



### Jubilee of Catechists

### 27 - 28 September 2025

This weekend, we celebrate the Jubilee of Catechists, giving thanks for the dedicated men and women who share the faith, nurture spiritual growth, and guide others on their journey of discipleship. Catechists play a vital role in forming hearts and minds, imparting the teachings of Christ, and helping others to encounter the living Word of God. Their unwavering commitment to education in the faith strengthens the Church and deepens the spiritual life of our communities.

Today, we give thanks for their dedication, wisdom, and the love they bring to their ministry. May this Jubilee inspire us all to deepen our own faith and share it joyfully with others, as we follow Christ's call to make disciples of all nations.

### **Prayers**

### Example prayers of the faithful

For Catechists: May the grace of the Holy Spirit guide their hearts and lips, so that they remain constant in loving and praising God. May they be witnesses to the Gospel and ministers of God's love and truth. **E te Ariki...** 

We pray for all catechists who dedicate their lives to teaching and forming others in the faith. May they be filled with wisdom and patience, and may their example inspire those they teach to deepen their relationship with Christ. **E te Ariki...** 

#### Other prayers for Catechists

#### **A Prayer for Catechists**

Loving God, Creator of all things, you call us to be in relationship with you and others.

Thank you for calling me to be a catechist, for the opportunity to share with others what you have given to me.





May all those with whom I share the gift of faith discover how you are present in all things.

May they come to know you, the one true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.

May the grace of the Holy Spirit guide my heart and lips, so that I may remain constant in loving and praising you.

May I be a witness to the Gospel and a minister of your truth. May all my words and actions reflect your love.

Amen.

From Loyola Press

#### **Blessings Upon Catechists**

**Leader**: Heavenly Father, you have called Catechists to serve your Church by sharing the gift of faith. As we pray for their ministry, we entrust them to your care and guidance.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

**Leader**: For all Catechists, that they may grow in faith and love, inspired by the Holy Spirit to teach with wisdom and compassion.

All: Strengthen them, Lord, in their mission.

**Leader**: For the Catechists' words and actions, that they may reflect your truth and bring others closer to you.

**All**: Grant them clarity and humility, O Lord.

**Leader**: For the children, youth, and adults they teach, that their hearts may be open to receiving the Good News and living it out in their daily lives.

**All**: Bless their learners with understanding and faith.

**Leader**: For those who feel discouraged in their ministry, that they may find strength in your promises and the support of their faith community.

All: Renew their spirit, Lord, with your love and grace.

**Leader**: For Catechists who juggle many responsibilities, that they may find balance and joy in their service to you.

**All**: Give them peace and perseverance, Lord.





**Leader**: For the families of Catechists, that they may be blessed with unity and support as their loved ones dedicate time and energy to your work.

All: Surround them with your blessings, Lord.

**Leader**: For all who support the Catechists—pastors, leaders, and parish communities—that they may recognise the importance of catechesis and work together to build up the Church. **All**: Guide us all to value and nurture this ministry.

**Leader**: And for all of us gathered here, that we may continue to grow in our understanding of your Word and bear witness to the Gospel in our lives.

All: Unite us, Lord, in your mission of love.

**Leader**: Loving God, you sent your Son to teach and to lead. As his disciples, we are called to share that same mission. Bless our Catechists with your grace, that they may reflect Christ's light to all they encounter.

All: We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

For an example of a blessing for those appointed as Catechists, including options for use within a Celebration of the Word of God or during Mass, you can refer to this resource:

https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/prayers/view.cfm?id=719

## Suggestions for celebrating this Jubilee in your communities

- Use the Provided Prayers of the Faithful or Write Your Own

  Craft prayers that celebrate the role of catechists in spreading the faith, asking for God's blessing on their ministry and for the continued growth of those they teach.
- Host a Special Mass or Prayer Service for Catechists
   Celebrate a Mass or prayer service in honour of catechists, asking for God's grace to continue their work in forming the faith of others, and for strength in their mission to teach and guide.
- Organise a Catechist Appreciation Day
   Dedicate a day or event to recognise the contributions of catechists within the parish.
   This can include a small ceremony, heartfelt acknowledgements, or a social gathering to express gratitude.
  - Hold a Catechist Blessing Ceremony

    Organise a blessing for catechists at the start of a new catechetical year or at a special Mass. Pray for them as they continue to teach and lead others on their faith journeys.





#### • Offer Catechist Formation Sessions

Offer training or enrichment sessions to help catechists deepen their understanding of the faith and improve their teaching methods, ensuring they have the tools needed to share the Gospel effectively.

#### • Thank You Notes or Gifts for Catechists

Provide catechists with small tokens of appreciation, such as personalised thank you cards, prayer cards, or other meaningful gifts. A handwritten note of thanks can go a long way in showing gratitude for their hard work.

#### • Encourage the Recruitment of New Catechists

Use the Jubilee as an opportunity to encourage new catechists to join the ministry. Promote the importance of catechesis and the need for dedicated individuals to pass on the faith to others.

#### • Celebrate the Anniversary of a Catechetical Programme

If your parish has had a long-standing catechetical programme (e.g. Alpha or RCIA), consider celebrating its anniversary during the Jubilee of Catechists. Recognise the impact it has had on the community and honour the catechists who have contributed to its success.