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## **Time to consider taking the ECHOES challenge**

People across the diocese are taking the ECHOES challenge because it's good for them. Will you consider it, too?

You'll grow in faith and gain understanding about many core Catholic truths and why they are relevant today. The ECHOES course has no required homework and is only 11 sessions long. Contact your parish for details. Charles Vanyo completed the ECHOES challenge and offered the following comments:

"The Echoes class was my first weekly 'class' I've taken since my school days, and it was a class full of basics. It tells of the 'who, what, where, when and how' of passing on this most beautiful gift of the Catholic faith to others, including our children. In the 11-week course, each week was dedicated to one aspect of the faith; for example, what are the sources of the faith itself, where do we find it and where did it come from?

"There was no homework and it was up to us to take advantage of finding time to read over the material before class (not required nor necessary to follow) or to simply explore the plenty of additional sources given to us during the class itself. We were asked to pray for ourselves and others to be open to the teachings of the faith.

"We were given two knowledgeable and very interested teachers along with our fellow adult students that made for interesting conversations and prayerful learning.

"The bottom line of the whole class helped to demonstrate to me the importance of regular parishioners being 'empowered' to help do the Lord's work in passing on this most beautiful gift of faith not only to the next generation, but also to those we work, pray, play and live with during our everyday, average, busy lives. Heaven is still the ultimate goal for us all, and we all need help to get there.

"I'm hoping to be able to make it to more ECHOES classes."

*Charles Vanyo is a member of St. Michael's Catholic Church, Grand Forks.*