

# Philosophy

The Elementary Catechesis Ministry of the Office of Religious Education recognizes, celebrates, and maintains as its focus the unique expression of God's presence in our children. In support of the gifts children bring to the world and specifically to the Catholic Church, the Elementary Catechesis team serves the Archdiocese by training and empowering those who are involved in catechetical ministry with children in grades one through six.

# Communication

Be informed! Stay informed!

The ORE sends out periodic e-mails with useful information on upcoming workshops and training events. Join our email list by sending a message to: [APacheco@la-archdiocese.org](mailto:APacheco@la-archdiocese.org)

We are here to serve you!

**On the lips of the catechist  
the first proclamation  
must ring out over  
and over:**

**“Jesus Christ loves you;  
he gave his life  
to save you;  
and now he is living  
at your side every day  
to enlighten, strengthen  
and free you.”**

*(Pope Francis, EG# 164)*

Contact information:

**Douglas E. Zuniga**

Coordinator of Elementary Catechesis

**Office of Religious Education  
3424 Wilshire Blvd, 4th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90010  
Phone: 213-637-7410  
Fax: 213-634-6574**



**DEZuniga@la-archdiocese.org  
<http://archla.org/elementary>**

**“Let the children  
Come  
to Me.”**

*Matthew 19:14*

# Elementary Catechesis Ministry

**Office of Religious Education  
Archdiocese of Los Angeles**



*TRANSFORMING  
LIVES  
TRANSFORMANDO  
VIDAS*



# Faith formation is a lifelong journey.

## development

The Archdiocesan Elementary Catechesis Ministry is here to help address the specific goals and needs of the elementary level catechetical community. In addition, we provide support and resources to Parish Catechetical Leaders, training and enrichment to catechists, as well as individual parish consultation.

### 1. Specialization

As part of the Catechist's certification process, we offer the Elementary Specialization phase where we teach skills specific to the elementary grades. All catechists are welcome whether pursuing certification or enrichment. Encourage your catechist's growth and skill development through our Specialization.

This is a 16-20 hour dynamic in-depth program that is interactive and exemplifies successful elementary techniques, pedagogies, and creative ideas!

- **Call to Ministry and Spirituality of the Catechist**
- **Stages of Development & Learning Styles**
- **Including Family in Your Ministry**

## workshops

Lively, participative, and filled with practical ideas for the elementary catechetical setting, our workshops are excellent resources for training. Regional teams formed by Master Catechists and experienced facilitators would lead workshops, retreats, and in-services to help train catechists and their aides who work with elementary-level children.

### 2. In-Services & Retreats

In addition to the annual Religious Education Congress held in Anaheim, various in-services are held throughout the year that provide further opportunities for catechist formation. Such in-services include:

- Catechists' Retreats
- ABC's for Beginning of the Year
- Publisher-Sponsored Workshops
- Regional Congresses
- Seasonal Workshops for Advent & Lent

- **Catholic Social Teaching**
- **Catechetical Methodology**
- **Behavior Management**
- **Children's Spirituality & Prayer**
- **Encourage and support!**

## resources

From textbooks to guidelines, to new catechetical paradigms, we are here to answer your questions on Elementary Catechesis.

Far from providing *just* information, we will provide you with current, real-life examples and contacts, where available, on our recommendations.

### 3. Supporting

Here are a few ways that we are here to support and encourage you in your ministry:

- List of evaluated Textbooks
- Archdiocesan Elementary Commission
- Elementary Resource Library
- Consultations
- Guidance for Resources

*And whoever receives one child such as this in my name receives me.*

*Matthew 18, 5*

**The ORE  
strives to be  
your best support!**