

## Vox Populi

18 September 2025

From Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> September to Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> September, the Church will celebrate the Jubilee of Catechists, a part of the Holy Jubilee 2025.

Catechists play an important role within the life of the Church, but its one that can sometimes be hidden away.

Through the work of The Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) Broken Bay, catechists are sent into public schools to provide Catholic Special Religious Education to young people.

CCD catechists undertake a vital evangelising role, educating children and young people and forming them in the Catholic faith. For more and more people within our public school system, they have not heard of Jesus Christ or the Gospel, and so catechists can often represent their first encounter with the Good News.

The Jubilee also celebrates those who run Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) within their parishes, helping to introduce adults to the life of the Church and the fullness of the Christian faith.

For many Saints, being a catechist has been an important part of their life and their sanctification.

Saint Carlo Acutis, who was canonised earlier this month, served his parish as a catechist, helping to teach people about the faith.

Blessed Peter To Rot, who will be canonised in October, was also a catechist in his village and helped to lead his parish during World War II when the Catholic missionaries were imprisoned by Imperial Japanese forces.

If you haven't considered being a catechist, now may be the time to start thinking about it. Maybe you feel called to help bring adult converts into the Church? Maybe you feel called to introduce the Gospel and Jesus Christ to children who have never heard of the Good News before?

We pray for all our catechists and teachers, who help instruct people in the faith and bring them into a more intimate relationship with Jesus Christ.

To begin the Jubilee of Catechists, Bishop Anthony Randazzo will spend a morning with Catechists on Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> September at Caroline Chisholm Centre, Pennant Hills. He will address the crucial role of the catechist in sharing the message of Christ's hope, love, and compassion.