



## Billerica Catholic Religious Education

### Volunteer Title: High School Presenter (Catechist)

**Objective:** This is one of the most rewarding volunteer roles one can have in the Church today. You have a great share in the work of Billerica Catholic Religious Education, to communicate the good news of Jesus Christ to our teens.

**Description/Responsibilities:** “Catechist” is the Church’s name for a teacher of the faith - one who is in a leadership role to share and teach the faith to others. As the Presenter, you are a Catechist. You have the primary **responsibility for delivering the content** of the curriculum. You are not expected to supervise teens, manage attendance, or respond to behavior issues of the teens - those are the responsibility of the teens’ Small Group Leaders and the High School Coordinator.

The High School Coordinator, who will also be a Presenter, will work with the team of Presenters to decide how to best utilize the *Chosen* curriculum (from Ascension Press) with the teens, and what methods will be used for each plan prepared. This will be done in conjunction with the topic schedule, curriculum resources, and supplemental resources.

*Please familiarize yourself with the buildings in which you are serving.*

All Billerica Catholic Religious Education volunteers are expected to abide by the Archdiocesan Code of Conduct.

**Time Commitment:** Attend all sessions as scheduled to present. The Billerica Catholic Religious Education High School program will consist of scheduled sessions each year, and each Presenter will be asked to present 1 or more presentations per scheduled High School session. *Please make a point of arriving early, before each of the gathering sessions begin, in order to make last-minute preparations.* If an absence is necessary, the High School Coordinator must be contacted as soon as possible in order to make alternative arrangements within the team of Presenters.

*Presenters are expected to meet regularly (frequency varies by program) in order to plan the upcoming sessions. Additional trainings may also be scheduled.*

**Training & Support:** Training will be offered as necessary. Additional opportunities include Catechist Certification, Adult Faith Formation, and other opportunities, as they are available in our area.

**Supervision:** All High School Presenters report directly to the High School Coordinator.

*Please see reverse side for additional information...*

**Qualifications:** It is preferable that Presenters (Catechists) have completed, or are working to complete, an approved program toward Catechetical Certification. Multiple options are available and should be discussed with the Parish Staff.

Presenters need to have a basic understanding of Catholic teaching, Scripture, and Catholic Tradition; a desire to pursue honest and caring relationships with young people and the adult leaders; and effective techniques and strategies in working with young people. All Presenters are expected to be Catholics in good standing with the Church, including regular Mass attendance and reception of the Eucharist, having received the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation, and is an authentic witness to their Catholic faith.

All volunteers with Billerica Catholic Religious Education programs are expected to:

- have an annual CORI (background check) on file
- complete the *Protecting God's Children* (Virtus) program
- sign the Archdiocesan Code of Conduct

**Communication:** Primarily through e-mail

**A Presenter Has:**

- A desire to grow in and share faith with others
- A desire to witness and be a role model to teens and their parents
- An awareness of God's grace and the desire to respond to that grace
- A commitment to the church's liturgical and sacramental life and moral teachings
- Strength of character built on patience, responsibility, confidence, and creativity
- Recognition of the importance of being a living witness of the Church's moral teachings
- A generosity of spirit, a respect for diversity, and a habit of hospitality and inclusion

**Things To Keep In Mind Regarding Sessions:**

Please follow the curriculum and lesson plans as provided by the Coordinator, and as noted in the schedule. Sometimes, you may have difficulty covering all the material possible in a given session. We ask that you try to do your best. *Your witness of the faith is your greatest asset as a Presenter.*

Please use all of the time as best you can. Always share with the teens and the other volunteers the story of God's love for all of us, the gift of Jesus, the presence of the Holy Spirit, the importance of the Eucharist, the role of the church community, and our responsibility to live our faith in our daily lives. Encourage your teens to take ownership of the faith and to always want to learn more about our Catholic faith.