**Mission & Goals**

**Mission:**
To inspire, animate and form a new generation of catechists who are committed to teaching the Good News in schools, parishes, and churches.

**Goal:**
To prepare UD students to become outstanding catechists (religion teachers) and catechetical leaders in Catholic Schools and parishes. Students encounter regional and national leaders and move toward basic certification in religious education.

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**Welcome to the Forum!**

Learn the foundations and skills required to teach Religion and Faith Formation receive 1 credit, per semester, through the University of Dayton.

- Discover new ways to deepen your faith experience
- Become aware of Church Catechetical guidelines
- Engage in great conversation with Catechists
- Learn, Lead and Serve in local Parishes and Schools.

The Forum is a program which spans 4 Semesters, 2 Semesters in class (4 Saturdays a semester), 2 Semesters in Praxis (working with a parish or school) to be accomplished over 2 academic years.

Sponsored by: The Institute for Pastoral Initiatives, the Department of Religious Studies (the College of Arts and Science), and the Center for Catholic Education (the College of Education and Health Services).

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**What’s Being Said About the Forum?**

“The Forum challenged me to be detailed and creative in my lessons and gave me resources so I can be an engaging and well-informed teacher. I was given the opportunity to brainstorm with other students so we could grow together in becoming true ministers in our classrooms. I truly believe the Forum has prepared me to be a teacher who allows the Spirit to work in my classroom while also challenging my students academically.”

-Abbey Saurine

“Filling the soul with messages of faith, hope and love is what the Forum provides now and in the future of our Church. Meeting and sharing our faith with so many young committed adults provides the path to growing Christ’s message in our local community and around the world. Building a community of love for each other with those who are seeking the Spirit, reminds us that we all belong to the Father. In a world where hope can be illusive, the Forum gives witness to a future of an abundance of grace.”

-Susan Ferguson Director of the Center for Catholic Education