## Archdiocesan Religion Curriculum Guide



## Grade 8

This curriculum looks at the six tasks of catechesis as six key elements of lived Catholic life so as to help young disciples in formation to realize the intimate connection between our Catholic faith and life. These six key elements of Catholic life "constitute a unified whole by which catechesis seeks to achieve its objective: the formation of disciples of Jesus Christ." (GDC nos. 85-86; NDC no. 20)

Putting adults, youth, and children in communion and intimacy with Jesus Christ through lifelong catechesis for discipleship in and through the Catholic Church is the goal of religious education.

#### Copyright Acknowledgment

"The Archdiocese of Washington, Secretariat of Education, grants permission to the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA, to adopt the Archdiocesan Religion Curriculum Guide, Forming Disciples for the New Evangelization, Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 8, August 2010. Copyright 2010, Archdiocese of Washington. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system without prior permission in writing from the Archdiocese of Washington. Users of this publication are specifically prohibited from putting any part of this publication on the internet without written permission from the Archdiocese of Washington."

The Archdiocese of Washington has granted permission to "adapt the introductory pages and text, as necessary, to military language and culture" and to "replace the seal and name of the Archdiocese of Washington" with that of the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA. The Archdiocese has also been granted permission to "house the curriculum on the AMS website in PDF format." All AMS ministry leaders have permission to download and copy the curriculum for religious education program purposes located in the secured PDF format posted on the AMS website.



## Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA

Office of the Archbishop

Timothy P. Broglio
by the Grace of God and the Favor of the Apostolic See
Archbishop for the Military Services, USA

#### DECREE

To the Clergy and Faithful of the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA:

It is my pleasure to promulgate *Forming Disciples for the New Evangelization*, the Archdiocesan Religion Curriculum Guide, for use in the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA. The purpose of this guide is to provide a standard instrument for ensuring that the faith is taught in a complete, systematic and consistent way in the Catholic faith communities in the Archdiocese.

I am most grateful to the Archdiocese of Washington, Secretariat for Education, for granting permission to the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA to adopt the curriculum guide by adapting it to military language and culture.

The standards and indicators clearly state what participants in every Catholic faith community religious education program should know, understand and do at each grade level (Pre-K through 8). While this tool was written with children in mind, it also has implications for young adults and youth in the Archdiocese. It provides a common language and agreed upon standards for sharing the faith.

The Office of Faith Formation will provide orientation and training to Clergy and lay leaders to achieve full implementation. An assessment will accompany the curriculum to facilitate the ongoing implementation and accountability of the guide.

This guide becomes effective on August 6, 2013, the Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord. The alteration and/or interpretation of this Guide is the sole responsibility of the Archbishop.

It is my hope that this guide will assist all involved in faith formation to achieve Jesus' charge to "go therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age." (Mt. 28:19-20)

Given this twenty-fifth day of January, the Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul, two thousand thirteen in the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA.

(Most Reverend) Timothy P. Broglio, J.C.D.

Archbishop for the Military Services

Deacon Michael Yakir

Chancellor

# Table of Contents

Inside Cover		
	hbishop Timothy P. Broglio	
	'S	
0	nts	
		vi
Introduction		
	nt Change	
<ul><li>Aim of This</li></ul>	s Guide	2
<ul> <li>Religion Cu</li> </ul>	rriculum Standards	2
<ul><li>The Design</li></ul>	of This Guide	5
<ul><li>What Is Me</li></ul>	ant by a Standards-Based Curriculum?	7
<ul><li>Why Is Asso</li></ul>	essment Important?	9
<ul><li>Why Have 0</li></ul>	Our Own Archdiocesan Assessment?	9
<ul><li>What is a Sp</li></ul>	oiral Scope and Sequence?	10
<ul> <li>An Analogy</li> </ul>	: An Epidemic of Ignorance and Doubt	11
<ul><li>Expectation</li></ul>	ns of All Those Who Have A Role	
	e Catechesis	12
<ul> <li>Catechetical</li> </ul>	Instruction	15
<ul><li>Contact Ex</li></ul>	pectations	16
<ul> <li>Expectation</li> </ul>	as for Our Adults, Youth and Children	
	l Needs	17
How to Read the	Following Charts	10
110w to Read the	Tonowing Charts	10
Archdiocesan Ele Grade 8	ementary Religion Standards and Indicators:	
Key Element I:	Knowledge of the Faith: What We Believe	19
Voy Element II.	Standard 2 Sacred Scripture  Sacrements and Liturger How We Colebrate	27
Key Element II:	Sacraments and Liturgy: How We Celebrate Standard 3 Sacraments	
Key Element III:	Standard 4 <i>Liturgy</i> Morality: How We Live	3.1
Key Element III.	Standard 5 Conscience	
	Standard 6 Christian Living	
Key Element IV:	Prayer: How We Pray	42
ixey inclined iv.	Standard 7 Prayer	
	CONTRACTOR I TIVIJVI	

Key Element V:  Key Element VI:	Education for Living in the Christian Community: How We Live in the Community, the Church
	Standard 14 Missionary Vocation
Appendices provi	ided as resources in the AMS website
Appendix #1:	General Schedule for Teaching/Learning Key Practices and Prayers for Catholics
Appendix #2: Appendix #3:	Key Practices and Prayers for Catholics
The following mate	erials will be provided as resources in the AMS website for
Catechetical leader	s:
	<ul> <li>Frequently Asked Questions</li> <li>Catechesis within the Context of Evangelization</li> <li>Catechetical and Theological Elements</li> <li>History and Rationale of This Guide</li> <li>More on the Six Key Elements of a Catholic Life</li> <li>The Family and Catholic Faith Community Partnership</li> <li>Choosing Textbooks</li> <li>Children's Catechesis (Catholic Faith Community)</li> <li>Observation Form</li> </ul>
Catechists:	
	<ul> <li>Frequently Asked Questions</li> <li>Basics of Lesson Planning</li> <li>Assessment and Religious Education</li> <li>Catechist Self -Inventory</li> <li>Key People and Places of the Old and New Testaments</li> </ul>
Parents:	
	<ul> <li>Parent Pages by Grade</li> </ul>

## Acknowledgements

Developing *Forming Disciples for the New Evangelization* is a work of great love and commitment to the Catholic Church of Washington to witness and teach the good news of Jesus Christ as articulated in the Scriptures and in the teachings of the Church.

There are many people to thank for the accomplishment of this project.

- Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl, STD, directed the Office for Religious Education and the Office of Catholic Schools to design and complete the manual. Archbishop Wuerl has provided encouragement, guidance and insight for the writing of the manual.
- Our Sunday Visitor Institute, for their generous grant to support this project.
- In addition, the refinement of this document was made possible because of the parish and school catechists and administrators who tirelessly participated in the pilot project period.

The people listed below have made particular contributions to the direction, design, writing, reviewing and editing of the document.

Central Pastoral Administration Staff Support: The staff support for this project included:

- Mr. Thomas Burnford, Secretary for Education
- Dr. Harry J. Dudley, Director of Religious Education
- Ms. Naomi Echols, Administrative Assistant, Office for Religious Education
- Mr. Peter Murphy, Director, Office of Family Life
- Ms. Donna Potenza, Initial Project Coordinator
- Ms. Julie Smith, Administrative Assistant, Office for Religious Education
- Ms. Cathy Spencer, Director of Curriculum, Catholic Schools Office

**The Task Force Members**: The following persons served on the Religious Education Curriculum Task Force:

- Sister Mary Juliana Cox, OP, Principal, Cardinal Hickey Academy
- Ms. Mary Donovan, Teacher, St. John the Evangelist School, Clinton
- Mrs. Charlene Howard, Religion Teacher, Archbishop Carroll High School
- Sister Vincent de Paul Malecki, OSF, Pastoral Associate, Shrine of St. Jude
- Ms. Therese Recinella, DRE, St. Catherine Labouré Parish

#### **Reviewers:**

- Mr. José Amaya, Coordinator for Hispanic Catechesis and Catechist Formation, Office for Religious Education
- Mr. Anthony Bosnick, Parish Social Ministry Coordinator, Department for Social Concerns
- Ms. Judith Brusseau, DRE, Holy Trinity, Georgetown

## Acknowledgements

- Ms. Amy Ekeh, Director of Adult Faith Formation, St. John, Clinton
- Ms. Mary Theresa Heneghan, DRE, St. Elizabeth, Rockville
- Ms. Charlene Howard, Religion Teacher, Archbishop Carroll High School
- Father Thomas Kalita, Pastor, St. Peter, Olney
- Sister Vincent de Paul Malecki, OSF, DRE, Shrine of St. Jude, Rockville
- Mr. Peter Murphy, Director of the Office of Family Life
- Ms. Alice Noe, Coordinator Adult Faith Formation and Leadership Development, Office for Religious Education
- Mrs. Mary Lee O'Connell, CRNP
- Mr. Kevin O'Connor, Executive Director of Development
- Monsignor Charles Parry, Chair of the Religious Education Advisory Board
- Monsignor Robert Panke, Director of Office of Vocations
- Ms. Theresa Recinella, DRE, St. Catherine Labouré, Wheaton, English Community and member of the Religious Education Advisory Board
- Ms. Margarita Roque, DRE, St. Catherine Labouré, Wheaton, Spanish Community
- Sister Marie de la Trinite Siopongco, SSVM, Pontifical Mission Societies
- Ms. Julie Smith, Administrative Assistant, Office for Religious Education
- Father Walter J. Tappe, Pastor, St. Hugh of Grenoble
- Mr. David Tenney, Chair of the Department of Religious Studies, St. Vincent Pallotti High School
- Dr. Susan Timoney, Executive Director, Department of Evangelization and Family Life Ministries
- Father Keith A. Woods, Pastor, St. Joseph, Morganza

#### Author and General Editor:

Dr. Harry J. Dudley, Director of Religious Education

#### Special Thanks:

- The Archdioceses of Chicago and Indianapolis, and the Dioceses of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Wilmington and Pittsburgh for permission to build on the firm foundation of their curricula and to use elements of each of their curricula in creating this new Archdiocesan Religion Curriculum Guide.
- Scripture quotations contained herein are adapted from the Revised Standard Version of the Bible, Copyright 1946, 1952, 1971, and the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, Copyright 1989, by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America, and are used by permission. All rights reserved.

## Acknowledgements

In 2013, the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA (AMS) adapted Forming Disciples for the New Evangelization, Archdiocesan Religion Curriculum Guide to the language and culture of military settings. The Archdiocese for the Military Services has adopted all the indicators in bold and kept some indicators in italics from its original version of the Archdiocese of Washington. Special thanks to the Archbishop and Staff of the Archdiocese for facilitating this guide for the Catholic faith communities.

- Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio, Archbishop for the Military Services, USA
- Sister Lisa Marie Drover, OSF, Secretary to the Archbishop
- Deacon Michael D. Yakir, Chancellor
- Dr. Mark T. Moitoza, Vice Chancellor for Evangelization
- José M. Amaya, Director of Faith Formation
- Margaret M. Betít, Evangelization Associate

### Abbreviations

Used in this Introduction and the Curriculum Standards and Indicators:

CCC Catechism of the Catholic Church
GDC General Directory for Catechesis
NDC National Directory for Catechesis

CT Catechesi Tradendae (On Catechesis in Our Time)
Compendium Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church

USCCA United States Catholic Catechism for Adults

#### Introduction

Go therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the ages. (Mt. 28:19-20)

#### A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE

Forming Disciples for the New Evangelization, this new Archdiocesan Religion Curriculum Guide, will be significantly different because it is:

- standards-based,
- tied to its own assessment to promote accountability, and
- spiral in its approach to scope and sequence.

Before explaining what these new contributions are, it is helpful to explain what this guide is and does.

Forming Disciples for the New Evangelization clearly states what those who participate in Catholic faith community religious education programs should be able to know, understand and do at each grade level based on the pillars of the Catechism of the Catholic Church and organized by the six key elements of Catholic life (also known as the six tasks of catechesis) as outlined in the National Directory for Catechesis. This practical tool for catechists in military settings establishes consistent content for the teaching of the faith across the Archdiocese to ensure that future generations of Catholics are well formed and know the truth that Jesus taught us.

#### The implications of this new guide for the teaching of the faith are:

- Clear expectations for the catechist, participant, family and the Catholic faith community of what knowledge of the faith and what skills and practices of living our faith should be taught, learned and experienced.
- Greater accountability for all involved through assessments tied to the expected standards. The indicators will provide catechists with a variety of formal and informal assessment methods which allow the participants to demonstrate their knowledge and skills.
- Greater opportunity for all partners in the catechetical process to return to each topic each year, in spiral fashion, increasing knowledge and enhancing depth of understanding. This also makes catechist preparation and participant/Catholic faith community involvement easier.

#### AIM OF THIS GUIDE

The primary aim of this guide is to support integrated planning and preparations across all sectors of the church, including Catholic faith communities and families. This will be done as a part of an archdiocesan-wide effort to strengthen the teaching of the faith for adults, youth and children. It is directed toward the need to prepare the whole local church (not just children) to overcome the current epidemic of ignorance and doubt about the faith.

These guidelines focus on the need for mutual collaboration, communication and consultation. They strive to clarify the roles, responsibilities and mutual accountabilities needed by the Priest (DRE), the Coordinator of Religious Education (CRE), those engaged by the military to support religious education and all who assist efforts to put adults, youth and children into communion with Jesus Christ through life-long catechesis in and through the Catholic Church. These guidelines are focused to help Catholic faith communities as they both revise and plan their future catechetical efforts. Although this first phase of the guide focuses on the formation of children, these standards will also provide a framework for future efforts in the faith formation of youth and adults.

#### RELIGION CURRICULUM STANDARDS

The chart on the following pages lists the new standards. It was developed by the task force to show the strong relationship between the pillars of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, the key elements of Catholic life and the new Archdiocese of Washington standards as adopted by the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA.

These standards form the foundation of the curriculum, shaping its direction. As with other types of standards and goals, they are learned and integrated over time. The Religion Curriculum goals invite and challenge the learner to understand the meaning of discipleship and respond to the call of discipleship through full participation in the life of the Church. "The sacred duty and the joy of each succeeding generation of Christian believers have been to hand on the deposit of faith that was first entrusted to the apostles by Christ himself. We have received this gift, the deposit of faith – we have not conceived it. It is the heritage of the whole Church. It is our privilege and our responsibility to preserve the memory of Christ's words and the words themselves and to teach future generations of believers to carry out all that Christ commanded his apostles." (NDC no. 26)

Pillars of the		Elements of	ı	New Religion Curriculum Standards (in light of the NDC and USCCA)
Catechism	Cat	holic Life		
Creed	I.	Knowledge	1.	<b>CREED:</b> Understand, believe and proclaim the triune and redeeming
- What We		of Faith		God as revealed in creation and human experience, in Apostolic
<i>Believe</i>				Tradition and Sacred Scripture, and as entrusted to the teaching office
				of the Church. (NDC nos. 16C, 25-26)
			2.	SACRED SCRIPTURE: Read, comprehend and articulate salvation
				history as conveyed in God's revelation through Sacred Scripture. (NDC
				nos. 18, 24)
Sacraments	II.	Liturgy and	3.	<b>SACRAMENTS</b> : Understand and participate in the sacraments of the
- How We		Sacraments		Church as effective signs of God's grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to
Celebrate				the Church. (GDC no. 85, NDC nos. 35-36)
			4.	<b>LITURGY:</b> Understand and celebrate the liturgical rites of the Church as
				expressed in the church year and celebrated in the Eucharist as the source and
				summit of Christian life. (NDC nos. 32-34, 37-39)
Christian	III.	Morality	5.	<b>CONSCIENCE:</b> Develop a moral conscience informed by Church
Living		•		teachings.(NDC nos. 20.3, 36B.1-2, 42)
- How We			6.	CHRISTIAN LIVING: Understand and live the moral teachings of
Live				the Church through a life of discipleship in Jesus Christ expressed in
				love for God, conversion, positive self-image, personal integrity,
				social justice, the dignity of the human person and love of neighbor.
				(NDC nos. 42, 44, 45, 46)
Prayer	IV.	Prayer	7.	
- How We		•		acknowledge prayer as the primary way we deepen our knowledge of God
Pray				in the community. (NDC nos. 20, 34, 38)

Pillars of the	Key Elements of	New Religion Curriculum Standards (in light of the NDC and USCCA)
Catechism	Catholic Life	
Christian	V. Education for	8. <b>CATHOLIC CHURCH</b> : Understand and appreciate the mystery of the
Living	Living in the	Church, the Body of Christ, the community of believers, as expressed in the
- How We	Christian	Church's origin, mission of evangelization, hierarchical structure, marks,
Live in the	Community	charisms, members and the communion of saints. (NDC nos. 25D, 28, 29)
Community,		9. <b>ECUMENISM:</b> Understand and participate in the call of the Church to
the Church		be a sign of unity in the world through knowledge of and collaboration
		with other Catholic (Eastern), Orthodox, and Christian churches. (NDC no. 51A-C)
		10. CATHOLIC PRINCIPLES AND RELATIONSHIPS: Apply Catholic
		principles to interpersonal relations. (NDC nos. 25H, 29, 41-45)
		11. <b>VOCATION:</b> Understand and undertake discipleship in Christ as a
		response of faith within the mission of the Church by living a specific call
		in the life of the Church. (GDC nos. 27, 56, 228, 229, 230, 255, 261; NDC
		nos. 29C-H, pp. 100-101, 104)
Christian	VI. Evangelization	12. CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING: Know, critique, and apply social
Living	and Apostolic	justice and stewardship principles to societal situations in a way that
- How We, as	Life	acknowledges and affirms the dignity of the human person and community.
Individuals		(NDC nos. 25H, 29A-C,H, 41-46)
and		13. <b>INTER-RELIGIOUS DIALOGUE:</b> Understand and participate in the
Community,		call of the Church to be a sign of unity in the world through knowledge
Live in		of and collaboration with Jews, Muslims, and all faith traditions. (NDC
Service to		nos. 51D-E,52)
the World		14. MISSIONARY VOCATION: Demonstrate an appreciation for Catholic
		missionary and evangelization efforts through our Catholic faith
		community, its culture, worship, sacramental life and service. (NDC nos.
		25H-I, 29A-C, G-H, 41-46)

#### THE DESIGN OF THIS GUIDE

In order for the Religion Curriculum to be implemented well it needs to be viewed as a "learning-centered" curriculum: the design is focused on the participant learning process and outcome. Catechists plan their instruction around how to effectively help the participant understand and internalize the message. They do this by asking and answering three questions in the order given below.

#### 1. What is the intended learning?

(Outcome/objective: What should the participants know, understand and be able to do and state as observable behavior? Use an action verb.)

# 2. What will I do to help the participants be ready to demonstrate effectively evidence of their learning?

(**Strategies:** What teaching and learning activities, resources, field trips, etc., will help me to provide the knowledge, skills, and understanding of the outcome so that the participants will be able to give evidence of the learning asked for in the assessments I have designed?)

#### 3. What will be the evidence that participants can do it?

(Assessment: What will students do to show me that they acquired and can use the knowledge, skill and understanding of the outcome?)

The Religion Curriculum provides the starting and ending answers for questions 1 and 3. Catechists will develop intermediate mastery objectives and matching assessments as they teach specific knowledge and skills through the year. The standards and indicators will help them to develop the intermediate strategies.

#### **Standards**

As outlined above, the **standards** form the foundation of the Archdiocesan Religion Curriculum Guide. Because of their significance, the standards are repeated for every grade level with indicators developed for each standard. The **indicators** directly support learning aspects of the standard at developmentally appropriate times. As with any standard in a curriculum, the developmental level of the student determines how deeply a goal can be understood or interpreted in light of the indicators.

#### **Indicators**

**Indicators,** also called learning outcomes, state what a participant must be able to do or to understand. The indicators for each of the standards are measurable. In *Forming Disciples* for the New Evangelization, the indicators describe the basic content for each grade level, providing a major reference to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. The

underlined terms in the outcomes are found in the Glossary. The references from the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church and the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults are essential for the catechist to know for effective student achievement of the indicators.

- Bold print indicates core indicators that must be covered in the Catholic Faith Community religious education programs.
- Italicized print indicates that the standard is not core material but introductory or enrichment material that may have already been mentioned elsewhere or may be repeated again. It should only be covered if there is sufficient time.

#### Bloom's Taxonomy

In 1956, Benjamin Bloom headed a group of educational psychologists who developed a classification of levels of intellectual behavior important in learning. Bloom found that over 95% of the test questions students encounter require them to think only at the lowest possible level — the recall of information.

Bloom identified six levels within the cognitive domain, from the simple recall or recognition of facts, the lowest level, through increasingly more complex and abstract mental levels, resulting in the highest order which is classified as evaluation. Bloom's language has already been incorporated into the indicators so that it is clear whether one is being introduced to a topic, developing one's understanding of a topic or being asked to demonstrate and apply how one has integrated what has been learned.

Verb examples that represent intellectual activity on each of Bloom's six levels are listed here:

- 1. *Knowledge*: Define, list, memorize, name, recognize, relate, recall, repeat, reproduce, and state.
- 2. *Comprehension*: Describe, discuss, explain, express, identify, indicate, locate, recognize, report, restate, and review.
- 3. *Application*: Apply, choose, demonstrate, dramatize, illustrate, interpret, practice, schedule, use, and write.
- 4. *Analysis*: Analyze, compare, contrast, criticize, differentiate, discriminate, distinguish, examine, question, and test.
- 5. *Synthesis*: Compose, construct, create, design, develop, formulate, organize, plan, prepare, propose, and write.
- 6. *Evaluation*: Argue, assess, choose, compare, defend, judge, select, support, value, and evaluate.

The verbs used in the indicators were chosen to indicate the increasing depth of understanding and comprehension expected of participants as they continue through each year in the program from Pre-K to 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

#### WHAT IS MEANT BY A STANDARDS-BASED CURRICULUM?

In the field of education, a *standard* is a term which defines a cumulative body of knowledge and set of competencies that is the basis for quality education. Standards express what all program participants should know and be able to do, but do not dictate how they are to be taught.

At the request of the Priests' Council of the Archdiocese of Washington, the Office for Religious Education initiated local church visitations to help parishes and their Catholic schools assess how well the faith is taught to adults, youth and children. Pastors, principals and DRE's began to ask for guidance and direction as to how they could become more effective in the teaching of the faith. Principals of parish elementary schools pointed out that all education subjects except religion were using a standards-based approach.

Since the notion of setting standards is still a new concept in the teaching of faith, it is important to understand the significance of having an Archdiocesan Religion Curriculum Guide based on standards and what the implications are for the teaching of the faith.

Importance of Having Archdiocesan Standards for the Teaching of the Faith: Setting Archdiocesan standards allows for equal opportunity in our Catholic faith communities' programs. First, all program participants are compared to the same standards. If there are no common standards and every Catholic faith community catechist sets his or her own standards, those who participate will have different expectations in each program. If there is nothing for religious education programs to compare themselves to, both instruction in the faith and assessment cannot be consistent.

Second, when Archdiocesan standards are set, it is clear what everyone in programs should know and be able to do at each level of their faith formation. In addition, when a complimentary assessment is offered by the Archdiocese, each program participant's progress towards attaining the standards can be measured. Those who are not achieving the standards can also be provided with early, effective assistance.

<u>Advantages of Setting Standards</u>: Setting standards is an important and effective learning tool because standards express clear expectations of what knowledge of the faith and what skills and practices of living the faith should be shared and learned.

This can help the different partners involved in the process of teaching the faith: the Archdiocese, the catechetical leaders in our Catholic faith community programs, catechists, program participants and parents or guardians. The following describes how setting standards can help each of these partners in the process:

The Archdiocese. For the Archdiocese, standards are a common reference tool and provide a defined framework for an annual assessment. Regular assessment and review of the results will help the Archdiocese to plan formation opportunities for leaders and catechists that focus on what is most needed for effective teaching of the faith. This will support the Archdiocesan Office of Faith Formation in its mission to put adults, youth, and children in communion with Jesus Christ through lifelong catechesis for

discipleship<sup>1</sup> in and through the Catholic Church. These standards will help to address the need to prepare the whole local church, beyond the religious education of children alone, to overcome the epidemic of ignorance and doubt about the faith.

- Catholic faith community catechetical leaders. For Catholic faith community catechetical leaders, the standards provide a focus for developing new ways to organize and implement teaching methods regarding the faith to adults, youth and children as well as evaluate their progress. Group and individual scores from the assessment will enable catechetical leaders to know more clearly what kind of training and support their catechists need.
- **Catechists.** Standards help catechists to design their sessions and ongoing assessment of progress based on the order of learning importance. Catechists will be able to use the standards to determine what should be covered in the catechist's teaching manual as well as what other resources may be needed to meet the standards not available in the texts. There will be a shift from dependence on the text to a greater emphasis on using the standards to help focus what is done during a session. The standards will also enable catechists to make expectations clear to those in the programs. When expectations are clear, learning improves.
- Program Participants. Standards set clear performance expectations, assisting
  participants in understanding what they must know and do in order to meet the
  standards.
- Parents. Since standards communicate shared expectations for learning, they allow parents to know how their children are progressing in their faith formation. Clearly defined standards also allow parents to support at home what is being taught. The website will have parent pages to enable parents to know exactly what is to be covered each year in the program. Resources will also be available to help families learn more about the faith at an adult level so that their role as primary educators or first catechists of their children can be reinforced in a more positive way. Parents will not only know that their children must learn a prayer, Catholic practice, or passage in scripture, but will also have resources in hand to help them learn together with their children and youth.

The next critical piece in the effort to strengthen the teaching of the faith is assessment. Utilizing consistent assessment, families and Catholic faith communities can better understand what they can do to strengthen the teaching of the standards as presented in the curriculum.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Mission Statement of the Office for Religious Education – from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (CCC) no. 426; *National Directory for Catechesis* (NDC) no. 26.

#### WHY IS ASSESSMENT IMPORTANT?

Many people do not believe that one should or can assess religious education efforts. It may be more proper to say that one cannot assess faith. What can be assessed is how well one has learned the language, practices and general knowledge of the faith tradition.

As part of our partnership with the family, the religious education programs must be accountable to the parents of those who are enrolled. Those who participate in the programs should also be able to know how well they have learned the language, practices and general knowledge of their Roman Catholic faith tradition. Catechists, too, should have the opportunity to know the effectiveness of their efforts to transmit the faith, as well as what opportunities are available to help them grow.

Ongoing assessment also encourages life-long faith formation and identifies areas of growth needed for individuals, catechists, their catechetical leaders and the programs themselves. *It is important to remember that no one graduates from religious education; instead, they participate in a process that continues throughout life.* 

#### WHY HAVE OUR OWN ARCHDIOCESAN ASSESSMENT?

Standards require a change in both teaching and assessment. Standards and assessments are intertwined and be integral parts of the religious education curriculum.

Traditional curricula determine the content matter that participants are expected to know. It follows that the purpose of assessment is to see if the participants have learned the specific knowledge indicated in the curriculum. Recent approaches to how participants learn have changed. Assessment no longer tests participants on an accumulation of isolated facts and skills, but emphasizes the application and use of knowledge.

Standards-based assessment does not focus on comparing participant's performances to one another (norm-reference assessment). Instead, participants are assessed against a standard (criterion-referenced assessment). This shift to standards-based assessment helps create a culture of success, where all can achieve an agreed upon, acceptable level. This approach stands in contrast to the variation in participant learning as expected in the bell-shaped distribution of grades in more traditional ways of assessing other subjects.

In a standards-based curriculum, assessment is viewed not only as a final product (summative), but also as a continual process (formative) that provides participant performance data to catechists and participants regarding their progress towards achieving the standards. The curriculum sets benchmark levels of participant achievement and progress towards meeting the standards by describing what they should now be able to do as they are formed in the faith. Therefore, it is necessary to move beyond assessment methods which concentrate only memory, and develop those which also measure understanding and application.

In order to assess if participants have achieved the different benchmarks, they are expected to demonstrate what they can **do** with the language of faith by applying **what they know** about the faith to real-life situations. Assessing their performance focuses on their ability to use actively the language of faith, and this can be accomplished by using performance assessment methods. With clearly defined standards, catechists will now be able to plan their sessions more effectively.

These standards, indicators and resources provide catechetical leaders, catechists, participants and parents with useful information about their progress towards attaining the standards.

The Catholic faith community religious education programs will have to change the present method of teaching the faith and will now be able to report progress to parents and participants alike. When working with a standards-based curriculum, the Catholic faith community will be able to see and report participants' progress towards achieving the standards by indicating the specific benchmarks they have achieved. The ultimate judgment on the value of the standards must be whether their use in the sessions actually improves program participants' knowledge and skills.

Assessment provides the information necessary to guide catechists in determining both their progress and the progress of their participants in attaining the standards, as specified in the curriculum. The Catholic faith community religious education programs, together with the Archdiocese, are accountable for participant learning based on the attainment of these standards. Since this particular criterion provides a clear and defined framework for assessment, it will be possible to ascertain the extent to which the standards have been met.

#### WHAT IS A SPIRAL SCOPE AND SEQUENCE?

Scope and sequence is the organized framework or system under which the catechist presents the teachings of the faith to a learner. This framework follows a certain sequence of ideas, one after the other, that stays within a certain scope of topics and themes. By giving it this order, a learner has a better chance of understanding the material presented.

A spiral scope and sequence is one in which the learner returns to each topic each year, in spiral fashion, always in age appropriate language and teaching methods. By using a spiral, all the students at a single military installation can be studying the same theme at the same time, making catechist preparation, parent involvement, intergenerational learning and cross cultural teaching much more possible across military branches throughout the world.

In summary, *Forming Disciples for the New Evangelization* is:

- standards-based,
- tied to its own assessment to promote greater accountability, and
- spiral in its approach to scope and sequence.

#### AN ANALOGY: AN EPIDEMIC OF IGNORANCE AND DOUBT

An analogy may help users to better understand the significance of the shift that *Forming Disciples for the New Evangelization* represents: the necessary response to an epidemic.

An Epidemic of Ignorance and Doubt: An epidemic refers to a situation in which new cases of a disease, in a given human population during a given period, substantially exceed what is expected.

Some would say that Catholics are experiencing an *epidemic* of ignorance and doubt about the Catholic faith. The number of adults, youth and children who are unable to articulate their belief in God and the role of the Church in living their faith continues to increase. This epidemic is so widespread that the focus can no longer be on one generation but must look systematically at how the Church teaches the faith and shares it with adults, youth and children across multiple generations.

The approach of this guide represents the kind of significant response needed at this moment in religious education. Many things that were done before may no longer be effective, and change is needed in how we approach religious education practice. There is a growing need to focus more on the children, youth and adults in religious education programs and to see textbooks as a tool in teaching the standards rather than a resource to be followed at all costs.

Rationale: Why plan beyond religious education programs for children? Given that the current epidemic has consequences for the whole of the life of the Church, it is essential that all in the Catholic faith community religious education programs plan to address the disruption that this ignorance and doubt cause by focusing on the:

- importance of participating in the Eucharist each Sunday;
- full consequences of what we mean by the sacredness of the sacrament of marriage and human sexuality;
- consequences of the social teaching of the church;
- role of the Church in continuing the ministry of Jesus; and
- intimate connection between faith and life.

These involve more intentional comprehensive and systematic efforts to strengthen the teaching of the faith. This guide, together with the standards, offers a major resource to help all of the partners in this Archdiocesan-wide effort to move from good to great teaching of faith. Such great and effective catechesis is best done when everyone involved has clear roles and expectations.

# EXPECTATIONS OF ALL THOSE WHO HAVE A ROLE IN EFFECTIVE CATECHESIS

Parents Are the Primary Educators: Parents are the primary educators of their children in the faith and are the first people to teach their children about faith (NDC no. 101). Parents contribute to the spiritual growth of their children by nurturing the intellectual, emotional, and physical growth of their children. At baptism, the parish community promises to assist parents in this role (GDC no. 221). Parents have the mission of teaching their children to pray and to discuss their vocation as children of God (CCC no. 2226).

The witness of Christian life given by parents in the family comes to children with tenderness and parental respect.... It is deepened all the more when parents comment on the more methodical catechesis which their children later receive in the Christian community and help them to appropriate it. (GDC no. 226 and CT no. 68)

The family is the first place where faith is learned, lived, and interpreted (GDC nos. 226-227). The religious behavior of the parents, whatever it may be, can be called an accurate predictor of the religious performance of their children. The *National Catechetical Directory* tells us that "parents catechize informally but powerfully by example and instruction" (NCD no. 212) and that "though the influence of peers and of adult catechists is important, catechetical programs are not intended to supplant parents as the primary educators of their children" (NCD no. 229).

The Catholic Faith Community Provides the Context: The Catholic faith community, in its turn, assists parents in their role as primary catechists, especially through liturgical celebrations and a program of systematic catechesis (GDC no. 221). The catechism states that "the parish [Catholic faith community] is the Eucharistic community and the heart of the liturgical life of Christian families; it is a privileged place for catechesis of children and parents" (CCC 2226). By celebrating the sacraments with their children, parents are already teaching their children not just knowledge about the faith, but lived experience of the faith. The parish [Catholic faith community] is "the living and permanent environment for growth in the faith" (GDC no. 158).

The Christian community is the origin, locus and goal of catechesis. Proclamation of the Gospel always begins with the Christian community and invites to conversion and the following of Christ. (GDC no. 254)

When families work together with the Catholic faith community, the formation of their children is enriched. These two sources, families and Catholic faith community, have appropriate roles and responsibilities in complementary ways; together they form a partnership in the responsibility for forming children. In this way, Catholic faith communities become schools of discipleship preparing people to live their faith fully and share their faith freely. In this light, parents should be made aware of and asked to participate in teaching these standards, thereby enriching their own faith through the process of catechizing their children.

Everyone Involved Has Responsibilities: Since effective catechesis is done best in partnership by all who have roles and with clear expectations of the partners, the following is a list of the expectations of all involved.

#### **Program Participants:**

- ✓ Exhibit their willingness to learn through active participation in the learning environment.
- ✓ Collaborate with catechists and peers.
- ✓ Show evidence of literacy and proficiency in the catechetical message and its application to daily life.
- ✓ Come to know how Jesus Christ is central to their lives.
- ✓ Show earnestness in preparation for active participation in the life of the Catholic Church.
- ✓ Show evidence of moral decision-making and critical thinking.
- ✓ Demonstrate understanding and application of Catholic social teaching to current societal situations.
- ✓ Articulate Christian virtues as applied to personal decision-making and behaviors.
- ✓ Show understanding that they are loved by God, created for union with God, and of inestimable value before the Creator.
- ✓ Exhibit spiritual growth through prayer, sacramental participation, maturing understanding of Christian discipleship and stewardship.
- ✓ Respect and appreciate the cultural and religious heritage of all people no matter the race, ethnicity or religious identity of the person.
- ✓ Exhibit understanding of their relationship with the triune God and their ultimate destiny with their Creator.

#### **Catechists:**

Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, catechists powerfully influence those being catechized by their faithful proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the transparent example of their Christian lives. (GDC no. 29A)

- ✓ Meet the diverse needs of participants through differentiated instruction, approaching the catechetical message with various strategies that will help participants learn.
- ✓ Utilize a variety of catechetical resources and assessments in order to help the student learn optimally.
- ✓ Use technology and other appropriate instruments that enhance the learning process.
- ✓ Provide for varied learning situations that include various grouping methods, peer leadership, and cross-curricular methods to integrate the learning process.
- ✓ Be fully informed of the catechetical content.
- ✓ Inform and involve parents in the catechesis of their participants through understanding of the curriculum, assessment and reporting.
- ✓ Participate in ongoing professional development.
- ✓ Pursue initial and ongoing certification as catechists in the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA.
- ✓ Participate fully in the liturgical and sacramental life of the Church.
- ✓ Attend to their own spiritual lives through reflection, prayer and reading of the Scriptures.

#### Parents and/or Guardians:

The most important task of the catechesis of children is to provide, through the witness of adults, an environment in which young people can grow in faith. (NDC no. 205)

- ✓ Witness and teach the faith to their children as primary educators.
- ✓ Maintain their homes as "domestic" churches wherein relationship with God is evident and participation in parish life is promoted.
- ✓ Esteem their children, seeing in each the face of Christ.
- ✓ Witness their own relationship with God in their love for their children as the outcome of God's love.
- ✓ Be actively involved in the life of the Church through participation in Sunday liturgies, the sacramental life of the Church, the community life of the parish and stewardship.
- ✓ Help their children to respond to the vocation God calls them to in the life of the Church and society.
- ✓ Be socially aware, promoting the dignity of human life and nonviolence in the home and in the culture.
- ✓ Educate their children in the sanctity of human life and sexuality.
- ✓ Collaborate with catechists by promoting and assessing the development of faith in their children.
- ✓ Prepare their children for their participation in the sacraments.
- ✓ Attend to their own spiritual lives through reflection, prayer and reading of the Scriptures.

#### Priests (DRE) and Lay Catechetical Leaders:

Pastors should remember that, in helping parents and educators to fulfill their mission well, it is the Church who is being built up. Moreover this is an excellent occasion for adult catechesis. (GDC no. 79)

- ✓ Develop and implement a total Catholic faith community plan for catechesis encompassing the catechetical needs of adults, youth and children.
- ✓ Ensure that suitable time is given to catechesis in Catholic faith community programs for adults, youth and children.
- ✓ Assure that catechetical formation is available for all language groups and members with special needs.
- ✓ Provide for a vital catechumenate that serves as an organizing component for the organization of catechesis in the Catholic faith community.
- ✓ Oversee the implementation of the Archdiocesan Religion Curriculum Guide of the Archdiocese of Washington as adopted and adapted by the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA.
- ✓ Collaborate with the Archdiocese for the Military Services in the certification requirements for lay catechetical leaders and catechists.
- ✓ Support parents in the faith education of their children, especially through good liturgies, meaningful homilies, pastoral counseling, guidance and prayer.
- ✓ Engage families in preparing children for sacramental participation.

- ✓ Witness one's own faith through personal spiritual development, skill as a liturgical presider, integrity of life and participation in the Church's mission to the world.
- ✓ Engage qualified and skilled catechetical leaders who can directly implement effective programs.

#### **Archdiocesan Leadership**:

- ✓ Utilize resources at the central level to accomplish responsibilities for the total catechetical mission of the Archdiocese throughout the world.
- ✓ Collaborate with Priests in establishing effective catechetical ministry at all levels.
- ✓ Promote the professional development of lay catechetical leaders and catechists.
- ✓ Develop and administer certification guidelines and programs that promote effective catechetical leadership in Catholic faith communities.
- ✓ Research resources to assist catechists in effectively teaching the Religion Curriculum Guide of the Archdiocese.
- ✓ Assist lay catechetical leaders, catechists in developing a deepening spirituality that strengthens their commitment to their vocation as ministers of the word.

#### CATECHETICAL INSTRUCTION

Catechesis is nothing other than the process of transmitting the Gospel, as the Christian community has received it, understands it, celebrates it, lives it and communicates it in many ways. (GDC no. 105)

The Catholic faith community (or civilian parish) is the "primary experience of the Church" for most Catholics (cf. GDC no. 158, NDC, no. 60). As such, the Catholic faith community is the primary locus for the entire catechetical enterprise. "The parish energizes the faithful to carry out Christ's mission by providing spiritual, moral, and material support for the regular and continuing catechetical development of the parishioners" (NDC no. 60).

Given its role in the ministry of the word, Catholic faith communities should have a strategic catechetical plan that integrates all the efforts of the Catholic faith communities at forming adults, youth and children through life-long catechesis for discipleship and that meets the specific needs of all its members. The priests and the lay catechetical leaders have a role in achieving the goals of this important task in both planning and orchestrating the catechetical process and providing valuable resources. The priest takes the leadership role, as the director of religious education, in choosing skilled and effective ministers of the word (cf. NDC no. 61).

Catechists in Catholic faith community programs of adults, youth and children have the privilege of serving the community as witnesses and teachers of the faith from "womb to tomb." Most especially, catechists teach young people how their lives are fulfilled in Jesus Christ. By growing in the life of faith as well as in teaching skill, they "echo the teaching" of the Apostolic Tradition and Sacred Scripture entrusted to the teaching office of the Church so the Church may fulfill its mission on earth. Catechists engage in one of the most ancient ministries of the Church: the ministry of the word.

#### **CONTACT EXPECTATIONS**

Catechesis is intimately bound up with the whole of the Church's life. Not only her geographical extension and numerical increase, but even more her inner growth and correspondence with God's plan depend essentially on catechesis. (CCC no.7)

Faith is primarily formed within the family, with religious education programs supporting families by providing programs of systematic catechesis according to the following guidelines:

The **minimum** requirement is 30 hours of catechesis per religious education program year for Pre-K through 8th grade levels.

The very important elements of worship experiences, service opportunities and family-centered sacramental catechesis are considered essential additions or enhancements to these expectations.

# EXPECTATIONS FOR OUR ADULTS, YOUTH AND CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

This curriculum can and should be adapted via accommodations and/or modifications for persons with disabilities. These adaptations will be based on the learning needs of the participants and may include (but are not limited to) opportunities for access to specialized instruction, specialized materials, or materials designed for the person's developmental (not chronological) age. In order to obtain more information and support for this process, please contact:

National Catholic Partnership on Disability <a href="www.ncpd.org">www.ncpd.org</a>
Office for Faith Formation for additional information <a href="www.milarch.org">www.milarch.org</a>

Forming Disciples for the New Evangelization also provides other useful tools for the catechists. The table of contents lists some of the tools provided online, the Catechist Companion to the Guide and the Catechetical Leaders Companion to the Guide.

The catechetical framework as developed in *Forming Disciples for the New Evangelization* provides a systematic approach to catechesis that incorporates multiple mechanisms to make learning the objectives easier.

It is to be noted that all of the core indicators are critical and important for mastery. The glossary terms used in those outcomes are basic to teaching the faith.

All of the components of the guide outline what is needed for effective catechesis. It is hoped that each of the components will help catechists in military settings to have the common language of faith needed for effective catechesis in the Archdiocese.

For all who will help to implement these new standards, the words of our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, when he was in Washington in 2008 provide encouragement, advice and a blessing:

To all of you I say: bear witness to hope. Nourish your witness with prayer. Account for the hope that characterizes your lives (cf. 1 Pet 3:15) by living the truth which you propose to your students. Help them to know and love the One you have encountered, whose truth and goodness you have experienced with joy. With Saint Augustine, let us say: "we who speak and you who listen acknowledge ourselves as fellow disciples of a single teacher" (Sermons, 23:2). With these sentiments of communion, I gladly impart to you, your colleagues and students, and to your families, my Apostolic Blessing. <sup>2</sup>

\_

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Message to Catholic Educators of the United States on April 17 at The Catholic University of America.

#### HOW TO READ THE FOLLOWING CHARTS

- 1. There are six key elements in this guide; each element is a section of the guide:
  - I. Knowledge of Faith What We Believe
  - II. Liturgy and Sacraments How We Celebrate
  - III. Morality How We Live
  - IV. Prayer How We Pray
  - V. Education for Living in the Christian Community How We Live in the Community, the Church
  - VI. Evangelization and Apostolic Life How We, as Individuals and Community, Live in Service to the World
- 2. Each of the six elements/sections includes one or more standards; there are fourteen standards in all. Please refer to the Chart of Standards as a ready reference.
- 3. Within each element/section, indicators are provided for each standard; the indicators are provided for each grade level, beginning with Pre-K and going up through Grade 8.
- 4. **Bold print** indicates core indicators that must be covered in both parish and school programs.
- 5. *Italicized print* indicates that the standard is not core but is either introductory or enrichment material that may have already been mentioned elsewhere or may be repeated if and when there is sufficient time.

#### Example:

	Key Element VI: Evangelization and Apostolic Life
	Standard 12
	<b>CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING</b> : Know, critique, and apply social justice and stewardship principles to societal situations in a way that acknowledges and affirms the dignity of the human person and community.
	Indicators
2.12.02	State how, as Christians, we promise to care for all of God's creation.
2.12.03	Show understanding that we respect others and ourselves as human persons belonging to the family of God.

- The Key Element is listed at the top. This example is from Element VI: Evangelization and Apostolic Life
- The standard is #12: Catholic Social Teaching. All 14 standards repeat in every grade level.
- The numbers to the left of each chart indicate first the grade, then the standard, then the indicator, for example, 2.12.02 means: Grade 2, Standard 12 and indicator 2.



# Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA Office of Faith Formation

# Key Element I: Knowledge of the Faith

# What We Believe

"Sacred Scripture has a preeminent position in catechesis because Sacred Scripture "presents God's own Word in unalterable form" and "makes the voice of the Holy Spirit resound again and again in the words of the prophets and apostles." The Catechism of the Catholic Church is intended to complement Sacred Scripture. Together with Sacred Tradition, Sacred Scripture constitutes the supreme rule of faith." (NDC no. 24)

# Key Element I: Knowledge of the Faith

#### Promoting knowledge of the faith

First and foremost every Catholic educational institution is a place to encounter the living God who in Jesus Christ reveals his transforming love and truth (cf. Spe Salvi, no. 4). This relationship elicits a desire to grow in the knowledge and understanding of Christ and his teaching. In this way those who meet him are drawn by the very power of the Gospel to lead a new life characterized by all that is beautiful, good, and true; a life of Christian witness nurtured and strengthened within the community of our Lord's disciples, the Church. (Address of Pope Benedict XVI to Catholic Educators of the United States, Thursday 17 April 2008, The Catholic University of America)

Catechesis must, therefore, lead to "the gradual grasping of the whole truth about the divine plan" by introducing the disciples of Jesus to a knowledge of Tradition and of Scripture, which is "the sublime science of Christ." By deepening knowledge of the faith, catechesis nourishes not only the life of faith but equips it to explain itself to the world. The meaning of the Creed, which is a compendium of Scripture and of the faith of the Church, is the realization of this task. (GDC no. 85)

The initial proclamation of the Gospel introduces the hearers to Christ for the first time and invites conversion to him. By the action of the Holy Spirit, such an encounter engenders in the hearers a desire to know about Christ, his life, and the content of his message. Catechesis responds to this desire by giving the believers a knowledge of the content of God's self-revelation which is found in Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition, and by introducing them to the meaning of the Creed. Creeds and doctrinal formulas that state the Church's belief are expressions of the Church's living tradition, which from the time of the apostles has developed "in the Church with the help of the Holy Spirit." (NDC no. 20.1)

#### Key Element I Knowledge of the Faith Grade 8

	Key Element I: Knowledge of the Faith	8	CCC	Compendium	USCCA
	Standard 1				
	<b>CREED:</b> Understand, believe and proclaim the Triune and redeeming God as revealed in creation and human experience, in Apostolic Tradition and Sacred Scripture, and as entrusted to the teaching office of the Church.				
	<u>Indicators</u>				
8.01.01	Show understanding that the mystery of the Holy Trinity is central to the mystery of the Christian faith and of Christian life.		232,237, 249- 256, 266	44, 48	50-53
8.01.02	Show understanding of God as transcendent.		43, 212, 239, 300, 1028	5, 40	50, 158, 484
8.01.03	State how the desire for God is written in the human heart because we are created by God and for God.		27-30, 44-45	2	4-6, 72-74, 478
8.01.04	Show understanding that there is no contradiction between <u>faith</u> and <u>reason</u> .		159	29	57-61, 368
8.01.05	State that God created us in a state of original holiness and justice.		374-379, 384	72	67-68
8.01.06	State the meaning of <u>original sin</u> .		396-404, 419, 1250	75-78, 258	68-71
8.01.07	Recognize that God's permitting evil is a mystery that God helps us to understand through his Son Jesus Christ.		309-314, 324	57- 58	56-57
8.01.08	State that the <u>Incarnation</u> is the mystery of the union of the divine and human natures in Jesus Christ.		237, 456-469	45, 85-95 86	81-83, 86

#### Key Element I Knowledge of the Faith Grade 8

	Key Element I: Knowledge of the Faith	8	CCC	Compendium	USCCA
8.01.09	State belief that Jesus died for our sins, thus opening the possibility of eternal union with God.		613-617, 622- 623	122	91-93, 153-155
8.01.10	State belief that Jesus' death has the power to save all people even though they do not know Christ.		616-618, 622- 623	122	96
8.01.11	Recognize that God gives us only one life, unique and unrepeatable, and that when we die in God's friendship, we live forever in union with God in heaven.		988-1014, 1019- 1020, 1051	204-207	153-155
	Standard 2				
	<b>SCRIPTURE:</b> Read, comprehend and articulate salvation history as conveyed in God's revelation through Sacred Scripture.				
	<u>Indicators</u>				
8.02.01	Recognize the Holy Spirit as central to opening the eyes of those who read Scripture and moving them to have faith in God.		109-119	18-19	27, 31
8.02.02	Name and describe the two senses of Scripture: literal and spiritual.		115-117		27
8.02.03	Identify three categories of the spiritual sense of Scripture: <u>allegorical</u> (faith), <u>anagogical</u> (hope) and <u>moral</u> (love/charity).		115-118	19	28
8.02.04	Show understanding that Apostolic Tradition and Sacred Scripture, as entrusted to the teaching ministry of the Church (the Magisterium), make up a single deposit of the faith.		84-85	11-17	23-32

8.02.05	Recognize that to discover the Scripture author's intention the reader must take into account the culture, history and literary forms of that time.	110	19	27-32
8.02.06	Explain that the author of the Gospel of Luke also wrote the Acts of the Apostles.			
8.02.07	Identify the Holy Spirit, received by the disciples at Pentecost, as the major figure in the Acts of the Apostles, enlivening the establishment of the Church after the Ascension of Jesus.	727-741	143-145	102-103
8.02.08	Recount the mission of the first witnesses in Jerusalem led by Peter. (Acts 2: 1-41)			
8.02.09	Recount the story of Peter's acceptance of <u>Gentiles</u> into baptism (Acts 11:1-18) and the first missionary journey of Paul. (Acts 13:1-15:15)			
8.02.10	Describe why <u>letters</u> are incorporated into <u>Sacred Scripture</u> .			
8.02.11	Describe how the stories of the early Christian movement help us to understand the beginnings of the Church.			



# Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA Office of Faith Formation

# Key Element II: Liturgy and Sacraments

How We Celebrate

"Faith and worship are as closely related to one another as they were in the early Church: faith gathers the community for worship, and worship renews the faith of the community... In her Liturgy, the Church celebrates what she professes and lives above all the Paschal Mystery, by which Christ accomplished the work of our salvation." (NDC no. 32)

### Key Element II: Liturgy and Sacraments

### Promoting knowledge of the meaning of the Liturgy and Sacraments

In the Church's Liturgy, in her prayer, in the living community of helievers, we experience the love of God, we perceive his presence and we thus learn to recognize that presence in our daily lives. He has loved us first and he continues to do so; we too, then, can respond with love. God does not demand of us a feeling which we ourselves are incapable of producing. He loves us, he makes us see and experience his love, and since he has "loved us first", love can also blossom as a response within us. (Pope Benedict XVI, Deus Caritas Est, no. 17)

Since Christ is present in the sacraments, the believer comes to know Christ in the liturgical celebrations of the Church and is drawn into communion with him. Christ's saving action in the Paschal Mystery is celebrated in the sacraments, especially the Eucharist, where the closest communion with Jesus on earth is possible as Catholics are able to receive his living Flesh and his Precious Blood in Holy Communion. Catechesis should promote "an active, conscious genuine participation in the liturgy of the Church, not merely by explaining the meaning of the ceremonies, but also by forming the minds of the faithful for prayer, for thanksgiving, for repentance, for praying with confidence, for a community spirit, and for understanding correctly the meaning of the creeds." (NDC no. 2)

Christ is always present in his Church, especially in 'liturgical celebrations'. Communion with Jesus Christ leads to the celebration of his salvific presence in the sacraments, especially in the Eucharist. The Church ardently desires that all the Christian faithful be brought to that full, conscious and active participation which is required by the very nature of the liturgy. (GDC no. 85)

#### Key Element II Liturgy and Sacraments Grade 8

	Key Element II: Liturgy and Sacraments	8	CCC	Compendium	USCCA
	Standard 3				
	<b>SACRAMENTS:</b> Understand and participate in the sacraments of the Church as effective signs of God's grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church.				
	<u>Indicators</u>				
8.03.01	Recognize that the benefits of the sacramental life are personal and ecclesial.		1117-1119	226	170
8.03.02	Recognize the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) as a faith-formation process in which new members are welcomed into the church.		1229-1245, 1278	256	190-191
8.03.03	Recognize confirmation as a Sacrament of Initiation carrying an indelible character sealing the confirmands with the gifts of the Holy Spirit.		1302-1305, 1317	268	203-205, 210-211
8.03.04	State requirements for validly receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation and the essential elements of the sacrament.		1290-13116	267-269	205-206
8.03.05	State and describe the gifts of the Holy Spirit.		1303, 1830- 1831, 1845	389	207-209
8.03.06	Recognize and explain why the bishop is the ordinary minister of the Sacrament of Confirmation.		1312-1314	270	206

### Key Element II Liturgy and Sacraments Grade 8

	Key Element II: Liturgy and Sacraments	8	CCC	Compendium	USCCA
8.03.07	State the meaning of <u>transubstantiation</u> in the Holy Eucharist.		1376-1377,1413	283	223-226
8.03.08	State understanding of the permanence of sacramental marriage.		1638-1642	346	284-287
8.03.09	Show understanding that because Christ is at work in the sacraments, they are effective independent of the disposition or holiness of the priest.		1127-1128, 1584	229	169
	Standard 4				
	<b>LITURGY:</b> Understand and celebrate the liturgical rites of the Church as expressed in the church year and epitomized in the Eucharist as the source and summit of Christian life.				
	<u>Indicators</u>				
8.04.01	Show understanding of all parts of the Mass and the role of the assembly.		1348-1355	277	218-220
8.04.02	Show understanding of public devotions in parish life, especially Eucharistic adoration and benediction.		1378-1381, 1418	286	223-224
8.04.03	Name the special signs of the bishop: the miter, crosier, pectoral cross and ring.		1574		
8.04.04	Explain that the Church professes that the Eucharist is: thanksgiving and praise to the Father; the sacrificial memorial of Christ and his Body; the representation of Christ's suffering, death, and resurrection; the presence of Christ by the power of his Word and of his Spirit.		1322-1327, 877	274	See Eucharist, 877



# Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA Office of Faith Formation

# Key Element III: Morality

How We Live

"Christ is the norm of morality. 'Christian morality consists in following Jesus Christ, in abandoning oneself to him, in letting oneself be transformed by his grace and renewed by his mercy, gifts which come to us in the living communion of his Church." (NDC no. 42)

### Key Element III: Morality

### Promoting moral formation in Jesus Christ

Only if we live in the right way, with one another and for one another, can freedom develop... If we live in opposition to the love and against the truth — in opposition to God — then we destroy one another and destroy the world. (Pope Benedict XVI, homily, December 8, 2005, marking the 40th Anniversary of the closure of the Second Vatican Council)

Jesus' moral teaching is an integral part of his message. Catechesis must transmit both the content of Christ's moral teachings as well as their implications for Christian living. Moral Catechesis aims to conform the believer to Christ—to bring about personal transformation and conversion. It should encourage the faithful to give witness—both in their private lives and in the public arena—to Christ's teaching in everyday life. Such testimony demonstrates the social consequences of the demands of the Gospel. (NDC no. 3)

Conversion to Jesus Christ implies walking in his footsteps. Catechesis must, therefore, transmit to the disciples the attitudes of the Master himself. The disciples thus undertake a journey of interior transformation, in which, by participating in the paschal mystery of the Lord, "they pass from the old man to the new man who has been made perfect in Christ." (GDC no. 85)

Truly, matters in the world are in a bad state: but if you and I begin in earnest to reform ourselves, a really good beginning will have been made. (St. Peter of Alcantara)

Turn now to consider how these words of our Lord imply a test for yourselves also. Ask yourself whether you belong to his flock, whether you know him, whether the light of his truth shines in your minds. I assure you that it is not by faith that you will come to know him, but by love; not by mere conviction, but by action. (Pope St. Gregory the Great)

### Key Element III Morality Grade 8

	Key Element III: Morality	8	CCC	Compendium	USCCA
	Standard 5				
	Conscience: Develop a moral conscience informed by church teachings.				
	<u>Indicators</u>				
8.05.01	Reflect upon and give evidence of being made in God's image and likeness.		355-359, 381	66-67	67-68, 310- 311
8.05.02	Explain that the context of moral decision-making within the Catholic Christian tradition is human dignity, God's grace, the virtues and the Holy Spirit.		1780-1782, 1783-1788, 1798-1800	373-374	310-318
8.05.03	Describe free will as the ability to choose the good and how this choice leads to growth and maturity.		1730-1742	363-366	319-320
8.05.04	State and describe the implications of how conscience is a judgment that helps us see the moral quality of an action.		1776-1780, 1795-1797	372	314-315
8.05.05	Recognize and give examples of acts that are wrong regardless of how good the end or intention.		1755-1756, 1759-1760	368	314-315
8.05.06	State that God's <u>sanctifying grace</u> helps us to seek holiness by our free response to doing God's will in living the Christian life.		1996-1998, 2005, 2021	423	329-330, 336
8.05.07	Recognize that to receive God's mercy and forgiveness, we must admit our sins.		1450-1460, 1487-1492	303	312-313
8.05.08	Describe how we can habitually know and do what is good with the help of the Theological and Cardinal Virtues.		1805, 1813, 1834 1840-1841	379, 385	316-317, 341

### Key Element III Morality Grade 8

	Key Element III: Morality	8	ССС	Compendium	USCCA
	Standard 6				
	Christian Living: Understand and live the moral teachings of the Church through a life of discipleship in Jesus Christ expressed in love for God, conversion, positive self-image, personal integrity, social justice, the dignity of the human person and love of neighbor.				
	Indicators				
8.06.01	Describe human freedom as a force for growth and maturity.		1730-1739, 1743-1748	363-366	310-320
8.06.02	Describe human sexuality as being all that makes a person male and female: physical characteristics and responses, psychological characteristics and emotional responses, social relationships and need for intimacy, intellectual aptitude and attitude, spiritual awareness, and the ability to participate in procreation.		2331-2336, 2392-2393	487	405
8.06.03	Describe how friendships grow through chastity.		2337-2347	488-490	404-407

### Key Element III Morality Grade 8

	Key Element III: Morality	8	ССС	Compendium	USCCA
8.06.04	State marriage's twofold purpose.		1601, 1659- 1660	338	408-410
8.06.05	Recognize that the Church has a right and duty to teach moral truth.		2030-2040, 2047-2051	429-430	330-331, 337
8.06.06	State the meaning of <u>justification</u> as a gift from God and not merited by human endeavor.		1987-199, 2017-2020	422	328-330
8.06.07	Recognize that the Holy Spirit guides Christians to set their hearts on the Kingdom of God rather than on material riches.		1989	422	451-454
8.06.08	Understand that our beliefs are sound and rooted in Apostolic Tradition and Sacred Scripture, as entrusted to the teaching office (Magisterium) of the Church.		95, 109-119, 137	17	132-134, 330-331
8.06.09	Explain, defend and give examples of how <u>Catholic Social Teaching</u> principles inform and critique both personal and societal situations.		1886-1889, 1895-1899	404	325-327
8.06.10	State that we should be aware of how media can shape our values and practices either positively or negatively.		2500-2503, 2513, 2846- 2849	526, 596	434-436



# Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA Office of Faith Formation

# Key Element IV: Prayer

How We Pray

"God tirelessly calls each person to that mysterious encounter known as prayer" (CCC no. 1075). His initiative comes first; the human response to his initiative is itself prompted by the grace of the Holy Spirit... In prayer, the Holy Spirit not only reveals the identity of the Triune God to human persons but also reveals the identity of human persons to themselves. (NDC no. 34)

## Key Element IV: Prayer

### Teaching the disciple how to pray with Christ

The issue is the primacy of God... If a man's heart is not good, then nothing else can turn out good either. (Pope Benedict XVI, Jesus of Nazareth, New York: Doubleday, 2007, 33-34)

Catechesis teaches the Christian how to pray with Christ. Conversion to Christ and communion with him lead the faithful to adopt his disposition of prayer and reflection. (NDC no. 20:4)

Communion with Jesus Christ leads the disciples to assume the attitude of prayer and contemplation which the Master himself had. To learn to pray with Jesus is to pray with the same sentiments with which he turned to the Father: adoration, praise, thanksgiving, filial confidence, supplication and awe for his glory. (GDC no. 85)

### Key Element IV Prayer Grade 8

	Key Element IV: Prayer	8	ССС	Compendium	USCCA
	Standard 7				
	<b>PRAYER:</b> Know and participate in the Catholic tradition of prayer and acknowledge prayer as the primary way we deepen our knowledge of God in the community.				
	Indicators				
8.07.01	Examine our relationship with God through personal prayer.		2697-2699, 2720	567-568	473-474
8.07.02	Discuss the concept and need for openness to God's call in our lives: vocation.		871-872, 934	177	452
8.07.03	Identify how the Gospel affirms and challenges our thoughts and actions.		2762-2764, 2774	579	466-468
8.07.04	Plan a Rite of Reconciliation.		1440-1460	302-303	237-241
8.07.05	Write a spontaneous prayer.		2626-2649	550-556	467-469
8.07.06	Compose a prayer for vocations.		873, 825, 898	165, 178, 188	452
8.07.07	Describe a specific Catholic devotion such as a novena.				See Novena, 521
8.07.08	Practice the prayer form of Lectio Divina.		2705-2708, 2723	570	474, See <i>Lectio Divina</i> , 517- 518

### Key Element IV Prayer Grade 8

	Key Element IV: Prayer	8	CCC	Compendium	USCCA
8.07.09	Examine how prayer of imagination, especially in the context of meditation, is part of the prayer life of a Christian		2705-2708, 2723	570	473-474, See <i>Meditation</i> , 519
8.07.10	Demonstrate how and why one participates in the Catholic devotion of Eucharistic adoration.		1376-1381, 1413, 1418	282-283, 286	225-227



## Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA Office of Faith Formation

# Key Element V: Education for Living in the Christian Community

## How We Live in the Community, the Church

"We were created as social beings who find fulfillment only in love — for God and for our neighbor. If we are truly to gaze upon him who is the source of our joy, we need to do so as members of the people of God (cf. Spe Salvi no. 14). If this seems counter-cultural, that is simply further evidence of the urgent need for a renewed evangelization of culture." (Benedict XVI — 16 April 2008 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception)"

# Key Element V: Education for Living in the Christian Community

## Preparing Christians to live in community and to participate actively in the life and mission of the Church

Nor has the Lord been absent from subsequent Church history: he encounters us ever anew, in the men and women who reflect his presence, in his word, in the sacraments, and especially in the Eucharist. In the Church's Liturgy, in her prayer, in the living community of believers, we experience the love of God, we perceive his presence and we thus learn to recognize that presence in our daily lives. He has loved us first and he continues to do so; we too, then, can respond with love. God does not demand of us a feeling which we ourselves are incapable of producing. He loves us, he makes us see and experience his love, and since he has "loved us first" love can also blossom as a response within us. (Pope Benedict XVI, Deus Caritas Est, no. 17)

Catechesis prepares the Christian to live in community and to participate actively in the life and mission of the Church. (NDC, no. 5)

Christian community life is not realized spontaneously. It is necessary to educate it carefully. In this apprenticeship, the teaching of Christ on community life, recounted in the Gospel of St Matthew, calls for attitudes which it is for catechesis to inculcate: the spirit of simplicity and humility ("unless you turn and become like little children..." Mt 18:3); solicitude for the least among the brethren ("but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin..." Mt 18:6); particular care for those who are alienated ("Go and search of the one that went astray..." Mt 18:12); fraternal correction ("Go and tell him his fault..." Mt 18:15); common prayer ("if two of you agree on earth to ask about anything..." Mt 18:19); mutual forgiveness ("but seventy times seven..." Mt 18:22). Fraternal love embraces all these attitudes ("love one another; even as I have loved you..." Jn 13:34). (GDC, no. 86A)

In developing this community sense, catechesis takes special note of the ecumenical dimension and encourages fraternal attitudes toward members of other Christian churches and ecclesial communities. Thus catechesis in pursuing this objective should give a clear exposition of all the Church's doctrine and avoid formulations or expressions that might give rise to error. It also implies "a suitable knowledge of other confessions", with which there are shared elements of faith: "the written word of God, the life of grace, faith, hope and charity, and the other interior gifts of the Holy Spirit". Catechesis will possess an ecumenical dimension in the measure in which it arouses and nourishes "a true desire for unity", not easy irenicism, but perfect unity, when the Lord himself wills it and by those means by which he wishes that it should be brought about. (GDC, no. 86B)

	Key Element V: Education for Living in the Christian Community	8	CCC	Compendium	USCCA
	Standard 8				
	<b>CATHOLIC CHURCH:</b> Understand and appreciate the mystery of the Church, the Body of Christ, the community of believers, as expressed in the Church's origin, mission of evangelization, hierarchical structure, marks, charisms, members and the communion of saints.				
	<u>Indicators</u>				
8.08.01	Show understanding that the Church is a living institution, both human and divine, gifted by the Holy Spirit with a mission to the world throughout history.		767-776, 779-780	150-152	112-117, 122
8.08.02	The Church has special charisms that she receives from the Holy Spirit to accomplish its work.		797-801, 809-810	159-160	106, 328-331
8.08.03	Recognize that the members of the Church have contributed to and have undermined the mission of the Church throughout her history.		946-962	194-195	345, 354-350
8.08.04	Show understanding that the Church is a sign to the world of its salvation in Christ.		774-776, 780	152	116-117, 122 See Sacramen of Salvation, 526
8.08.05	Recognize that the Church's gifts and growth are evident through all periods of history in the last 2,000 years.				
8.08.06	Explain how the Eastern Catholic Churches, as part of the Catholic Church, are faithful to the Pope and have their own unique church laws, rites and spirituality.		1182, 1240, 1318, 1320- 1321, 1623	266 -267, 334	129-130, See Eastern Churches, 510

	Key Element V: Education for Living in the Christian Community	8	CCC	Compendium	USCCA
8.08.07	Show understanding of the causes of the Reformation, the rise of Protestantism and the Counter-Reformation of the Catholic Church to begin the inner work of reform begun in the Council of Trent in the Age of Reform from 1517 to 1891 CE.		816-822, 838, 866, 870	162-164, 168	127, See Protestant, 895
8.08.08	Describe the Age of the Modern Church beginning in 1890 as a sign of hope for society undergoing vast change through the rise and fall of totalitarian governments.				
8.08.09	Recount the Vatican II Council as the ecumenical council leading the Catholic Church into a place of spiritual leadership in modern society, addressing particularly the universal call of all to holiness, the vocation and mission of the laity, the work of ecumenism and religious dialogue, the role of bishops in subsidiarity, and the current challenges of the Church in the era of global economics and quest for peace.				

	Key Element V: Education for Living in the Christian Community	8	CCC	Compendium	USCCA
	Standard 9				
	<b>ECUMENISM:</b> Understand and participate in the call of the Church to be a sign of unity in the world through knowledge of and collaboration with other Catholic (Eastern), Orthodox, and Christian churches.				
	<u>Indicators</u>				
8.09.01	Show that ecumenism is an evangelizing work of the Church in the task of creating unity and peace in the world.		774-77, 780, 830-831, 868	152, 166	22
8.09.02	Explain how the Lutheran, Episcopalian, Baptist, Methodist, and Apostolic churches are some of the churches evolved from the time of the Protestant Reformation, and that some are therefore called Protestant Churches.		816-822, 838, 866, 870	162-164, 168	127, See Protestant, 895
8.09.03	Defend the Pope as the leader of the Catholic Church throughout the world, the successor of the Apostle Peter and a sign of our unity.		881-882, 936-937	182	130, 265-266
8.09.04	Develop a prayer service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (January 18-25).				
8.09.05	Explain that our respect for other Christians and faiths does not mean we deny the fullness of the faith Christ taught is found in the Catholic Church.		816, 870	162-163	127-129, 136, 193
8.09.06	State that our respect for other Christians means that we can both recognize what we share in common but that we also need to be honest about how we differ.		813-822, 866, 870	161-164	22, 129-130

	Key Element V: Education for Living in the Christian Community	8	ССС	Compendium	USCCA
8.09.07	Identify that the Eastern Catholic and Orthodox Churches call the leader of their worldwide community a "patriarch", but only the Eastern Catholic Churches acknowledge the Pope as head of the universal Catholic Church with whom their Patriarch is in full union.		838, 1399	168, 293	232, See Orthodox Churches, 890
8.09.08	Explain how the Eastern Catholic Church's celebration of Confirmation or "chrismation" is different from the way Roman Catholics celebrate Confirmation.		1289-1301, 1318, 1320- 1321	266-267	186-187, 198-199, 204-205. 210, 264
	Standard 10				
	CATHOLIC PRINCIPLES AND RELATIONSHIPS: Apply Catholic principles to interpersonal relations.				
	<u>Indicators</u>				
8.10.01	Describe how friendships grow through chastity.		2337-2359, 2394-2396	488-494	405-406
8.10.02	State Marriage's twofold purpose.		1601-1605, 1659-1660	337-338	279-286
8.10.03	State the conditions for abortion being a grave sin and the need for reconciliation and healing.		2270-2275	470	391-392, 400- 401

	Key Element V: Education for Living in the Christian Community	8	CCC	Compendium	USCCA
8.10.04	Acknowledge that to communicate well with adults and peers involves listening, self-disclosure, and compromise.		2214-2230, 2196-2208, 2247-2249	455-457, 459- 460	376-380
8.10.05	Understand that the virtue of temperance disposes us to avoid every kind of excess.		1809, 1838, 2290, 2340- 2347, 2407	379, 383, 490, 506	193, 315-317
8.10.06	Explain that Catholic Christians have specific moral values and teachings about human sexuality.		2331-2367, 2397-2398	487-496	404-407
	Standard 11				
	<b>VOCATION:</b> Understand and undertake discipleship in Christ responding in faith by participating in the mission of the Church through living a specific call in the life of the Church.				531, 542
	<u>Indicators</u>				
8.11.01	Recognize the Church's understanding of <u>vocation</u> as a call from God to engage in the <u>mission</u> of the Church.		897-900, See <i>Vocation</i> , 531, 940	188	531, 137, 269, 271, See Vocation, 903
8.11.02	State that <u>catechists</u> respond to a specific call of the Church to witness and teach the Gospel.		2663	559	134, 296, 479
8.11.03	Understand that religious life is a special type of discipleship.		914-916, 944-945	192-193, 462, 491	139, 413, See Religious or Consecrated Life, 524



# Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA Office of Faith Formation

# Key Element VI: Evangelization and Apostolic Life

# How we, as Individuals and Community, Live in Service to the World

"Only if we are aware of our calling, as individuals and as a community, to be part of God's family as his sons and daughters, will we be able to generate a new vision and muster new energy in the service of a truly integral humanism. The greatest service to development, then, is a Christian humanism that enkindles charity and takes its lead from truth, accepting both as a lasting gift from God." (Benedict XVI, Caritas in Veritate, no. 78)

# Key Element VI: Evangelization and Apostolic Life

## Promoting a missionary spirit and vocation that prepares disciples to be present as Christians in society

"[S] alvation has always been considered a "social" reality. Indeed, the Letter to the Hebrews speaks of a "city" (cf. 11:10, 16; 12:22; 13:14) and therefore of communal salvation. Consistently with this view, sin is understood by the Fathers as the destruction of the unity of the human race, as fragmentation and division. Babel, the place where languages were confused, the place of separation, is seen to be an expression of what sin fundamentally is. Hence "redemption" appears as the reestablishment of unity, in which we come together once more in a union that begins to take shape in the world community of believers. (Pope Benedict XVI, Spe Salvi no.14)

Evangelization means bringing the Good News of Jesus into human situations and seeking to transform individuals and society by the divine power of the Gospel itself (Go and Make Disciples no.15). When Baptized, you have received the Spirit of Christ Jesus, which brings salvation and hope; your lives are a witness of faith. As sharers through Baptism in the priestly mission of Jesus, we are called to live our faith fully, share our faith freely and transform the world through the power of the Gospel. We have a story of faith to share.

Catechesis promotes a missionary spirit that prepares the faithful to be present as Christians in society. The 'world' thus becomes the place and the means for the lay faithful to fulfill their Christian vocation. Catechesis seeks to help the disciples of Christ to be present in society precisely as believing Christians who are able and willing to bear witness to their faith in words and deeds. In fostering this spirit of evangelization, catechesis nourishes the evangelical attitudes of Jesus Christ in the faithful: to be poor in spirit, to be compassionate, to be meek, to hear the cry of injustice, to be merciful, to be pure of heart, to make peace, and to accept rejection and persecution. Catechesis recognizes that other religious traditions reflect the "seeds of the Word" that can constitute a true "preparation for the Gospel." It encourages adherents of the world's religions to share what they hold in common, never minimizing the real differences between and among them. "Dialogue is not in opposition to the mission ad gentes." (NDC, no. 20.6)

Catechesis is also open to the missionary dimension. This seeks to equip the disciples of Jesus to be present as Christians in society through their professional, cultural and social lives. It also prepares them to lend their cooperation to the different ecclesial services, according to their proper vocation. (GDC no. 86A)

In educating for this missionary sense, catechesis is also necessary for interreligious dialogue, if it renders the faithful capable of meaningful communication with men and women of other religions. Catechesis shows that the link between the Church and non-Christian religions is, in the first place, the common origin and end of the human race, as well as the "many seeds of the word which God has sown in these religions". Catechesis too helps to reconcile and, at the same time, to distinguish between "the proclamation of Christ" and "inter-religious dialogue". These two elements, while closely connected, must not be confused or identified. Indeed, "dialogue does not dispense form evangelization." (GDC no. 86B)

	Key Element VI: Evangelization and Apostolic Life	8	ССС	Compendium	USCCA
	Standard 12				
	<b>CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING:</b> Know, critique, and apply social justice and stewardship principles to societal situations in a way that acknowledges and affirms the dignity of the human person and community.				
	<u>Indicators</u>				
8.12.01	Realize that the protection of life and the dignity of every person is rooted in Scripture (Gn 1:26-27, Dt 30:19, 1 Cor 15:22).		1700-1729	358-362	307-310
8.12.02	State how suicide, abortion, the taking of another's life and capital punishment are not options for human life.		2258-2262, 2268-2283, 2318-2326	466, 470	389-402
8.12.03	Show understanding of stewardship as a spiritual commitment of disciples to take responsibility for the global environment and human concerns.		2419-2425, 2458-2459	509-512	421-425, 450- 455
8.12.04	Explain why Catholic citizens have the duty to work with civil authority for building up a just society.		2238-2241	463	507
8.12.05	Recognize that citizens are obliged in conscience not to follow the directives of civil authorities when they are against the moral order.		21901-1904, 1921-1922, 242-2243, 2256	406, 465	379-380

	Key Element VI: Evangelization and Apostolic Life	8	ССС	Compendium	USCCA
8.12.06	Show understanding that legitimate defense is a grave duty for whoever is responsible for the lives of others or the common good.		2263-2265	467	390-391
8.12.07	Explain the strict conditions for legitimate defense by military force as established by the "just war" theory.		2302-2317		395-397
8.12.08	Recognize that those who renounce violence and bloodshed and, in order to safeguard human rights, make use of those means of defense available to the weakest, bear witness to evangelical charity, provided that they do so without harming the rights and obligations of other men and societies.		2306-2310	483	395-397
8.12.09	Show that Catholic social teaching recognizes three sets of human rights and responsibilities: right to life, economic rights, and political and cultural rights.		1186-1889, 2234-2237, 2254, 2424- 2425	404, 463, 512	420-425, 450- 455
8.12.10	Show how the scriptural vision of life encompasses justice, peace, equality and stewardship.		1877-1880, 1890-1891	401	420-425, 450- 455
8.12.11	Explain that we are called to transform society by implementing the Church's social teaching.		1928-1948	411-414	325-327
8.12.12	Describe the common good as the sum total of social conditions allowing people to reach their fulfillment.		1905-1906, 1924	407	390-391
8.12.13	Outline how the Beatitudes challenge us as disciples to continual conversion in our personal and social lives.		1699-1729	358-362	308-309
8.12.14	Understand that service is action rooted in and flowing from prayer.		2816-2821, 2859	590	486
8.12.15	Explain the need for an effective change of mentality and lifestyle in order to be good stewards of the earth.		2401-2402	503	420-427, 449- 455-

	Key Element VI: Evangelization and Apostolic Life	8	CCC	Compendium	USCCA
8.12.16	Describe stewardship in terms of using our time, talent and treasure as a response of gratitude to God.		2041-2043, See Precepts of the Church, p. 894	431-432	335, 450, See Precepts of the Church, 524
8.12.17	Understand that Jesus' mission and ministry are continued today through the ministries of the Word, worship, community building, and service.		908-913, 943 1886-1889, 1936-1938	191, 404, 413	420-425
8.12.18	Engage in service to the community (i.e., family, parish, local, national, and global) in response to the Gospel call.		176, 783- 786, 908- 913, 943	155, 191, 360	134-135, See Meditation, 427-428, 452

	Key Element VI: Evangelization and Apostolic Life	8	CCC	Compendium	USCCA
	Standard 13				
	<b>INTER-RELIGIOUS DIALOGUE:</b> Understand and participate in the call of the Church to be a sign of unity in the world through knowledge of and collaboration with Jews, Muslims, and all faith traditions.				
	<u>Indicators</u>				
8.13.01	Describe the universality of the Church.		830-831, 841-845, 868	166, 170	127-131, 138
8.13.02	Show that dialogue is an evangelizing work of the Church in the task of creating unity and peace in the world.		830-831, 841-845, 868	166, 170	131
8.13.03	Explain that the Church recognizes her common heritage with the Jews, and, moved not by any political consideration but solely by the religious motivation of Christian charity, the Church deplores all hatred, persecutions, and displays of anti-Semitism leveled at any time or from any source against the Jews.		839-840	169	92-93, 130- 131
8.13.04	Recognize the growth of Islam as a world religion and its contributions to culture and world peace.				
8.13.05	Identify the religious holy days of <u>Eid al Fitr</u> , at the end of <u>Ramadan</u> , and <u>Eid al-Adha</u> .				
8.13.06	Identify the life of present day Judaism as organized around the synagogue and the rabbi.				
8.13.07	Report how anti-Semitism began and why Catholics do not engage in any form of anti-Semitism today.				

	Key Element VI: Evangelization and Apostolic Life	8	CCC	Compendium	USCCA
	Standard 14	_			
	MISSIONARY VOCATION: Demonstrate an appreciation for Catholic missionary and evangelization efforts through our Catholic faith community, its culture, worship, sacramental life, and service.				
	<u>Indicators</u>				
8.14.01	Give an example of how you would defend your faith to someone who criticizes your belief in Jesus.		1302-1305, 1316-1317	268	207
8.14.02	Critique the statement that "religion has no place in public life".		1913-1917, 1926, 1928- 1935, 1943- 1947	410-413	379-380, 420-427, 449-457, 499-502
8.14.03	Identify Catholic faith community/parish organizations and their role in activities which challenge us to live out our baptismal call to discipleship and service.		176, 783- 786, 908- 913, 943	155, 191, 360	134-135, See <i>Meditation</i> , 427-428, 452
8.14.04	Explain that the Church has special charisms that she receives from the Holy Spirit to accomplish her work.		733-741, 747	145-146	102-110
8.14.05	Examine and become involved in your Catholic faith community and wider Catholic civilian community's pro-life activities.		2258-2262, 2262-2268, 2318-2326	466, 470	387-402
8.14.06	Show understanding of the leadership of Pope John Paul II in the Church and the world through the call for a new evangelization.		858-859	175	499-502