "every action which, whether in anticipation of the conjugal act, or in its accomplishment, or in the development of its natural consequences, proposes, whether as an end or as a means, to render procreation impossible" is intrinsically evil. (CCC 2370)

### Chastity / Extra-marital Sexual Relationships

I **affirm and believe** that every person is called to chastity in accord with their present state of life and that it is only in marriage between man and woman that the intimacy of spouses becomes a sign and pledge of spiritual communion. (CCC 2337—2365) I accept the Church's teaching that any extra-marital sexual relationships are gravely evil and that these include pre-marital relations, masturbation, fornication, the viewing of pornography and homosexual relations.

### Homosexual Acts

I **affirm and believe** the teaching of the Church about the evil of homosexual acts. I accept the formulation in the Catechism which states: "Basing itself on Sacred Scripture, which presents homosexual acts as acts of grave depravity, tradition has always declared that "homosexual acts are intrinsically disordered." They are contrary to the natural law. They close the sexual act to the gift of life. They do not proceed from a genuine affective and sexual complementarity. Under no circumstances can they be approved." (CCC 2357)

## **The True Presence: The Most Holy Eucharist**

**I affirm and believe** all that the Church teaches about the Reality and Presence of Christ in the Most Holy Eucharist. Specifically I believe that Jesus is present Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity under each of the forms of bread and wine and that receiving either one is Communion with the whole Christ. I recognize that worship and adoration are appropriate, not only during Mass but also outside of Mass and that the Most Holy Eucharist must always be handled with the utmost care and devotion. (CCC 1373-1381)

## **Mary, Mother of God, Mother of Christ, Mother of the Church**

**I affirm and believe** the teachings of the Church regarding Mary, Mother of Christ and Mother of the Church. I accept with the Church that it is fitting and proper to honor the Blessed Virgin with special devotion. (CCC 963-975)

## **The reality of Hell**

**I affirm and believe** that it is possible for a person to choose to remain separated from God for all eternity and that "This state of definitive self-exclusion from communion with God and the blessed is called "hell."" (CCC 1033)

## **Purgatory**

**I affirm and believe** that those who die in God's grace and friendship but are still imperfectly purified undergo additional purification so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joys of heaven. I affirm that the Church's name for this final purification is Purgatory. (CCC 1030-1032)

## **One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic Church**

**I affirm and believe** in One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church and embrace the teachings about that Church as enunciated in the Catechism of the Catholic Church. (cf. CCC 748-962)

## **Authority of the Pope and Bishops and infallibility**

**I affirm and believe** that the Church teaches with God-given authority and that the promise of Christ to remain with His Church always, until the end of time is a reality. I further acknowledge that those teachings pronounced in a definitive manner, even though not as an infallible definition, are binding on the consciences of the faithful and are to be adhered to with religious assent. (CCC 892)

**To these and to all the teaching of the Catholic Church I give my assent. I attest that I believe these things and, while I am aware of my own sinfulness and shortcomings, I strive in my beliefs and life style to conform to this Affirmation of Personal of Faith.**