

Catechist

Description

As defined by Canons: A Catechist is a lay person authorized to prepare persons for Baptism, Confirmation, Reception, and the Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows, and shall function under the direction of the Member of the Clergy or other leader exercising oversight of the congregation or other community of faith.

Knowledge Base

- Contents and background of the Holy Scriptures
- Contents and history of the Book of Common Prayer (especially the Catechism)
- Church history (development of the early church, Anglican/Episcopal church history, general development of Christian theology and doctrine)
- Church doctrine as set forth in the creeds and "An Outline of the Faith," commonly called the catechism, with particular reference to baptism and communion
- A general knowledge of the canons, polity, structure, and decision-making processes in the Episcopal Church and Anglican Communion
- Major methods of catechesis

Competencies

- Plan Catechesis programming for different age spans
- Develop and lead formational offerings geared specifically for baptism and confirmation preparation

Formation

The Diocese of East Tennessee recognizes Bexley-Seabury's Pathways for Baptismal Living Faith Formation for Leaders Training as the source for forming licensed lay catechists.

Duration of License & Renewal

A licensed lay Catechist will be licensed for up to 3 years at a time. Before or immediately after 3 years has passed, the licensed lay Catechist should have had opportunities to practice their ministry; received review of curriculums prior to teaching; continued to develop their skill and spirituality; and should receive an assessment of their good standing.

At this time, a member of the clergy with oversight and responsibility for this ministry can recommend that their license be renewed or that they pursue other ministries within the church and give room for others to practice this ministry.