

Office of Catechetical Leadership, Youth and Young Adult Ministry Formation
Anthony C. Marchica, Director • Diocese of Palm Beach
Online Adult Confirmation Preparation
 Course Goals and Objectives

Course Title	Description, Goals, and Objectives
Introduction to the Bible	<p>Course Description: This course is designed to introduce learners to the Bible and help them understand, love, live by Scripture. It will help participants understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meaning of inspiration, historical development, and literary criticism • The primary themes and basic concepts in Scripture, including covenant, kingdom, creation, salvation, and conversion • The scriptural foundations for Catholic moral teaching, conscience formation, and decision-making • The use of Scripture in theological reflection • God's revelation in Creation, the person of Jesus, and lived experience • Jesus' life, mission, death, and Resurrection <p>Course Requirements: Complete the four online tutorials and submit the completed corresponding course materials to the Searchlight Virtual School.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A Popular Guide to Reading the Bible</i> by Macrina Scott, O.S.F. • <i>The Whole Bible at a Glance: Its Golden Thread of Meaning</i> by Virginia Smith • <i>Finding the Heart of Jesus' Life: Looking at Jesus in the Gospels</i> by Kenneth R. Overberg, S.J. • <i>The Beatitudes: Finding Where Your Treasure Is</i> by Leonard Foley, O.F.M.
Christology	<p>Course Description: This course is designed to help participants develop the skills required to proclaim Christ in today's world. It will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring individuals to a clear knowledge of Jesus Christ as true God and true man • Clarify the Church's teachings about the nature and life of Jesus Christ • Help bring individuals into a personal relationship with the living Christ • Help seekers understand why Jesus is the example and guide for their lives • Help them worship the living God through Christ and in the Spirit <p>Course Requirements: Complete the two online tutorials and submit the completed corresponding course materials to the Searchlight Virtual School.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Who is Jesus?</i> by Leonard Foley, O.F.M. • <i>The Four Faces of Jesus</i> by Virginia Smith

Course Title	Description, Goals, and Objectives
Ecclesiology	<p>Course Description: This course presents a theological study of the Church with a particular focus on building the Kingdom of God. It follows the vision of the Second Vatican Council in explaining the nature and identity of the Church. It will help participants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Answer the call to build the Kingdom of God in specific ways of life and activity • Understand what is meant by “disciple of Christ” • Understand the Church's evangelizing activity in the world: to transform human society in the light of the Gospel • Understand the role of Mary in the life of the Church <p>Course Requirements: Complete the two online tutorials and submit the completed corresponding course materials to the Searchlight Virtual School.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What is the Kingdom of God: A Theologian Explains the Key Image of the Gospel</i> by Richard P. McBrien • <i>Mary of Nazareth: Jesus’ Mother, Our Mother</i> by Alfred McBride, O. Praem
History of the Church	<p>Course Description: The history of the Church is the story of faith handed on, of how fallible human people have struggled to live out the Gospel in the very concrete circumstances of their lives for two thousand years. This course will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a brief overview of ten of the most important periods or events in the history of Christianity <p>Course Requirements: Complete the online tutorial and submit the completed corresponding course materials to the Searchlight Virtual School.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ten ‘Peak Moments’ of Church History: From Pentecost to Vatican II</i> by Alfred McBride, O. Praem.
Liturgy and Sacraments	<p>Course Description: This course is an introduction to the history, theology, and pastoral practice of the Church's liturgy and her sacraments. It will help participants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realize how the liturgy is understood as the work of the Church and the work of God • Examine the sacraments as visible signs • Understand how and why the sacraments confer the gift of grace • Clarify the meaning of "the institution of the sacraments by Christ" • Examine a brief history of the early development of each of the seven sacraments • Grasp the importance of Baptism as the sacramental action of the Church that makes us Christian and Catholic • Understand the role of sacramentals in the Church's liturgical life <p>Course Requirements: Complete the three online tutorials and submit the completed corresponding course materials to the Searchlight Virtual School.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Liturgy: The Church’s Work of Praising God</i> by Carol Lumbering • <i>The Sacraments: Symbols of God’s Care</i> by Sandra DeGidio, O.S.M. • <i>The Sacramentals: Embracing God Through Creation</i> by Joanne Turpin

Course Title	Description, Goals, and Objectives
Morality	<p>Course Description: This course emphasizes that the Christian moral life begins with the experience that we are loved by God in an unimaginable, unfathomable way and that living faithfully is our attempt to respond to the gift of that love. This course will help participants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the meaning of Christian morality • Explain why morally good choices lead to true human fulfillment • Examine and explain what the true human goods are and why they lead to human fulfillment in this life and in the next • Clarify what is meant by "loving others" • Realize and embrace the Christian's moral responsibility to take an active role in the work of establishing the reign of God • Examine the Ten Commandments as a guide for human fulfillment and happiness • Understand salvation as the work of a loving God <p>Course Requirements: Complete the four online tutorials and submit the completed corresponding course materials to the Searchlight Virtual School.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Discerning the Voice of the Good Shepherd: Part 1 - Principles of Morality - Toward True Human Fulfillment</i> -- Based on <i>The Way of the Lord Jesus</i> (Volume 1) Christian Moral Principles by Germain Grisez • <i>Discerning the Voice of the Good Shepherd: Part 2 - Modes of Responsibility and Modes of Christian Response</i> -- Based on <i>The Way of the Lord Jesus</i> (Volume 1) Christian Moral Principles by Germain Grisez • <i>The Ten Commandments: Sounds of Love From Sinai</i> by Alfred McBride, O. Praem. • <i>Who Will Be Saved? What Catholics Believe About Salvation</i> by Thomas Richstatter, O.F.M.