

Chicago Catechetical Ministries Awards Banquet

Tuesday, May 14, 2013

Drury Lane, Oak Brook



With my former bosses from the Office for Catechesis – Jackie Pokorny and Carole Eipers. We worked together there from 1997-2002.



Cardinal Francis George delivers a few words of inspiration as current Maruja Sedano, current Director of the Office for Catechesis and Youth Ministry, looks on.



Here I am introducing Arlene Astrowski (far left), my DRE, for her Archdiocesan Award.



Arlene Astrowski, Linda Biel (fellow catechist), and I make our way off stage after Arlene was presented her plaque.



Celebrating Arlene's honor.



Great story: one of the awardees was Wiktor Barczyk, a 94-year old catechetical leader, who founded the Fryderyk Chopin Polska Szkoła (Polish School) which trains catechists according to archdiocesan certification and teaches religious education in Polish. I had to kid Arlene: "Shame on you for retiring so early!" ☺



Here I am enjoying a moment with long-time catechetical leaders and friends, Sr. Kathleen Smith (left, St. Felicitas) and Joyce King (right, St. Dorothy). Joyce was also an archdiocesan awardee last night. Joyce was a presenter at my DRE orientation back in 1991. I taught Sr. Kathleen in the Lay Ministry program back in the early 90s before she became Sister Kate!



Here I am with long-time friend Regina Foran Thibeau. We attended Loyola University of Chicago together as undergrads back in the day. She is presently a DRE and preparing to take over the job at Mary, Seat of Wisdom parish in Park Ridge, IL.



And finally, here is my date for the evening, my lovely wife Jo, who took most of these great pics!