



Would you like
to feel more
fully supported
in your efforts
to help others
grow in faith?

Are you interested in
becoming *really* good
at sharing your faith
with family, friends,
and co-workers?

Franciscan International Guild of Catechists and Leaders

We joyfully invite you to . . .

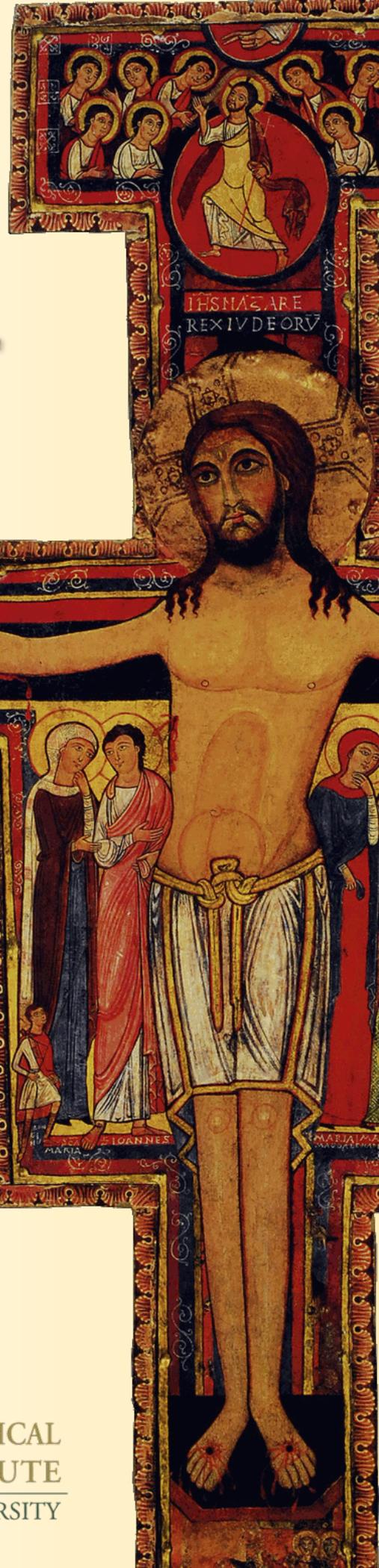
Join this newly-founded international Guild, anchored to Franciscan University's work and charism in the fields of evangelization and catechetics. It is a diverse and apprenticeship-oriented entity serving anyone who desires to learn how to effectively *pass on the faith to others.*

Our focus in this Guild is strong formation and relationships, so that people who sometimes feel isolated in being faithful to the Church would not remain unsupported and unaccompanied, and the faithful creativity we see arising in so many places can be fruitfully shared *under the grace and guidance of Mother Church.*

Yearning to grow or yearning to help others grow? This is for catechists and teachers in any role and leaders at any level who serve in the Church in the fields of evangelization and catechesis. Whether you are in the home, a parish, a school, or an apostolate, you can be a part of a faithful association that will meet you where you are, *and bring you closer to the Sacred Heart of the Good Shepherd!*

Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor
The love of Christ has gathered us into one

**CATECHETICAL
INSTITUTE**
FRANCISCAN UNIVERSITY



Franciscan International Guild of Catechists and Leaders

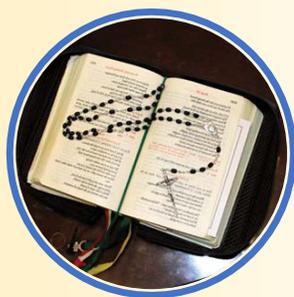
A guild is an association of people for mutual aid and the pursuit of a common goal, providing a way for skills to be learned and passed down in a context of apprenticeship and mentoring, with clearly defined and shared standards of craftsmanship, methods, and commitment to excellence.

This Franciscan International Guild of Catechists and Leaders is for catechists and teachers in any role and leaders at any level who serve in the Church in the fields of evangelization and catechesis.

Supporting the universal Church in her request for a gathering of energies for a new evangelization and pastoral mission, the Guild is an association of those who rejoice to share in the mission of transmitting the deposit of saving truths, and seek to practice this as a craft grounded in God's own pedagogy.

In this association we seek to . . .

- ✧ *Encourage the glad reception of the catechetical wisdom of the Church*, in her recent Magisterial teachings on evangelization and catechesis and in the retrieval of Biblical, liturgical and patristic sources to renew formation at the living sources of the faith, especially as these are brought together in the magnificent compendium of faith and pedagogy that is the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.
- ✧ *Offer pathways for individual and group mentorship, with Guild certification*, for an ongoing apprenticeship in this ecclesial understanding, providing a structured environment with clear avenues of formation for those in evangelizing and catechizing ministries at every level.
- ✧ *Provide an arena for a rich discussion and resourcing of the catechetical priorities identified by the Magisterium* to superintend this mission of evangelization, fostering a deep understanding of the Church's catechetical tradition for the sake of its vibrant application in each local church and situation.
- ✧ *Be a place of catechetical friendship and mutual support*, offering networks of local and international collaboration for overcoming isolation and fostering a culture of relationality in ministry. Guild members bring their questions and concerns for mutual discussion and study in a supportive environment for finding faithful and creative paths forward in ministry. Ministry and research groups, led by Guild members, allow for fruitful networking.



*The Guild
enables you to...*

- ✓ Grow from encountering the finest and most diverse **online ministry formation** ever created with over 170 workshops in English and Spanish.
- ✓ Participate in one of our many **Guild small group circles** on Magisterial documents, key books, best practices, and spiritual pathways.
- ✓ Discover the finest and oldest international quarterly catechetical journal available: **The Catechetical Review** is designed for anyone involved in faith formation and evangelization. All members of the Guild have free online access to downloadable reproducible articles in English and Spanish.
- ✓ Explore our **Catechetical Conversations series** with top professionals tackling challenging topics in dialogue and find exceptional **talks on a myriad of topics** from past conferences and other Franciscan series, including "The Best of..." series featuring collections of talks by our world-renowned Catechetics faculty. Seek helpful advice and a forum to meet others in our **online discussion boards** on pre-selected topics, and find out about the **latest news** in evangelization and catechetics.
- ✓ Look for **discounts** that we have arranged for Guild members from Franciscan University's conferences, parish missions, School of Spiritual Direction, and online or on-ground degree programs, as well as other collaborators in ministry.



*What are the key principles
that ground the Guild
in the heart of the Church
and guide its mission?*

Due to the reality of mission drift, it is important to anchor the Guild to principles that are not just set forth as hoped-for ideals by a loose association of individuals in a given moment, but exist currently in a *lived* institutional form, with a history of holding that ground, and creatively and boldly walking it out into the life of the Church.

Below are six core principles of the Guild, which guide organizational identity, prioritize methods of service, and define best practices:

1. **Catechetical subsidiarity in a spirit of solidarity** – to respect the primacy of the family and the need to support not supplant local sources of formation.
2. **Spiritual primacy within an integrated formation** – to ensure that formation for ministry emphasizes personal spiritual growth and witness of life, and does not give the impression that human skill and knowledge attainment can sufficiently prepare a person to pass on the faith.
3. **Faithful creativity** – to seek new ways forward in ministry in a collaborative not competitive manner, obedient to the graced channels of the Church’s hierarchy, and the guidance of the Spirit’s voice in the Magisterium and ministry of Peter, for the Church, with the Church.
4. **Sacrificial accompaniment within structures of continuity of care** – to foster and deepen the vocation to others *in situ*, knowing that the faith is most effectively passed on via pathways of familial trust, personal witness, vulnerable friendship, genuine sharing and reciprocal sacrifice, within the strength of a community.
5. **Radical affordability to support sustainable patterns of ministry** – to form others for ministry in a fiscally non-exclusive manner, with a spirit of generosity to provide the very best resources for the poorest institutions and individuals.
6. **Under mercy** – to depend upon grace elevating our nature for the work of ministry, all formation must foster sacramental encounter with the Father, through the Son, in Spirit to find authentic peace of soul, joy in trusting, and familial belonging.

Guild Patrons



St. John Bosco



St. Francis



Our Lady of Guadalupe



St. Matthew



Bl. Marie-Eugene

*What is a
Guild Circle?*

The Guild is a way of finding the people and the answers you need, offering creative ways to gather – to circle – to find supportive community. These circles are places to meet those who have the same enthusiasm for catechetical ministry, the same desire to grow, the same commitment to the Church’s Magisterial principles for the communication of the faith, places to make catechetical friendships and to share and receive ideas in ministry together. **Circles are small groups planned by the Guild leadership to focus on ways we have found most help people to rise towards excellence, whether it be in parenting, in priesthood, or any of the myriad paycheck and volunteer teaching and ministry roles.** By creating a context for apprenticeships and mentoring, Guild small group circles steep in Magisterial documents, key books, best practices, methodology studies, and spiritual pathways. The Guild arranges circles of spiritual associations among people who see passing on the faith as a vocation, to be integrated into their lives, not an add on – who see this as a major part of their vocational path. Guild circles are places for those people to fellowship, support one another, and to move into apprenticeship with others – for growing leaders, for growing oneself.

The Catechetical Institute can be reached at: 740-283-6754 📞 CI@franciscan.edu 📞 www.FranciscanAtHome.com/Guild

Franciscan University of Steubenville admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin, disability, age, and sex to all rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school as required by Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments.