

Dear Catechetical Leaders,

This week we would like to remind you about two catechetical workshops being offered in the North Seattle and Eastside Deaneries. We also are continually updating our resources on the Archdiocesan website. Remember the Year of Faith begins this week, as we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council.

Below are some webinars and several resources you can use with the students in your classrooms and as faith formation resources.

In Christ,

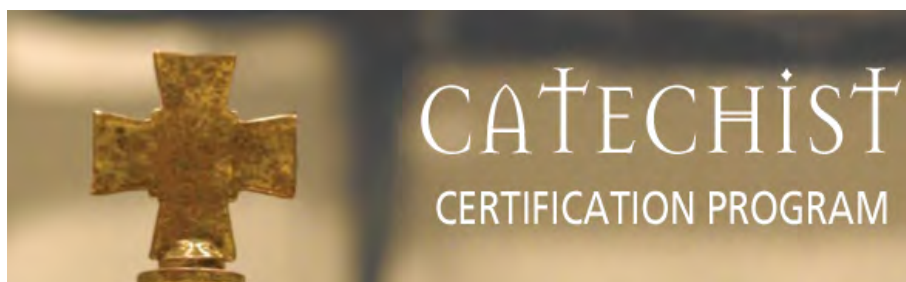
Anne

Archdiocese of Seattle Year of Faith page: www.seattlearchdiocese.org/yof

Religion Curriculum Revision

Recently, we started the process of revising our Archdiocesan K-8 Religion Curriculum. If you have not done so, please complete the very short **SurveyMonkey** (www.surveymonkey.com/s/K-8RECurrProj), before **Friday, October 12th**.

More information about the revision can be found at www.seattlearchdiocese.org/CFF/RE/Curriculum.aspx.



Foundations of Our Catholic Faith

Live Classes and Webinars begin in October
See schedule and registration at www.seattlearchdiocese.org/ccp

FREE Professional Development Webinar – THIS Tuesday, October 9

Ave Maria Press, in partnership with the **National Conference for Catechetical Leadership**, the National Association for Lay Ministry, and National Federation of Priests' Councils presents a series of free, online workshops on professional development for parish ministers. This webinar, *Supporting Motherhood: Facing the Challenges from a Parish Perspective* is offered on Tuesday, October 9 at 3:00 pm EDT. You can register at **PDW-10.9.2012** (<http://tiny.cc/xg47kw>). For a complete listing of professional development webinars in this series please visit www.avemariapress.com/webinars

Supporting Motherhood: Facing the Challenges from a Parish Perspective

Presented by: Sarah Reinhard

In a parish environment, there is an increasing need for volunteers in various ministries and yet there is also an audience that needs ministry attention: mothers. It's a group that serves others in many invisible ways and yet is often ignored and overtapped. Sarah Reinhard, author of [*A Catholic Mother's Companion to Pregnancy: Walking with Mary from Conception to Baptism \(Catholicmom.Com Books\)*](#), will consider how we minister to mothers within our parish communities.

How can we support the mothers in our parishes throughout their mothering journey? What tools can we use to minister, encourage, and relate with them and foster the growth of our parish communities? How do we tap into the social nature women naturally have with the overbooked and overworked nature of the life many of them actually have?

This webinar will reflect on ways to approach the mothers of our parishes, and especially those who have to juggle children's schedules, working responsibilities, and the need for more spiritual support from their parish family.

UPCOMING FREE Professional Development Webinar – Tuesday, October 16

Ave Maria Press, in partnership with the **National Conference for Catechetical Leadership**, the National Association for Lay Ministry, and National Federation of Priests' Councils presents a series of free, online workshops on professional development for parish ministers. This webinar, *I'm Called to be an Agent of What?! Catechists and Teachers and the New Evangelization* is offered on Tuesday, October 16 at 3:00 pm EDT. You can register at **PDW-10.16.2012** (<http://tiny.cc/c0vklw>). For a complete listing of professional development webinars in this series please visit www.avemariapress.com/webinars

I'm called be an agent of what?! Catechists and Teachers and the New Evangelization

Presented by Lori Dahlhoff, Executive Director of the NCEA Department of Religious Education

This year the Catechetical Sunday theme was, "Catechists and Teachers as Agents of the New Evangelization."

In this webinar, Lori Dahlhoff, Executive Director of the NCEA Department of Religious Education, will explore what the church means by the "new evangelization" and how it is part of fostering discipleship through religious education.



She will also share practical ways catechists and teachers are both agents of evangelization and witnesses to ongoing conversion in Christ.

Archbishop Aymond Offers '10 Ways Vatican II Shapes The Church Today'

The Catholic Church marks the fiftieth anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council by Blessed Pope John XXIII on October 11. The Council ran from 1962-1965, producing 16 documents over the course of four sessions. Over 2,000 bishops from around the world participated. The Council introduced major reforms and stands among the most significant religious events of the 20th Century.

To honor this anniversary, as well as the twentieth anniversary of the publication of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Pope Benedict XVI called for a Year of Faith, beginning October 11 and ending November 24, 2013, to strengthen the faith of Catholics and draw the world to faith by their example. Archbishop Gregory Aymond of New Orleans, chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Divine Worship, offers "10 Ways Vatican II Shapes the Church Today" to help Catholics appreciate the Council and how it relates to the Year of Faith:

1. ***Vatican II presented a renewed vision of what it means to be the Church.*** The Council document *Lumen Gentium* on the nature of the Church called the Church a light for the world and the source of salvation. The document *Gaudium et Spes* on the Church in the modern world said the Church shares the joys and sufferings of the world. Both documents refer to the Church as the People of God, reflecting a new appreciation of lay people that surfaced repeatedly at the Council.
2. ***It called the Eucharist the source and summit of the faith.*** The Council's document on the liturgy, *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, describes Holy Communion as the main source of God's grace for Catholics. In

the Eucharist, Catholics encounter the person of Christ. In this way, it is truly the foundation of the Church.

3. ***It reformed the liturgy.*** The changes to the Mass, perhaps the most well-known conciliar reform, promoted “full and active participation,” which led to the Mass being translated into the vernacular, or local language, and celebrated as a dialogue between the celebrant and the congregation.

4. ***It said every Catholic is called to holiness and to be a missionary.*** The document on missionary activity, *Ad Gentes*, expanded the view of how the Church evangelizes. Missionaries were no longer sent just to remote areas of the world to spread the Good News; now all Catholics play a role in evangelizing through their lives.

5. ***It emphasized the importance of the family.*** According to *Lumen Gentium*, the family is the “Domestic Church.” While the faith of the Church flourishes in parishes, dioceses and nations around the world, before all else is the family. It is the family that provides a strong foundation for each believer.

6. ***It reshaped the Church’s relationship with other Christians and other religions.*** At Vatican II, the Church adopted a spirit of respect and dialogue toward other faith traditions. Ensuing dialogues have built bridges of understanding and strengthened relationships with Orthodox Christians, Jews, Muslims, Protestants and others.

7. ***It promoted collaboration.*** The document *Christus Dominus* encouraged “collegiality,” or collaboration within the Church. Bishops, priests, religious and lay people all work together in a way that didn’t in the past. Bishops collaborate through episcopal conferences like the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and state-level Catholic Conferences. The Council also encouraged “subsidiarity,” by which authority is divided up and decisions are made at the appropriate level.

8. ***It updated the Church...*** John XXIII saw Vatican II as a chance for renewal in the face of the “signs of the times” and said he called the Council to open a window and let in fresh air. This resulted in reforms that made the Church more accessible to the modern world, such as Mass in the vernacular and dialogue with other believers, and the openness of the Council was reflected in the presence men and women religious, lay people and even non-Catholics among its official observers.

9. ***...but it also returned the Church to its roots.*** Vatican II also reformed the Church through a back-to-basics approach. This meant renewed appreciation for Scripture, the Church Fathers and the restoration of ancient traditions such as the permanent diaconate and the multi-step process for adults joining the Church.

10. ***Then-Father Joseph Ratzinger (now Pope Benedict XVI) played a significant behind-the-scenes role.*** The bishops at Vatican II were assisted by brilliant theologians. These assistants, or *periti*, included Joseph Ratzinger, who assisted Cardinal Josef Frings of Cologne, Germany. Father Ratzinger was involved in drafting speeches, shaping documents and defining the overall trajectory of the Council. More information on the Year of Faith is available online: www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/how-we-teach/new-evangelization/year-of-faith/index.cfm.

[Restless Heart: Saint Augustine](#)

Filmed in Europe, *RESTLESS HEART* is the first full-length feature movie on St. Augustine. Born in North Africa, Augustine studied in Carthage, becoming an accomplished but dissolute orator. After converting to Manichaeism, a guilt-free religion, he was called to the imperial court in Milan to serve as an opponent to the Christian Bishop Ambrose. But when the Empress Justina sent imperial guards to clear out a basilica where Augustine's mother, Monica, was worshipping, her constant prayers and the witness of Ambrose won him over to Christianity. Serving in Hippo in 430 AD, Bishop Augustine urged the Roman garrison to negotiate with the Vandal King Genseric, but they proudly refused. He passed up a chance to escape on a ship sent to rescue him by the Pope, and stayed by the side of his people. To bring this film to a theatre near you or to watch a preview, please go to

<http://www.restlessheartfilm.com/index.php>



[Little Red Wagon](#)

Zach Bonner was born in Searcy, Arkansas on November 17, 1997 but now calls Tampa, Florida his home. He is home schooled under the Florida Virtual School program and is in the 9th grade. Zachary started doing community service in 2004 after Hurricane Charlie hit Florida. In 2005 he formed the Little Red Wagon Foundation, a non-profit organization designed to help underprivileged kids with a focus on homeless youth. Zach believes we all have the ability to make a change in this world if we just try.

LITTLE RED WAGON is based on the inspirational true story of eight-year-old Zach Bonner on his quest to change the world with nothing more than his beat-up red wagon and a blazing spirit of philanthropy. When Zach sets out to help homeless children in America in the wake of Hurricane Charley, by walking from his house in Tampa, Florida to the White House, he must overcome bureaucrats and blisters and capture the hearts of his fractured family and the entire nation. To read more about this movie and to watch the trailer, please go to <http://www.littleredwagonthemovie.com/>

Darius Goes West

Three years ago, *CL Weekly* shared this moving story of Darius Weems, who set out on a cross-country road trip with eleven of his best friends to raise money to find a cure for his muscular dystrophy. This week, Darius celebrated his 23rd birthday. To surprise him, Darius's fans and supporters catapulted his new song, "Thank You For 23" to #36 in the iTunes Hip Hop Charts, making him a rap star overnight.

Darius's song, "*Thank You For 23*" is available on iTunes.

Click through this *photo essay* on Facebook to follow the story and see Darius's reaction

And watch "*Darius Goes West*" for free on *SpiritClips.com*

"Despite his disease, Darius continues to remind us how much we can do no matter what our challenges may be. In the words of Edward Everett Hale, "I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do."

TEN: How the Commandments Can Change our Life



This book offers a fresh approach to the Ten Commandments and suggests habits associated with living them. The author develops them well, offers a role model for each one as well as some very practical suggestions. This book would assist any catechist who will be addressing the Ten Commandments with adults, youth or even children - it will be a great help in expanding their understanding and maybe even helping them to follow the ten more clearly. You can order [Ten](#)

[: How the Commandments Can Change Your Life.](#)

Here are the meaningful ideas she suggests are associated with each of the commandments.

I – Creating Priority

II – Seeking Intimacy

III – Spending Time

IV – Giving respect

V – Recognizing Dignity

VI – Maintaining integrity

VII – Living Gratitude

VIII – Upholding Honesty

IX – Promising Fidelity

X – Bestowing Generosity

St Kateri: Lily of the Mohawks

You can order ***St Kateri: Lily of the Mohawks*** so you can use it along with her actual canonization on October 21, 2012. This is a brand new book as another option to those that were previously cited in this electronic newsletter. As one priest said, “What a wonderful book on the Life of a great American Indian Saint! In the midst of a violent community, she maintains her innocence and her goodness and openness to the Gospel spread by the 'blackrobes' and, when she finally escapes from that situation, she spends the rest of her life in constant prayer and penance. So far the one and only Native American Saint. What an example!”

Praying for Our Adult Sons and Daughters: Placing Them in the Heart of God

John and Therese Boucher received one of our first New Wineskins awards for their evangelization effort using Christmas carols. Now they write a book that may be helpful to many parents with adult children. This book can be a source of hope for them. “Each chapter ends with a series of questions for reflection and introduces a “prayer skill” that will enable parents to persist in prayer and try new ways of praying for their adult sons and daughters.” You can order ***Praying for Our Adult Sons and Daughters: Placing Them in the Heart of God***. Their other books include *When You Notice the Empty Pews*, ***Making Friends With the Saints***, and ***Evangelizing Unchurched Children: A Pocketbook for Catechists***.

Pondering in Your Heart

The Year of Faith will emphasize the discipleship shown by the Virgin Mary, recognizing her as “Faith Personified.” Dr. Barbara Kay Bowie says, “Reading the headline, *Contemplate Scripture as Never Before*, I thought how can this story of Mary’s Visitation and John leaping in his mother’s womb be something I never contemplated during meditation in the past 51 years. What a surprise as the words and phrases of

the brief paragraph stood out for me so much that I began to reflect upon and to reread the Luke's Scripture. You can order the book at <http://www.vdpublishing.net/>.

A Schoolbag Full Of Love Makes A Difference

This is a "heartwarming" story that was shared by a parent. Once again it affirms the importance of how a parent can assist his/her child in resolving issues they are facing. I hope you find it inspiring.

My daughter, Emma (in 7th grade), started back to school last week. There is a young boy in her class (call him Jake) who is quite overweight. As you might expect he is the butt of many jokes and is treated very badly by other kids (and even by the teachers). Jake gives the impression that he's not a nice guy, mostly because of the fact that he's constantly picked on.

For several nights this week Emma came home from school upset about the fact that Jake gets picked on so much. She also mentioned that he had no school supplies as his family could not afford them. He was constantly asking to borrow paper, which just gives kids even more reason to pick on him.

One night Emma was extremely upset about this situation, not only because Jake was picked on but that he also had no supplies. We sat together that evening and discussed the situation in great detail. We devised a plan for Emma to engage Jake in a conversation and for her to ask Jake what he needed for supplies.

The next day Emma spent some time with Jake and really came to realize that this young man had a heart of gold, but rarely was able to show it because he was always on the defensive. Emma asked Jake if he needed supplies and if he could make a list for her for she would bring in extra supplies that she had at home for him. He put together a small list, 3 ring binders, paper, pens, pencils and a pencil sharpener. Emma told him she would help and he was most appreciative.

That evening Emma and I made a pilgrimage to the store where we bought everything on his list and then some! Emma mentioned that he needed a new pencil box for the one he had got destroyed when one of his pens exploded - so we added that to the list. When we got home, we put all the supplies into a brand new grey back pack - because Jake did not have a back pack either.

The next day, I brought the bag to the school principal and explained the situation. I asked the principal to give the bag to Jake discreetly so that he did not have to feel embarrassed.

Later that day I picked Emma after school and she was all smiles. The principal had called Jake down to his office and gave him the bag. Jake read the little note that Emma had put inside hoping that he had everything that he needed and to enjoy the supplies. As Jake walked into the classroom - he winked at Emma and later thanked her very much for all the stuff. He loved it all!

Emma said that it was so cute to see him take out his new pencil box and to start arranging his pencils and pens. He seemed very happy.

This was a great experience for my daughter but I can't tell you the joy it brought to me to see a young kid acting upon something that was truly bothersome to her. Blossoming kindness and the willingness to take action are wonderful things to see.

I encourage all the youth of this world to keep your hearts open and never be afraid to show random acts of kindness to those in need. No matter what your friends say. Act upon what's in your heart, you never know it may create a ripple effect for others to do the same!

As for Jake ... I saw him walking home yesterday with his new back pack. It was a good feeling to know we had made a difference in his life!

[Anchor Called Fat...Apology Follows](#)

October is Anti-Bullying Month and this is an example of taking a bad situation and turning it around. It's a powerful story and it's a good story to initiate a great family conversation. It is also a reminder of how we contribute to bullying by the comments we make. If interested you can read the whole story and watch the video at <http://thegrio.com/2012/10/05/anchor-called-fat-kenneth-krause-apologizes-to-jennifer-livingston-for-fat-shaming-her-says-he-was-obese-child/>.



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Survey: Does your RCIA go all year-round?

TeamRCIA will host a webinar on moving to a year-round catechumenate on **Thursday, October 25, 2012 at 11 a.m.** Pacific time.



Please take a moment to respond to [the questionnaire](#) because your input will help shape the discussion during the webinar.

Click the button to go to the survey.



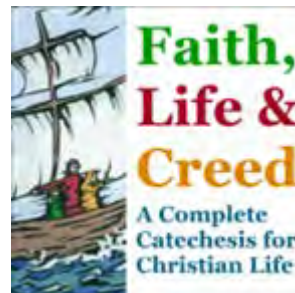
Kudos

"Thank you again for all your marvelous and creative efforts to support, form, and inform us in this blessed ministry. God's blessings with deep gratitude."

—Loretta Flom,
Arvada, Colorado

Free samples to explore:
Catechesis for adults and children

Adults



"We couldn't ask for a more complete resource. It has been a great help to our catechists. God bless."

Sharron Charlton
Our Lady of Peace Church,
Manhattan

[Get a free sample of](#)

Webinar: Develop a Year-Round RCIA process

Many of us have experienced telling an inquirer to "come back in September" because that's when RCIA starts. And, of course, they almost never do.

Many more of us have sat in empty meeting rooms waiting for the neophytes to show up for mystagogy.



And I'm sure a lot of us have celebrated sacraments with catechumens and candidates we knew in our hearts were

not yet ready.

What we'll talk about

In the next TeamRCIA webinar, we will look at how moving to a year-round catechumenate process can begin to solve these problems. Specifically, we will discuss:

- Why an ongoing, year-round catechumenate is important to your parish
- What we mean when we say "year-round"
- How to implement an ongoing, year-round process
- What the long-term implications are of moving to a year-round process

Please join us for this important webinar. It could change the way you lead the catechumenate.

Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012

Time: 2:00p to 3:00p Eastern Daylight Time / 11:00a to 12:00p Pacific Daylight Time

Presenters: Nick Wagner and Diana Macalintal

Registration:

\$15.00 for individual registration

\$37.50 total for your whole parish team of three or more people

[Individual Registration](#)

[Group \(3+\) Registration](#)

[Faith, Life, & Creed](#)

[Click here](#)

Children



"I just have to pass along a huge THANK YOU for Friends on the Way. I used Friends on the Way, and at the end of our gathering, one woman just looked at me and said 'WOW!' Hard to top that! Wonderful, wonderful program."

*Linda Buckley, Saint Anne,
Mother of Mary, Mexico,
New York*

[Get a free sample of
Friends on the Way](#)

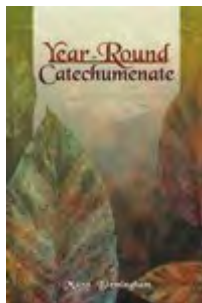
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RCIA Resources

Featured Resource

Year-Round Catechumenate

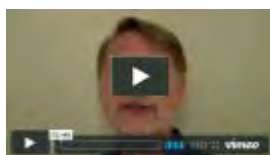
Mary Birmingham



With its helpful treatment of the rite as a whole and the community's role within it, *Year-Round Catechumenate* will help pastors, initiation teams, liturgy committees, and other ministers imagine, envision, understand, and implement a year-round catechumenate in the parish.

While that may sound overwhelming and unimaginable, Birmingham carefully explains how it is not only possible but also the best stewardship of the gifts and talents of initiation ministers. [Click for more info.](#)

Video review



To see an instant video review of *Year-Round Catechumenate*, [click here](#).

Price: ~~\$15.95~~ **\$15.15**

Add to Cart

10 Free Articles on the Rite of Acceptance

Here is some essential information for your and your team as you get ready to celebrate the Rite of Acceptance.

Please [forward this on to your colleagues](#) in neighboring parishes.



Seeking Christ *Parish Preview Pack* Paulist Evangelization Ministries

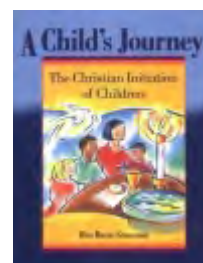
Seeking Christ is a set of precatechumenal resources to help orient inquirers to the Catholic Church. The Parish Preview Pack includes the

- *Seeking Christ* DVD
- Inquirer's Booklet
- Facilitator Guide

allowing parish leaders to review the materials and plan to use this resource in the parish. [Click for more info.](#)

Add to Cart

Price: ~~\$34.95~~ **\$33.20**



1. The presider and the Rite of Acceptance in the RCIA
2. What do you ask of God's church? The first question in the RCIA
3. Six signs of readiness for the Rite of Acceptance
4. The six deadly sins committed during the Rite of Acceptance
5. Singing the Rite of Acceptance
6. When to schedule the Rite of Acceptance
7. Jogging for Jesus: A reflection on the Rite of Acceptance
8. Rite of Acceptance in Easter?
9. Give your rites the mother test (part 2)
10. Give your rites the mother test (part 1)

To see these articles, click on the button below.



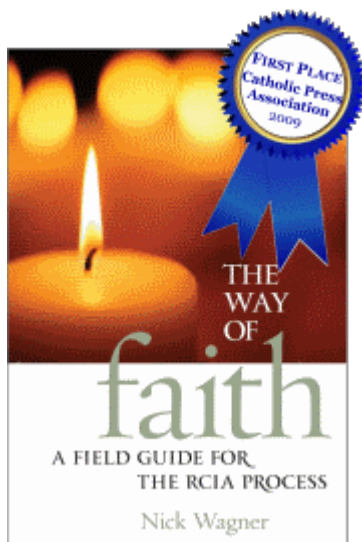
Team Training Resources

The Way of Faith: A Field Guide for the RCIA Process

Nick Wagner

You can gain 30 years of valuable experience in catechumenate ministry in the time it takes you to read this book.

Whether you are a veteran catechumenate minister or just starting out, *The Way of Faith: A Field Guide for the RCIA Process* provides you with reliable, practical guidance to help you start and sustain the catechumenate in your parish. [Click here for more information.](#)



"Your book makes sense of the Rite in ways that many

Christian Initiation of Children

Rita Burns Senseman

This book is written in a gentle, encouraging tone that gives the inexperienced RCIA catechist complete confidence to provide the best possible formation process for the child catechumens. If you are doing children's RCIA, you have to get this book. [Click for more info.](#)

Add to Cart

Price: ~~\$19.99~~ **\$18.99**



Apprenticed to Christ: Activities for Practicing the Catholic Way of Life

Jerry Galipeau

Inspired by the principle that one learns how to be a Christian by doing what Christians do, *Apprenticed to Christ* provides catechists with

other resources do not. I especially appreciate how you point back to the Rite itself to ground your thoughts and comments in that document and lead folks back to that primary source. Thanks for that gift!"

— Dr. Cheryl J. Fournier, Director of Evangelization, Adult Faith Formation, and Lay Ecclesial Ministry, Diocese of Des Moines

Add to Cart

Price: ~~\$16.95~~ **\$16.10**

ideas and resources for the "apprenticeship" of catechumens, candidates, and others participating in parish religious formation. [Click for more info.](#)

Add to Cart

Price: ~~\$16.95~~ **\$16.10**

If you enjoy this...



...then Share the Love.

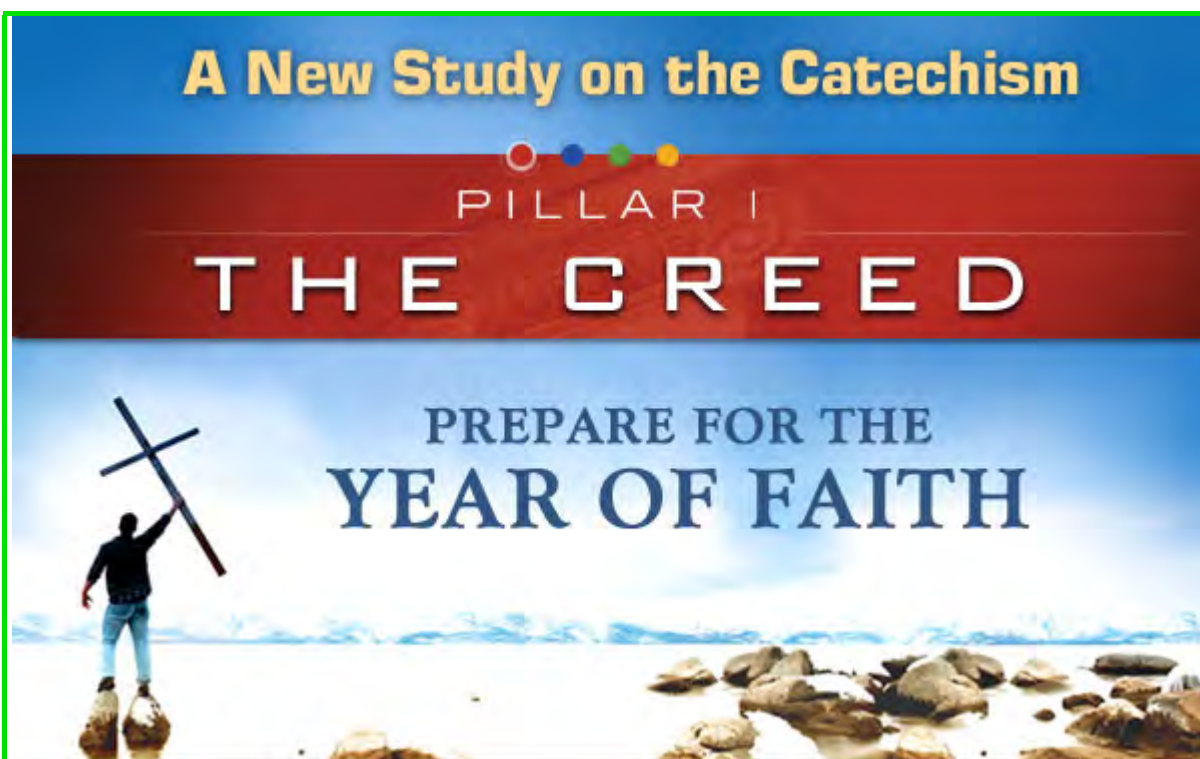
Please forward this newsletter to a colleague!

Contact TeamRCIA

[Nick Wagner](#)
[Diana Macalintal](#)

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"Toy Figure Holding A Green Tick" courtesy of Grant Cochrane
and "A 2012 Calendar" courtesy of Anusorn P nachol /
[FreeDigitalPhotos.net](#)



Celebrate the Year of Faith by taking an exciting journey through the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*! This special year is the perfect time to open up the riches of this amazing resource.



Review Risk-free!

Review Pack Includes:

- 6 DVD Set (12, 45-min. sessions)

Pillar I: The Creed is a 12-part study that guides you through the first of the four Pillars of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. This fascinating study explores how the teachings of the Church are intimately connected with the story of our Faith, and shows how we can personally enter this story.

Sign up to review the program risk-free and we'll send you the materials this October! [Learn more.](#)

"The Pillars program is excellent! The knowledge that I got... is tremendous. It really helped me deepen my faith. I will never say the Creed again in a mechanical way."

— **Pat Barriga**

- Study Set
- Leader's Binder

Available for pre-order. Materials will ship in October, 2012.

Click on the Player Below to Preview the Study:



"It was totally outstanding... In every lecture, he gave us insights that I don't think any of us had ever heard before about the Catechism... I thought that Sean was just an amazing presenter."

— Colleen Lum Lung

Review the Study Risk-Free!

If you would like to review *Pillar I: The Creed* risk-free [click here](#), or call **1-800-376-0520**.

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