



Diocese of Superior
Participant Guidelines for Echoes 3.0

For Catechists Working Towards
Foundational Certification



Spring 2015

Wherever You are on Your Faith Journey, You are in the Right Place

A search for the meaning of “catechist” brings forth some interesting ideas. One site says that to catechize means to teach by word of mouth. Another site says that the role of a Catholic catechist is to teach the Faith of the Catholic Church both by word and example. Yet another site explains that “catechist” has its roots in a Greek word meaning “to sound” or to echo like whales and dolphins - and the word evolved to mean teaching by word of mouth, implying dialoging and sharing.

Jesus was a catechist. He most certainly taught by word and example. Some of his most profound lessons were a dialogs with both believers and non-believers. Jesus called others to follow him and to spread the Word of God. Those who responded became catechists – and they called others. The call and response extended over millennia. And now the call originating from Christ has come and you have accepted it.

About now some of you may be thinking, “I did *what?* I responded to *who?*”

The stories about how individuals become catechists are well-known - especially the ones about how no one else would come forward to teach a particular class, and teaching religion came with the job. The fears and concerns of catechists are equally well-known – the primary one being that their knowledge of the faith is not sufficient or their experience of the faith is not great enough or their personal faith is not perfect.

As you begin the work of the Echoes 3.0 modules, you may have some of these concerns. As you encounter some of the questions in the modules, you may hesitate – wondering if your answers are the right answers. Please understand that this is not a test that you pass or fail. The purpose of this process is to help you grow from where you are, to move you forward as a life-long learner, to affirm that your call to become a catechist is a true one.

The message here and now is “Whatever your story is, it is the right one. Wherever you are in your faith journey, you are in the right place.” Some will have a plethora of faith-based experiences to draw from. Others will have few. But that is not important. We are a melting pot of faith. We are all in different places and on different paths to the same destination – a greater relationship with Christ.

Our hope and prayer for you is that your experience with Echoes 3.0 will be a positive one that leads you to know Christ and to know yourself a little better. Diocesan staff and group facilitators are here to journey with you. We hope it is a pleasant journey.



To the Catechist

In 2012, the Diocese of Superior changed its catechetical certification program from a points-based approach to a content-based process. The new *Forming Effective Disciples (FED)* has two levels of certification – Foundational and Elevated. Foundational is the first level and is required of all individuals whether working in a parish religious education program or a Catholic school.

Echoes of Faith Plus (EOF+) published by RCL Benziger was chosen by the Diocese of Superior as the primary means to complete Foundational certification. It is a DVD-based program delivered in a gathered group setting with a facilitator and discussion. In late 2014, RCL Benziger introduced *Echoes of Faith 3.0 (E3)*, an online option that parallels EOF+.

After participating in an orientation session at your parish or school, you have chosen to complete FED Foundational using the online E3 program. Before you begin, please read this booklet thoroughly to be certain that you understand the requirements set forth by the Diocese of Superior.

If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Drinkwine at 715 394 0216 or kdrinkwine@catholicdos.org.

Important Things to Know Before You Begin

Echoes 3.0 and the Diocese of Superior

Echoes 3.0 is a product of RCL Benziger and is available world-wide. It has **not** been designed specifically for the Diocese of Superior. Therefore, you will find that the on-screen instructions may vary from the expectations of the Diocese of Superior. It is important that you know what the Diocese of Superior is expecting of you.

Like *Echoes of Faith Plus*, *Echoes 3.0* has a total of 14 modules. Not all modules are required for the Diocese of Superior FED Foundational certification. Non-required modules may **not** be substituted for required modules. Please study the *Diocese of Superior Requirements for Online Completion of Foundational Modules* (pages 5 & 6) before beginning your modules.

The Diocese of Superior requires that participants working towards FED Foundational certification answer ALL questions and complete ALL assessments even though the instructions on the screen from RCL Benziger may state differently.

Your Email Address

You must have a personal email account that will be active for the next 365 days. Your email address is required in the *Echoes 3.0* activation process and will be used to communicate with the program. Once an email address is used to activate *Echoes 3.0*, it cannot be used to activate another *Echoes 3.0* account.

Your Activation Code

The Activation Code included in the letter that accompanied this booklet is for you and you alone. It can be entered into the RCL Benziger program just once. Each catechist wishing to earn FED Foundational certification must request their own Activation Code.

Your *Echoes 3.0* account is good for 365 days from the date you enter your Activation Code into the system.

User Name and Password

You will be asked to create a user name and password. Like all login information, you will want this to be something unique but also something you will be able to remember.

Using Multiple Devices

Echoes 3.0 is not IP address dependent. Once you have created your *Echoes 3.0* account, you may log in to it using any device with an internet connection and a browser – computer, tablet, smart phone.

Echoes 3.0 Group & Administrator

You have been assigned to a specific group of learners by the Diocese of Superior. Each group has an Administrator who will facilitate the group. Group Administrators have the ability to see your online work and will monitor your progress on the modules. Your Group Administrator is there to assist you with the *Echoes 3.0* program and has been identified on your letter.

Completing Modules

The modules required by the Diocese of Superior for FED Foundational certification can be completed in the traditional gathered group setting using *Echoes of Faith Plus* or they can be completed online using *Echoes 3.0*. Your FED Foundational transcript can include a mix of the two delivery methods. However, individual modules *must be completed in just one format*. A module cannot be started in one delivery format and then finished in the other.

Modules are completely independent of one another. There is no pre-determined order in which the modules must be completed. Participants may complete them in any order.

Saving Your Work

There is no “auto-save” in the *Echoes 3.0* program. You must deliberately save your work. A “Save” button is at the bottom of every page with an answer box. Navigating away from a page erases your keyed responses unless they have been saved. Once your work has been saved, you can go back and edit your answers. Once your editing is completed, you must save your work again.

Time Commitment for Completing Modules

The time it takes to complete a module will vary from person to person. It is dependent on the participant and his/her style of learning. Some people are very decisive and will have a response to each question within moments. Others will read, watch videos, take time to reflect, and then go back and respond. Overall, it should take approximately 50 hours to complete all required modules.

Activating Your Account

1. Go to www.echoesoffaith.com .
2. In the lower left corner, click the purple “Create Account” button.
3. Enter all required information. Be sure to choose a user name and password that will be easy for you to remember. Click on “Create My New Account”.
4. The next screen will be Titled “Enrollment Options” and will ask you for your Activation Code. Your code is included in the email that accompanied this booklet. It is strongly recommended that you copy and paste your Activation Code from the email into the enrollment process. There is much less chance of error using the copy and paste function.
5. The next step will ask you to enroll in a group. Your group name is also included in the letter that accompanied this booklet and in the email that was sent with your Activation Code.

Diocese of Superior Requirements for Online Completion of Foundational Modules

CATECHIST MODULES <i>Students may choose to complete these modules but should complete required ones first.</i>	
<i>Getting Started as a Catechist</i>	NOT REQUIRED
Getting Started as a Catechist Assessment	Optional
<i>Roles of the Catechist</i>	NOT REQUIRED
Roles of the Catechist Assessment	Optional
<i>Person of the Catechist</i>	NOT REQUIRED
Person of the Catechist Assessment	Optional
THEOLOGY MODULES	
<i>I Believe/We Believe</i>	
Segment 1 - God the Father & Assessment	Required
Segment 2 - God the Son & Assessment	Required
Segment 3 - God the Holy Spirit & Assessment	Required
Segment 4 - The Christian Creed & Assessment	Required
Rev. Bertrand Buby: Whole Interview	Required
Rev. James Heft: Whole Interview	Required
<i>Liturgy and Sacraments</i>	
Segment 1 - What Is Liturgy? & Assessment	Required
Segment 2 - Liturgy and Christian Identity & Assessment	Required
Segment 3 - Sacraments of Initiation & Assessment	Required
Segment 4 - Sacraments of Healing and Service & Assessment	Required
Rev. Lawrence Mick: Whole Interview	Required
<i>Catholic Morality</i>	
Segment 1 - Foundations of the Moral Life & Assessment	Required
Segment 2 - Objective and Subjective Morality & Assessment	Required
Segment 3 - The Morality of Human Actions & Assessment	Required
Segment 4 - Conscience and God's Law & Assessment	Required
Dr. William Mattison: Whole Interview	Required
Rev. Bryan Massingale: Whole Interview	Required
<i>Prayer and Spirituality</i>	
Segments 1 – 4 & Prayer and Spirituality Assessment	Required
Rev. Louis Cameli: Whole Interview	Required
Rev. Ronald Rolheiser: Whole Interview	Required
<i>The Scriptures</i>	
Segment 1 - What Is the Bible? & Assessment	Required
Segment 2 - Why Is the Bible Holy? & Assessment	Required
Segment 3 - What's in the Bible? & Assessment	Required
Segment 4 - Jesus: The Alpha and the Omega & Assessment	Required
Dr. Elizabeth Nagel: Whole Interview	Required
Margaret Ralph: Whole Interview	Required

METHODOLOGY	
<i>The Learner</i>	
Segments 1 – 4 & The Learner Assessment	Required
Rev. Ronald Nuzzi: Full Interview	Required
Dr. Mark Markuly: Full Interview	Required
<i>All individuals working towards FED Foundational must complete one of the modules listed below and the coordinating assessment. The module to be completed is determined by the grade level taught. Catechists for high school students should complete the module for grades 7 and 8.</i>	
<i>Grades 1 and 2</i>	
Segments 1 – 4 & Grades 1 and 2 Assessment	Required
Amy Florian: Full Interview	Required
<i>Grades 3 and 4</i>	
Segments 1 – 4 & Grades 3 and 4 Assessment	Required
Amy Florian: Full Interview	Required
<i>Grades 5 and 6</i>	
Segments 1 – 4 & Grades 5 and 6 Assessment	Required
Amy Florian: Full Interview	Required
<i>Grades 7 and 8</i>	
Segments 1 – 4 & Grades 7 and 8 Assessment	Required
Amy Florian: Full Interview	Required
<i>Adult Faith Formation</i>	
Segments 1 – 4 & Adult Faith Formation Assessment	Required
Gretchen Hailer, RLSM: Full Interview	Required
Angela Ann Zukowski, MHSH: Full Interview	Required

Special Notes on the Set-up of the Modules

There are some “imperfections” in the modules. None of these have a great impact on how you will do your work. Please make note of these situations and as you encounter them, you will know what to do.

Required interviews

Every module has interviews that are required by the Diocese of Superior for FED Foundational. In some modules, portions of the interviews are found at the end of various segments. The full interview is always found at the end of the module. You are required to view the full interview.

I Believe, We Believe

The first video portion (Looking Ahead Part 1) actually contains the video for Segment 1 Part 1 and Segment 1 Part 2. You may stop watching at the 10:05 minute mark. Part 2 is repeated in Looking Ahead Part 2.

Catholic Morality

Segment 3, Looking Back Part 2, Question 3 has an extra answer box. Ignore the first box. Enter your answers in the boxes with the titles *Cooking, Playing on a Softball Team, and Hiking*.

The Scriptures

Segment 4, Looking Beyond – Reflect on God’s Word – The answer box is located at the bottom of the page rather than immediately following the instructions for this exercise. Enter your answers in the box at the bottom of the page even though it is in the wrong place.

The Learner

The very last page (Segment 4, Next Steps) has short articles on each of the theorists discussed in this module - Jean Piaget, Lawrence Kohlberg, Erik Erikson, and James Fowler. It may be to your advantage to read these articles before you begin your written work on this module.

Methods for Grades 5 & 6

Segment 4: Praying in the Classroom – has an extra “Save” button. To be certain that your work is saved, click both of them before moving to another page.