



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH  
**DIOCESE OF TUCSON**

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OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

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Dear Parish and School Coordinators of Catechesis for Children, Youth, and Adults,

Increasingly we are recognizing and empowering the gifts of laity for leadership in the Church.

As you know, for the past several years our diocese has placed greater emphasis on the quality training and formation of our parish catechists, youth ministers, Catholic school teachers, and all who share in the Ministry of the Word.

To this end, a foundational curriculum was developed two years ago as a basic formation process leading to diocesan Level I certification. This curriculum serves to guide all who will be facilitating basic formation of catechetical leaders.

As more and more persons have attained their Level I certification, many have asked about continuing and deepening their formation in the study of Sacred Scripture, Catholic theology, and in the effective practices and methods pertinent to their ministries.

This is why I am pleased to announce that through a collaborative effort of the Jordan Ministry Team, the Department of Catholic Schools, and the Office of Catechesis, a Level II curriculum is being developed as a deepening of the basic formation found in the Level I process. Level II courses move toward ministry specialization with increased hours and requirements. The topics from Level I are expanded and treated in greater depth, and new courses are added.

Persons seeking a Level II certification would ordinarily be those entrusted with greater responsibility and authority in a ministerial setting. For example, Level II certification is strongly recommended for such ministerial roles as adult faith formation and youth ministry coordinators, directors of religious education, school principals, catechumenate directors, etc.

I am hopeful that pastors and parish staff will encourage persons in such roles to pursue the Level II formation process as these courses are offered, and to help support them financially to the extent possible. This is a worthy investment for the future of the Church of Tucson.

We ask for the Lord's blessing on this important process of adult formation!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Gerald F. Kicanas  
Bishop of Tucson