



# **2015 DIRECTORY**

**UNITED STATES CONFERENCE  
OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
CERTIFICATION FOR ECCLESIAL  
MINISTRY AND SERVICE**

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## **Mission Statement**

The Subcommittee on Certification for Ecclesial Ministry and Service (USCCB Subcommittee) assists the bishops in establishing, reviewing and approving certification standards and procedures to be used on a voluntary basis by arch/dioceses and national organizations in the certification of specialized ecclesial ministers. It also offers consultative services aimed at improving the quality of lay ministry formation programs that are sponsored by arch/dioceses and by academic institutions.

## **Scope of Approval of Certification Standards and Procedures**

The USCCB Subcommittee approves certification standards and procedures for Catholic organizations to certify specialized ministers. Certifying organizations submitting certification standards and procedures to the USCCB Subcommittee may be arch/diocesan departments, national organizations of specialized ministers listed in The Official Catholic Directory, and organizations sponsored by state Catholic conferences. Organizations seeking approval from the USCCB Subcommittee shall provide documentation to indicate that certification standards, policies and procedures are in compliance with those listed in the current publication of the Certification Handbook for specialized ministries. Organizations with approved certification standards and procedures and those preparing to submit certification standards and procedures to the USCCB Subcommittee are listed in this directory.

The USCCB Subcommittee is governed by members of the Subcommittee. The members are appointed by the president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. The members and the staff for the USCCB Subcommittee are listed at the end of this directory. Staff is available for consultation.

**This USCCB Subcommittee Directory is posted on our website at [www.usccb.org/certification](http://www.usccb.org/certification).**

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## **Alliance of Organizations with Approved Certification Standards and Procedures for Certifying Ecclesial Ministers**

The Alliance for the Certification of Lay Ecclesial Ministers (“the Alliance”) seeks to affirm and promote lay ecclesial ministry in parishes and dioceses throughout the United States. In October 2011, the former Commission on Certification and Accreditation of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB/CCA) granted approval of the national certification standards and procedures for a period of seven years. For information about this collaborative certification process and procedures go to: <http://www.lemcertification.org/> or email [info@lemcertification.org](mailto:info@lemcertification.org)

The Alliance is comprised of the following five national Catholic ministry organizations working collaboratively to produce common standards for lay ecclesial ministry and to implement and promote the certification of lay ecclesial ministers:

### **Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions**

415 Michigan Avenue, NE, Suite 70  
Washington, DC 20017-4502  
Phone: 202-635-6990  
Fax: 202-529-2452  
E-mail: [rita@fdlc.org](mailto:rita@fdlc.org)  
Web: [www.fdlc.org](http://www.fdlc.org)



The FDLC was founded in 1969 to promote the liturgical renewal and to provide liturgical catechesis. It is a national organization composed primarily of members of diocesan liturgical commissions, worship offices, and/or equivalent diocesan structures. These diocesan personnel, appointed by their bishops, have responsibility for the promotion of the liturgical life of their dioceses. The FDLC serves as the official collaborating agent between local churches through these commissions and offices and the USCCB Committee on Divine Worship. As a pastoral and professional organization, the FDLC is committed to assisting the Catholic Church in the United States of America, its hierarchy, their staff, and their parishes.

All dues-paying dioceses in the USA are eligible for membership. In addition, the Federation has associate and industry memberships. Rita A. Thiron serves as the Executive Director.

## National Association for Lay Ministry

5401 S. Cornell, Room 210

Chicago, IL 60615

Phone: 202-291-4100

Fax: 202-291-8550

E-mail: [nalm@nalm.org](mailto:nalm@nalm.org)

Web: [www.nalm.org](http://www.nalm.org)



The National Association for Lay Ministry (NALM) has approved standards for the certification of coordinators of parish life, pastoral associates, and pastoral ministers. NALM is a professional organization that supports, educates, and advocates for lay ministers, and promotes the development of lay ministry in the church. NALM achieves its mission by providing leadership, voice, and vision for the ongoing development of lay ministry by collaborating with the National Association for Church Personnel Administrators, the National Conference for Catechetical Leadership, the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry, the National Organization for the Continuing Education of the Roman Catholic Clergy, and other national organizations. NALM fosters the professional development and spiritual formation of career and volunteer lay ministers with educational resources, publications, workshops, retreats, speakers, consultation services, and competency-based standards for pastoral ministers, pastoral associates, and parish life coordinators. NALM also provides practical services and resources that support lay ministers through national forums, annual conferences, chapters, and affiliates. In 2003, NALM collaborated with the National Conference for Catechetical Leadership and the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry in the approval and publication of the National Certification Standards for Lay Ecclesial Ministers. NALM's membership consists of men and women who are lay, religious, and ordained who serve the church primarily as pastoral ministers, pastoral associates, directors of ministry formation programs, parish life coordinators, and social ministers. NALM has over 1,200 members.

Officers of the board are Carol Walters, Chair; Tony Pichler, Vice Chair; Mark Erdosy, Secretary; and Kathy Barkdull, Treasurer. The Most Rev. John Wester, Bishop of Salt Lake City, Utah is the Episcopal Liaison. NALM does not currently have an Executive Director; current contact is the Chair of the Board, Carol Walters.

## National Conference for Catechetical Leadership

3031 Fourth Street NE – Suite B

Washington, DC 20017

Phone: 202-524-4628

Fax: 202-269-0209

E-mail: [office@nccl.org](mailto:office@nccl.org)

Web: [www.nccl.org](http://www.nccl.org)



The National Conference for Catechetical Leadership (NCCL) has approved standards for the certification of catechetical leaders. NCCL is a member association of 2,300 diocesan, parish, academic, and publishing catechetical leaders dedicated to advancing excellence in catechesis. Professional and associate membership is open to those who meet the appropriate membership criteria and are interested in supporting the mission of the organization. To carry out its mission,

NCCL provides resources, national conferences, professional development, information, networking, research, and advocacy for its members and others engaged in catechetical ministry. NCCL members gather on a regular basis in the geographical provinces that make up the Latin and Eastern components of the church. Elected representatives from provinces and affiliated organizations compose the representative council, which along with the board of directors makes up the organization's major governance structures. NCCL grew out of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine movement in the 1930s when diocesan Confraternity for Catholic Doctrine directors first began to meet. NCCL became a separately incorporated organization in 1967. In 2003, NCCL collaborated with the National Association for Lay Ministry and the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry in the approval and publication of the National Certification Standards for Lay Ecclesial Ministers.

The NCCL Officers are William Miller, Cleveland, Ohio, President; Mary Jo Waggoner, San Diego, California, Vice-President; Linda Stryker, Omaha, Nebraska, Secretary; Joanie McKeown, Grantsburg, Wisconsin, Treasurer. The Most Rev. Christopher J. Coyne, Bishop of Burlington, VT, is the Episcopal Advisor. Margaret Matijasevic is the Executive Director.

### **National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry, Inc.**

**415 Michigan Avenue, N.E., Suite 40**  
**Washington, DC 20017-1518**  
**Phone: 202-636-3825**  
**Fax: 202-526-7544**  
**Email: [bobm@nfcym.org](mailto:bobm@nfcym.org)**  
**Web: [www.nfcym.org](http://www.nfcym.org)**



The National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry, Inc. (NFCYM) has approved standards for the certification of youth ministry leaders. NFCYM was founded in 1982 to replace and expand upon the services of the National Catholic Youth Organization and most youth services of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Through a diocesan, regional, and national network encompassing the United States and its territories, the federation provides leadership, resources, programs, and networking to foster the ongoing development of ministry to, with, by, and for youth. The federation comprises 175 affiliated dioceses and 70 collaborating organizations from around the country, all ministering to youth as expressed in *A Vision of Youth Ministry* (1976) and *Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry* (1997). In 2003, NFCYM collaborated with the National Association for Lay Ministry and the National Conference for Catechetical Leadership in the approval and publication of the National Certification Standards for Lay Ecclesial Ministers. The National Association of Pastoral Musicians adopted this framework in 2006 and the Federation for Diocesan Liturgical Commission signed on in 2009.

Officers of the board are Joe Perdreauxville, Diocese of Tucson, Chair; Kay Scoville, Archdiocese of Indianapolis, First Vice- Chair, Brigitte Burke, Archdiocese of New Orleans, Second Vice-Chair and Brian Johnson, Archdiocese of Galveston - Houston, Secretary/Treasurer. The Most Rev. Frank Caggiano, Diocese of Bridgeport is the Episcopal Advisor. Robert J. McCarty is the Executive Director.

## National Association of Pastoral Musicians

962 Wayne Ave., Suite 210  
Silver Spring, MD 20910-4461

Phone: 240-247-3000

Fax: 240-247-3001

Email: [npmsing@npm.org](mailto:npmsing@npm.org)

Web: [www.npm.org](http://www.npm.org)



National  
Association  
of Pastoral  
Musicians

The National Association of Pastoral Musicians (NPM) has approved standards and procedures to certify directors of music ministries. NPM is a membership organization composed primarily of musicians, musician-liturgists, clergy, and other leaders of prayer. NPM is devoted to serving the life and mission of the church by fostering the art of musical liturgy in Catholic worshiping communities. The association offers a wide range of programs and services for its members and the pastoral music and liturgy community: a bimonthly magazine, *Pastoral Music*; a bimonthly newsletter, *Pastoral Music Notebook*, national and regional conventions, diverse institutes offering participants short-term intensive professional development experiences; a hotline position-referral service; 72 diocesan chapters throughout the United States and Canada; support networks for distinct practice areas within the pastoral music community; and generous scholarships to assist with financing education and formation for deserving pastoral musicians.

Officers are Ms. Anne Ketzer, Chair; Dr. Jennifer Pascual; Rev. Anthony Ruff, OSB; Dr. Lynn Trapp; Gordon E. Truitt, ex officio; and Ms. Lena Gokelman. Dr. Kathleen DeJardin is Chair of the National Certification Committee. Rev. Msgr. Richard B. Hilgartner is the president of NPM.



## **National Organizations with Approved Certification Standards and Procedures for Certifying Ecclesial Ministers**

The USCCB Subcommittee has approved the certification standards and procedures of the following professional organizations for specialized ministries.

### **American Catholic Correctional Chaplains Association**

**Christine Shimrock, ACCCA President**  
c/o Archdiocese of Cincinnati  
100 E. Eighth Street  
Cincinnati, OH 45202  
**Phone:** 513-706-1177  
**E-mail:** [PresidentACCCA@gmail.com](mailto:PresidentACCCA@gmail.com)  
**Web:** [www.catholiccorrectionalchaplains.org](http://www.catholiccorrectionalchaplains.org)



The American Catholic Correctional Chaplains Association (ACCCA) has approved standards and procedures to certify correctional chaplains. ACCCA endeavors to influence the corrections and criminal justice system, to develop spirituality within inmates, and to influence the consciences of corrections administrators. Members are a source of communication and support to each other, and share methods of spirituality, training, and ministry programs. National meetings are held in the summer and winter. Meetings in the six regions may be held at any time. The ACCCA has 100 members.

Officers of the ACCCA Board: Christine Shimrock (President); Deacon John Tomandl (Vice President); Sister Sheila Richardson (Secretary); Father Richard DeShaies (Treasurer); Father Anthony Bruno (ad-hoc); Paul Rogers (Past President). The Most Reverend Barry C. Knestout, Auxiliary Bishop of Washington, DC, is the Episcopal Advisor.

### **Catholic Campus Ministry Association**

c/o Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church  
330 W. Vine Street  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45215  
**Phone:** 513.842.0167  
**Fax:** 513.842.0171  
**E-mail:** [info@ccmanet.org](mailto:info@ccmanet.org)  
**Web:** [www.ccmanet.org](http://www.ccmanet.org)



The Catholic Campus Ministry Association (CCMA) is a professional campus ministry organization whose mission is to be the voice and promote the mission of the Church among students in higher education by empowering campus ministers through formation, networking and resources. CCMA carries out this mission through educational and networking opportunities at conventions, conferences and special workshops, through its campus ministry directory publication, and website resources. CCMA has approved standards and procedures to certify campus ministers. Full membership is designed for those currently serving the Church in campus ministry. Associate

memberships are available for those interested in supporting this ministry. CCMA hosts its National Convention biennially and its Development Institute annually. CCMA has more than 1,000 members.

Officers of the Executive Board are Laurie Svatek, Chair; Lianni Castro, Treasurer.. Vinci Paterson serves as the Chair of the CCMA Certification Committee.

## **National Association of Catholic Chaplains**

**4915 S. Howell Avenue, Suite 501  
Milwaukee, WI 53207-5939  
Phone: 414-483-4898 Ext. 301  
Fax: 414-483-6712  
E-mail: [info@nacc.org](mailto:info@nacc.org)  
Web: [www.nacc.org](http://www.nacc.org)**



The National Association of Catholic Chaplains advocates for the profession of spiritual care and educates, certifies, and supports chaplains, clinical pastoral educators, and all members who continue the healing ministry of Jesus in the name of the Church. Membership categories include full member, certified chaplain, certified supervisor, professional affiliate, and student affiliate. The NACC has 2,500 members.

Leadership includes Mary Lou O’Gorman, M.Div., BCC, Chair of the Board; Most Reverend Bishop Donald J. Hying, Bishop of Gary, Indiana, Episcopal Liaison; and David A. Lichter, D.Min, Executive Director.

## **National Conference of Veterans Affairs Catholic Chaplains**

**Rev. Martin D. Smith-Soucier  
3200 Vine Street  
Cincinnati, OH 45239  
Phone: 513-475-6871  
Fax: 513-475-6671  
Email: [martin.smith-soucier@va.gov](mailto:martin.smith-soucier@va.gov)  
Web: [www.ncvacc.net](http://www.ncvacc.net)**



The National Conference of Veterans Affairs Catholic Chaplains (NCVACC) has approved standards and procedures to certify veteran chaplains. NCVACC provides mutual support for members working in the VA Chaplain Service, a forum for the study and development of all phases of VA pastoral care. Any VA Catholic chaplain is eligible for membership. The NCVACC also serves as a corporate body for contact and communication with the national Episcopal advisor and archbishop for the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA.

Certification of members requires the following: the successful completion of two units of Clinical Pastoral Education with comprehensive evaluation by a certified CPE supervisor from an accredited program; a written statement identifying the candidate's theology of team ministry, sacramental ministry, and ecumenism; evidence of updated theological training, such as seminars, diocesan

workshops, and other education programs; adherence to a code of ethics that would protect confidentiality; compliance with government regulations regarding discrimination and equity; and compliance with guidelines to ensure ethical practice by professional staff and candidates. Renewal of certification takes place every five years. Meetings for members are usually held annually. The NCVACC has 86 members.

Officers are Rev. Martin D. Smith-Soucier, President; Rev. Randall Roberts, Vice President; Rev. Joseph Westfall, Treasurer; Rev. Patrick Adejoh, Secretary. Members at Large: Rev. Marcellinus Uwandu, Rev. Peter Francis and Rev. Benjamin Chinnappan. The Most Rev. Richard B. Higgins, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA, is the Episcopal Vicar for Veterans Affairs.

## Arch/Diocesan Offices with Approved Certification

### Standards and Procedures for Certifying Ecclesial Ministers

#### ILLINOIS

##### **Office for Catechesis and Youth Ministry** *Archdiocese of Chicago*

3525 S. Lake Park Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60653

Phone: 312-534-3700

Fax: 312-534-3801

Email: [OFC@archchicago.org](mailto:OFC@archchicago.org) or  
[msedano@archchicago.org](mailto:msedano@archchicago.org)

Web: [www.archchicago.org](http://www.archchicago.org) and [www.catechesis-chicago.org](http://www.catechesis-chicago.org)



The Office for Catechesis and Youth Ministry (OFCYM) has achieved approval of certification standards and procedures for catechetical leaders serving as directors of religious education, parish and Catholic school coordinators of religious education and parish and Catholic school coordinators of youth ministry. The OFCYM also collaborates with the Office for Lay Ecclesial Ministry responsible for the certification of Pastoral Associates. It is the hope of the OFCYM that by the approval of its certification standards and procedures by the USCCB Subcommittee on Certification for Ecclesial Ministry and Service, the quality of ministry of these catechetical leaders who are devoted to serving the life and mission of the Church in the Archdiocese of Chicago will be enhanced. Ms. Maria H. Sedano is the Director of the Office for Catechesis and Youth Ministry.

#### OHIO

##### **Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry** *Archdiocese of Cincinnati*

100 East Eighth Street  
Cincinnati, OH 45202-2150

Phone: 513-421-3131 ext. 330

Fax: 513-421-6271

Email: [sreynolds@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:sreynolds@catholiccincinnati.org)

Web: [www.catholiccincinnati.org/youthmin](http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/youthmin)



The Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry has approved standards and procedures to certify youth ministry leaders and advanced youth ministry leaders in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. Mission: The Office of Youth & young Adult Ministry assists parents and leaders of our parish and school faith communities in developing youth and young adults into followers of Christ who live their Catholic faith as a comprehensive way of life. In pursuit of this mission, the Office trains and certifies lay ecclesial ministers serving as youth ministry leaders. Sean Reynolds, D.Min., is the Director of the office and oversees the certification process.

## MICHIGAN

### **Ministerial Certification, Office of Evangelization & Catechesis** *Archdiocese of Detroit*

305 Michigan Avenue  
Detroit, MI 48226-2605  
Phone: 313-596-7312  
Fax: 313-237-5867  
Email: [calvin.sean@aod.org](mailto:calvin.sean@aod.org)  
Web: [www.aod.org/certification](http://www.aod.org/certification)



The Ministerial Certification arm of the Office of Evangelization & Catechesis is responsible for the professional development and leadership of directors of religious formation/parish catechetical leaders, RCIA coordinators, youth ministers, Christian service coordinators, and liturgical music ministers. The Office grants certification to those who extend the above ministries in parishes and who meet the eligibility requirements of the archdiocese and the USCCB Subcommittee on Certification for Ecclesial Ministry and Service -approved standards and procedures. The Office works closely with the Institute for Ministry at Sacred Heart Major Seminary to provide academic courses and degree programs to prepare catechetical leaders, in addition to providing ministerial core topics focused on individual areas of ministerial certification as listed. Sean Calvin is the Associate Director of Ministerial Certification. Bishop Arturo Cepeda is the Director of the Department of Evangelization, Catechesis, & Schools.

### **Office of Catechesis** *Roman Catholic Diocese of Lansing*

300 West Ottawa Street  
Lansing, MI 48933-1577  
Phone: 517-342-2479  
Fax: 517-342-2515  
E-mail: [mandrews@dioceseoflansing.org](mailto:mandrews@dioceseoflansing.org)  
Web: [http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/Education\\_Catechesis](http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/Education_Catechesis)



The Office of Catechesis has approved standards and procedures to certify parish catechetical leaders. The office collaborates with the Office for Lay Ecclesial Ministry and the Office of Youth Ministry to ensure consistency of a unified certification processes. The office serves parishes and parish catechetical leaders in their ministry of providing effective faith formation programs for adults, teens, and children. The office also promotes the professional development of religious education, directors of adult education, RCIA directors and other catechetical leaders who provide direction for parish adult education/faith formation programs, parish religious education programs, and Catholic schools. This process includes a detailed orientation to ministry, mentoring by veteran catechetical program leaders, and the promotion of spiritual and academic formation for catechetical ministry leaders. This formation process is based on the National Certification Standards for Lay Ecclesial Ministers.



**Office of Youth Ministry, Young Adult and Campus Ministry**  
***Diocese of Lansing***

**300 West Ottawa Street**

**Lansing, MI 48933-1530**

**Phone:** 517-342-2485

**Fax:** 517-342-2515

**Email:** [prinker@dioceseoflansing.org](mailto:prinker@dioceseoflansing.org)

**Web:** [www.dioceseoflansing.org](http://www.dioceseoflansing.org)

The Office of Youth Ministry has approved standards and procedures to certify coordinators of youth ministry. The office collaborated with the Office of Catechesis and the Office for Lay Ecclesial Ministry to ensure consistency of a unified certification process. The mission of the office is to provide leadership training and formation for youth ministry leaders, especially coordinators of youth ministry. This formation process is based on the National Certification Standards for Lay Ecclesial Ministers. The office is committed to providing formation, so that youth will be served by competent ministers who are prepared to serve the varied needs of our youth and to minister to and with them. Patrick Rinker is the Director of the Office of Youth Ministry.

**Office for Lay Ecclesial Ministry**  
***Diocese of Lansing***

**228 N. Walnut Street**

**Lansing, MI 48933-1530**

**Phone:** 517-342-2512

**Fax:** 517-342-2468

**E-mail:** [damato@dioceseoflansing.org](mailto:damato@dioceseoflansing.org)

**Web:** [www.dioceseoflansing.org](http://www.dioceseoflansing.org)

The Diocese of Lansing through the Office for Lay Ecclesial Ministry provides certification for Pastoral Associates/Ministers, Catechetical Leaders, Youth Ministers, and Pastoral Coordinators. In collaboration with the Offices of Catechesis and Youth Ministry, a consistent, unified process is provided. Although all are called by virtue of baptism to share in the saving mission of Jesus Christ, some are also called to serve in ecclesial leadership. The office of Lay Ecclesial Ministry provides various formation opportunities which include pastoral and theological study, spiritual direction and reflection, development of pastoral skills, and processes to facilitate integration of the various formation components. The office also provides ongoing formation and professional development for lay ecclesial ministers serving in a variety of ministries. Deborah Amato is Director of the office and oversees the certification process.

## TEXAS

### Office of Evangelization and Catechesis *Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston*

2403 Holcombe Boulevard  
Houston, TX 77021

Phone: 713-741-8796

Fax: 713-741-8775

E-mail: [jblevins@archgh.org](mailto:jblevins@archgh.org)

Web: <https://www.archgh.org/oec/>



The Office of Continuing Christian Education has received initial approval of their certification standards and procedures to certify Parish Catechetical Leaders. Those leaders who have completed Basic Formation for Catechetical Leadership/Formación Básica para Liderazgo Catequético or an equivalent, have practical experience in catechetical leadership, and have full Catechist Certification or its equivalent, are candidates for this certification. Those called to this ministry who desire continuing formation in a program designed specifically for professional Parish Catechetical Leaders are strongly encouraged to attend the archdiocesan Catechetical Leadership Institute. This Institute consists of two years of formation within which participants develop the following: an understanding of the code of ethics for professional catechetical ministers; the necessary skills to minister in an inclusive, intercultural church and diocese; knowledge of how to apply catechetical leadership skills through an active process which includes prayer, reflection, fellowship, and networking with other catechetical leaders; the experience of being mentored; and participation in a practicum process each year. The Archdiocese is committed to the formation of catechetical leaders and is responding to a two-fold call: a national call for competent parish catechetical leaders and a local call from the catechetical leaders to be recognized through meeting national standards and all certification requirements of the archdiocese.

Julie Blevins is the Director of the Office of Evangelization and Catechesis. Gerardo Salazar is the Associate Director responsible for formation programs for Parish Catechetical Leaders in Galveston-Houston's Spanish speaking community and Deborah Jones is responsible for formation programs in the English speaking communities. She also oversees the certification process of parish catechetical leaders.

**Office of Adolescent Catechesis and Evangelization  
Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston**

**2403 Holcombe Boulevard  
Houston, TX 77021-2023  
Phone: 713-741-8723  
Fax: 713-741-8775  
Email: [bjohnson@archgh.org](mailto:bjohnson@archgh.org)  
Web: [www.archgh.org](http://www.archgh.org)**



The Office of Adolescent Catechesis and Evangelization, formerly the Office of Youth Ministry, department is rooted in Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit through Sacred Scripture and Tradition. This ministry cultivates a comprehensive Catholic youth ministry to, with, by and for adolescents within the context of lifelong faith formation in collaboration with parishes and archdiocesan offices. Initial approval of certification standards and procedures to certify youth ministry leaders occurred in 2005.

Youth ministry leaders are devoted to serving the life and mission of the church through ministry to adolescents and are committed to growth in discipleship and service. As stated in the National Certification Standards for Lay Ecclesial Ministers, certification serves three goals: to give direction to the future of youth ministry, to recognize and affirm those persons already in ministry, and to promote faithful, competent, and accountable lay ecclesial ministry. The office offers formation and support of leadership for comprehensive youth ministry as articulated in *Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry*. The formation process, rooted in Catholic tradition, focuses on the specialized training of knowledge and skills for meeting the needs of all youth and for recruiting, training, and supervising volunteers. Brian Johnson is the Director of the department. Norma Torok is Associate Director responsible for formation programs for youth ministry leaders in Galveston-Houston's Spanish and English speaking communities. She also oversees the certification process of those leaders.

## **Arch/Diocesan Offices Preparing for Approval of Certification Standards and Procedures**

### **MASSACHUSETTS**

#### **Office of Religious Education *Diocese of Worcester***

49 Elm Street  
Worcester, MA 01609-2514  
Phone: 508-929-4306  
Fax: 508-753-7180  
Email: [emarcil@worcesterdiocese.org](mailto:emarcil@worcesterdiocese.org)  
Web: [www.worcesterdiocese.org](http://www.worcesterdiocese.org)

The Office of Religious Education is seeking initial approval for certification standards and procedures for parish DRE's, CRE's, and ARE's and is committed to the recognition and professional development of parish catechetical leaders. The office worked closely with Anna Maria College, Paxton, MA in the development of its MA in Pastoral Ministry and continues to partner with the college. The office partners with the University of Dayton VLCFF program and also offers courses on the local level to encourage the certification of ARE's and CRE's. Ms. Elizabeth A. Marcil is the Director of the Office of Religious Education and oversees the standards and procedures for the certification of Parish Catechetical Leaders in the Diocese of Worcester. Ms. Barbara Ramian, Associate Director of the Office of Religious Education administers the process.

## 2014 Subcommittee Members

**Chair: Most Reverend John M. Quinn**

***Bishop of Winona***

55 W. Sanborn Street

P.O. Box 558

Winona, MN 55987

Phone: 507-858-1242

E-mail: [jmquinn@dow.org](mailto:jmquinn@dow.org)

**Members: Most Reverend Earl A. Boyea**

***Bishop of the Diocese of Lansing***

228 N. Walnut St.

Lansing, MI 48993

Phone: 517-342-2452

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