



DIOCESE OF ORANGE ♦ EMMAUS INSTITUTE

13280 CHAPMAN AVE., GARDEN GROVE, CA 92840 ♦ PHONE: (714) 282-3078 ♦ FAX: (714) 282-4242 ♦ WWW.RCBO.ORG/EMMAUSINSTITUTE

The Emmaus Institute (formerly IPM) has the responsibility for administering certification programs for catechists in the Diocese of Orange. The certification program was reaffirmed by the California Conference of Catholic Bishops in the recent revised document “*Guidelines for Formation and Certificate of Catechists and Master Catechists*” (May 2009). It is this document that forms the foundation of the certification process within the Diocese of Orange and provides for a professional approach to the teaching of religion and the formation of faith.

MASTER CATECHIST CERTIFICATION GUIDELINES

The Emmaus Institute offers an advanced certification in theological foundations, the *Master Catechist Certification*. This certification provides students with a firm foundation in the Roman Catholic Tradition. This program is designed for professional and ministerial educators. There are *two options either live in-person or online*. *The Master Catechist Certificate In-Person courses offered at the Diocesan Pastoral Center those consist of 11 courses, Lumen Retreat, teaching observation & pastoral project. The Master Catechist Certificate Track offered Online through our partnership with Catechetical Institute – Franciscan University consists of 60 online workshops, Lumen Retreat, teaching observation & pastoral project.*

The Master Catechist Certificate Track is available online through Catechetical Institute – Franciscan University. To enroll and begin your MC path go to the following website <https://franciscanathome.com/diocese-orange>. For additional information on Master Catechist Certificate path you can visit our website at www.rcbo.org/emmausinstitute click on Master Catechist page.

Qualities of a Master Catechist

Persons who desire to become a Master Catechists should have:

- A strong awareness of the working of God’s grace in their lives and a growing faith-life in response to that grace
- A personal commitment to Jesus Christ, who is the center of the Catholic message
- A strong understanding of Catholic teaching and love for the Church evidenced by a personal commitment to:
 - Catechize within the Roman Catholic tradition, in light of Vatican II and post –conciliar documents and according to the Catechism of the Catholic Church
 - Participate actively and regularly in the Church’s liturgical and sacramental life
 - A deepened and active prayer life
 - A respect for the diversity of all members of God’s family

REQUIREMENTS FOR MASTER CATECHIST APPLICANTS

Requirement for Master Catechist Applicants

- Valid Basic Certification or Pre-requisite of Basic Catechist Certification Track from Catechetical Institute
- Submit Application for Master Catechist Certification along with:
 - Two letters of recommendation (*one must be from the pastor*)
 - Autobiographical Sketch (1-2) pages addressing the following topics:
 - *How you became involved in ministry*
 - *Your personal and spiritual growth and how that has affected your faith life*
 - *Your reasons for wanting to obtain Master Catechist Certification (goals, objectives, etc.)*
 - *Any insights into your personal situation that you feel would be pertinent*
- Interview with Emmaus Director (*Emmaus Office will contact applicant after receiving Application, Letters of Recommendation and Autobiographical Sketch*)



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Beyond academic work, an observation, retreat and project is required for completion of MC Certificate.

Upon completion of the in-person **or** online MC requirements, **Master Catechist Certification Path** – is granted valid for **four** (4) years. Pre-requisite valid Basic Certification.

***IN-PERSON* REQUIREMENTS FOR MASTER CATECHIST CANDIDATES**

In-person courses are 15hrs each plus homework assignments.

MC In-Person Requirements: I

- R100 Catholic Approach to the Hebrew Scriptures
- R120 Catholic Approach to the Christian Scriptures
- R220 Liturgy and Sacraments in the Catholic Tradition
- R235 Ecclesiology
- R300 Introduction to Catholic Moral Theology
- R310 Introduction to Catholic Spiritual Life
- R340 Catholic Social Teaching
- M229 Leadership in Parish Ministry
- M308 Faith Development
- ____ One advanced method or ministry course
- M197 Catechetical Observation
- M198 Catechetical Seminar
- M199 Catechetical Project
- R319 Lumen Retreat

***ONLINE* REQUIREMENTS FOR MASTER CATECHIST CANDIDATES**

Upon completion of the Catechetical Institute Online requirements, **Master Catechist Certification Track** – is granted valid for **four** (4) years. Pre-requisite valid Basic Certification.

Online CI-MC Path workshops are 1hr of content plus interaction/homework that will take 2-4hrs each.

MC Online Requirements:

FOUNDATIONS

1. The Vocation of the Catechist (Prerequisite course from Basic Cert)
2. Conversion in Modern Culture
3. The Catechumenal Process: Modern Restoration of an Ancient Practice
4. Entrance into Christ and Participation in God's Life
5. Catechesis: Echoing What God has Revealed
6. Scripture: The Heart of Catechesis
7. A Guide to Echoing the Mystery: Unlocking the Deposit of Faith in Catechesis
8. A Foundational Vision: Lumen Gentium (Coming Soon)
9. A Foundational Vision: The Community of the Family
10. A Foundational Vision: Theology of the Body
11. Entrance Into Christ and Participation in God's Life
12. An Introduction to Objective Truth
13. Catechism & Other Magisterial Catechetical Documents
14. Pedagogy of Revelation & the Response of Faith
15. Scripture: The Driving Force of Doctrine
16. Unlocking the Rich Treasure of the CCC Part I
17. Unlocking the Rich Treasure of the CCC Part II The Family: Context of Catechesis



ONLINE MC REQUIREMENTS CONTINUED

ONLINE REQUIREMENTS FOR MASTER CATECHIST CANDIDATES

FOUNDATIONS (continued)

18. Unlocking the Rich Treasure of the CCC Part III
19. Unlocking the Rich Treasure of the CCC Part IV

METHOD

20. Introducing the Liturgy to Children
21. The Evangelizing Classroom
22. Analyzing Doctrine With Doctrinal Keys
23. The Liturgical Nature and Sacramental Life of the Church
24. Liturgy & Catechetical Methodology
25. Preventive System of St. John Bosco

SCRIPTURE

26. Scripture: The Heart of Catechesis (This prerequisite course is included in Current Basic Curriculum)
27. Sacred Scripture: The Big Picture (This prerequisite course is included in Current Basic Curriculum)
28. Introduction to the Old Testament
29. Introduction to the New Testament
30. Praying With Scripture: Lectio Divina

PHILOSOPHY

31. Philosophical Foundations of Catechetics
32. The Human Person
33. The Human Person in God's Loving Plan
34. Reality: Epistemology for Catechists

DOCTRINE

35. The Trinity
36. The Father: Origin & Desire of All
37. Christ: His Person & Works
38. Holy Spirit, Converter of Hearts
39. The Kerygma: Key Doctrines
40. The Sacramental Economy
41. The Blessed Virgin Mary
42. The Sacramental Economy
43. The Holy Spirit in Catechesis
44. The Blessed Virgin Mary
45. The Church: Dispenser of the Mysteries and Guardian of the Deposit of Faith



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ONLINE MC REQUIREMENTS CONTINUED

ONLINE REQUIREMENTS FOR MASTER CATECHIST CANDIDATES

DOCTRINE (continued)

46. Catholic Social Teaching
47. Our Life in Christ: The Basics of Catholic Morality
48. Ten Commandments & Beatitudes
49. The Four Last Things
50. Sin and Virtue

SPIRITUAL

51. The Universal Call to Holiness
52. Personal Spirituality and the Call to Holiness
53. Conversion in Modern Culture
54. Catechetical Mentorship
55. Mentoring in Ministry
56. Personal Vocation and the Mentoring Relationship
57. Being Guided & Guiding Souls
58. Building the Mentoring Relationship: Asking Good Questions
59. Building the Mentoring Relationship: Empathic Listening
60. The Challenge of Charity: Life in the Family of God

- M197 Catechetical Observation
- M199 Catechetical Project
- R319 Lumen Retreat

Master Catechist Recertification – Going forward, MC Certificates will be for a four (4) year period (see above). For those who currently hold an Advanced or Intermediate Level Certification, the term of the certificate will continue to be valid until renewal at which point, fifty (50) hours of continuing faith education and formation, observation and an approved project must be submitted before certification expires. Subsequently, all MC certification will be valid for a four (4) year period.