



Archdiocese of Winnipeg

Office of the Archbishop

1495 Pembina Highway, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 2C6 • Tel: 204-452-2227 • Fax: 204-475-4409 • Web: www.archwinnipeg.ca

February 8, 2017

Dear Pastors/Administrators,

I write to you with regard to the Western Conference for the Catechumenate to be held in Winnipeg on June 9-10, 2017, at Mary Mother of the Church Parish in Winnipeg. The hosting of this conference is a collaboration between the Archdioceses of Winnipeg and St. Boniface and is connected to the Western Conference for Liturgy. Archbishop Gérard Pettipas is the current liaison to the Western Bishops.

The speakers involved are Nick Wagner and Diana Macalintal, directors and founders of Team RCIA in San Jose, California. They have presented numerous times in Saskatoon, Calgary and Edmonton and are endorsed by the Diocese of San Jose.

I am confident that participants, particularly the pastors, faith formation coordinators, RCIA team members, catechists and parishioners who attend this conference will gain great insight into how the RCIA can be developed in such a way that forms missionary disciples – a key theme of our Synod. A successful RCIA process has the capacity to engage the whole parish community in the formation of candidates. A description of the conference is attached. For inquiry contact Judith Vasquez at 204-452-2227 extension 243 or at catechetics@archwinnipeg.ca

I support and encourage the pastors to attend and to send key parishioners from your parish, according to your capacity. Engagement in the RCIA process assists our people to be agents of evangelization: "Go forth to all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to obey all that I have commanded you." (*Matt. 28:19-20*)

Yours in Christ,

✠Richard Gagnon
Archbishop of Winnipeg