



April 2, 2013

Dear Pastors, Pastoral Leaders, Religious Education and School Administrators,

Several months ago I asked the Department of Education to organize a religion textbook task force that would evaluate existing and new religion textbook series for the Diocese of Green Bay. My purpose in doing this was to choose a select number of catechetical series so that we can ensure the quality of the catechetical content in the Diocese. I am pleased to announce that we have achieved the goal by bringing the number from approximately 20 series to five.

I would like to thank the task force for an incredibly good job. I also want to thank each and every one of the pastors, religious education personnel, and school administrators and teachers who came to Leadership Day on March 1, 2013, listened to the five companies' presentations and gave me their most helpful feedback.

As a result of the great work of the task force and the feedback I received from Leadership Day, I am announcing my decision to approve the following series for use in the K – 8 parish and school catechetical programs in the Diocese of Green Bay starting with the 2014-15 academic year:

- *Faith and Life* by Ignatius Press
- *Christ Our Life* by Loyola
- *We Believe* by Sadlier
- *Alive in Christ* by Our Sunday Visitor
- *Be My Disciple* by RCL/Benzinger

I am very pleased that all five series have excellent resources for our catechists and teachers as well as a strong parent component to their program.

Leading up to the 2014-15 academic year, the Department of Education will be working on other implementation pieces so that all of our parishes and schools can be assisted in their mission of good, clear, competent, and engaging catechesis.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David L. Ricken".

The Most Reverend David L. Ricken, DD, JCL
Bishop of Green Bay