

Forming Disciples for the New Evangelization

Archdiocesan Religion Curriculum Guide



Grade 1

“At the center of every process of catechesis is the living encounter with Christ.” This curriculum looks at the five tasks of catechesis that flow from the four pillars of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* rooted in Sacred Scripture. The standards and indicators guide the catechist to help disciples in formation to realize the intimate connection between our Catholic faith and hope lived daily in charity. These five interconnected tasks of catechesis “are inspired by the way in which Jesus formed his disciples.” (DC 75, 76)

Catechesis with adults welcomes persons in their concrete existential situation and unique religious experiences. Listening to the questions and experiences of faith adults bring is essential to proclaim and teach Jesus Christ effectively. “Catechesis with adults is therefore configured as a personal and community learning process, aimed at the acquisition of a mentality of faith ‘until we all attain [...] the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ’” (Eph 4:13, DC 260)

“The definitive aim of catechesis is to put people not only in touch but in communion, in intimacy, with Jesus Christ: only he can lead us to the love of the Father in the Spirit and make us share in the life of the Holy Trinity.” (CT, 5)



Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA Office of Faith Formation

Task of Catechesis I: Leading to Knowledge of the Faith

Professing What We Believe

Catechesis has the task of fostering the knowledge and exploration of the Christian message. In this way it helps the believer to know the truths of the Christian faith, introduces him to the knowledge of Sacred Scripture and the Church's living Tradition, fosters knowledge of the *Creed* (*Symbol of the faith*) and the creation of a coherent doctrinal vision that can be used as reference in life. It is important not to underestimate this cognitive dimension of the faith and to be attentive to integrating it into the educational process of integral Christian maturation. A catechesis, in fact, that sets up an opposition between content and the experience of faith would show itself to be worthless. Without the experience of faith, one would be deprived of a true encounter with God and with one's brothers; the absence of content would block the maturation of faith, keeping one from finding meaning in the Church and living the encounter and exchange with others. (DC, 80)

In all the baptized, from first to last, the sanctifying power of the Spirit is at work, impelling us to evangelization. The people of God is holy thanks to this anointing, which makes it infallible *in credendo*. This means that it does not err in faith, even though it may not find words to explain that faith. The Spirit guides it in truth and leads it to salvation. As part of his mysterious love for humanity, God furnishes the totality of the faithful with an instinct of faith—*sensus fidei*—which helps them to discern what is truly of God. The presence of the Spirit gives Christians a certain connaturality with divine realities, and a wisdom which enables them to grasp those realities intuitively, even when they lack the wherewithal to give them precise expression. (*Evangelii gaudium* no. 119)

“Catechesis is placed at the service of the believer's response of faith, enabling him to live the Christian life in a state of conversion. This is in essence a matter of fostering the internalization

of the Christian message, through that catechetical dynamism which in its progression knows how to integrate listening, discernment, and purification.” (DC no. 73)

Catechesis draws its message from the Word of God, which is its main source. Therefore, “it is essential that the revealed word radically enrich our catechesis and all our efforts to pass on the faith” (EG 175). Sacred Scripture, which God has inspired, reached the depths of the human spirit better than any other word. The Word of God is not exhausted in Sacred Scripture, because it is a living, active and effective reality (cf. Is 55:10-11; Heb 4:12-13). God speaks and his Word is manifested in creation (cf. Gn 1:3 ff.; Ps 33:6, 9; Wis 9:1) and in history. (DC 91)

**Pillar I: The Profession of Faith -Professing what we believe
Grade 1**

Indicator ID	Task of Catechesis I: Leading to Knowledge of the Faith	Scripture	CCC	Compendium	USCCA
	Standard 1 Creed: Know, believe and proclaim the living Triune and redeeming God as revealed in creation and human experience, in Sacred Scripture and Apostolic Tradition, and as entrusted to the teaching office of the Church.	Book, Chapter and Verses	Paragraph USCCB Version	Question	Page
1.01.01	Show understanding that God is the creator of all things in the universe, calling all creation good.	Gen 1:1-31	299, 325-327	59	3-4; 53-54
1.01.02	Comprehend that I am made by God and destined to be with him forever .	Gen 1:27 Eph 1:11-14	279-289, 315	51	55-56
1.01.03	Show understanding that God created me as good and cares for me as a loving parent.	1 Jn 3:1	239	52-53	53-54
1.01.04	State belief that there are Three Persons in one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit - the Holy Trinity .	Mt 3:13-17; 28:19	176-178	27	51-55, 62
1.01.05	State that Jesus is God's Son who was sent by him to teach us how to love one another as his children.	Jn 3:16	65-66	9	85-86
1.01.06	Identify God the Holy Spirit as God's Spirit alive in us and in the Church.	Acts 2:4 1 Cor 6:19	683-686, 733-741, 747	136, 146	115-116, 120
1.01.07	Identify Mary as the Mother of Jesus, the Son of God.	Lk 1:26-28	467	88	144-145
1.01.08	State meaning of the name of Jesus as "God saves" and Christ as "anointed".	Mt 1:21 Lk 1:31; 2:11 Acts 3:26-27	430-435, 436-440	81, 82	<i>Christ</i> , p. 507, <i>Jesus</i> , p. 516
1.01.09	Describe the meaning of heaven as being happy with God forever.	Jn 4:3 1 Jn 3:2	1023-1026	209	41
1.01.10	Describe the meaning of faith as a gift from God that enables us to follow him.	Heb 11:1-31	142-143	25	44
1.01.11	Identify the church as a community of those who believe in God and who ratify that belief by being baptized.	Acts 2:42-47	751-752, 777, 804	147	116, 197

**Pillar I: The Profession of Faith -Professing what we believe
Grade 1**

Indicator ID	Task of Catechesis I: Leading to Knowledge of the Faith	Scripture	CCC	Compendium	USCCA
	Standard 2 Sacred Scripture: Read, pray with and communicate God's revelation and salvific plan in the living Word of God.	Book, Chapter and Verses	Paragraph USCCB Version	Question	Page
1.02.01	Identify the Bible as a sacred book that reveals who God is and his love for us.	2 Tim 3:16-17	105-108, 135-136	18	12-15
1.02.02	Name the Gospel as the good news about Jesus Christ, the Son of God.	Mk 1:1	124-127, 139	22	79-80
1.02.03	Identify the Angel Gabriel as the messenger who told Mary that she would be the Mother of Jesus, the Son of God, at the Annunciation.	Lk 1:26-38	484-486	94	148
1.02.04	State that Jesus had many friends who followed his way.	Mt 19:16-21 Mk 1:16-20 Jn 15:4-5, 15	542, 787, 618	434	91
1.02.05	Describe how Jesus ate with his closest friends on the night before he died.	Lk 22:7-20	610-611, 1323, 1337-1340	120, 272, 276	215-217
1.02.06	State that Jesus forgave those who crucified him before he died.	Lk 23:34	1422-1423	200, 302, 594, 595	235, 242
1.02.07	Describe Jesus' Resurrection from the dead and appearances to his friends.	Mt 28, Mk 16, Lk 24, Jn 20-21	641-644	131	See <i>Resurrection</i> , 525
1.02.08	State that Jesus ascended into heaven.	Mk 16:19-20	659-667	132	96-97



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Task of Catechesis II: Initiating into the Celebration of the Mystery

Being filled with God's grace

Catechesis, in addition to fostering the living knowledge of the mystery of Christ, also has the task of assisting in the comprehension and experience of liturgical celebrations. Through this task, catechesis helps the believer to understand the importance of the liturgy in the Church's life, initiates the person into the knowledge of the sacraments and into the sacramental life, especially the sacrament of the Eucharist, source and summit of the life and mission of the Church. The sacraments, celebrated in the liturgy, are a special means that fully communicate him who is proclaimed by the Church. (DC no. 81)

Catechesis, moreover, educates the believer in the attitudes that the Church's celebrations require: joy for the festive quality of celebrations, a sense of community, attentive listening to the word of God, confident prayer, praise and thanksgiving, awareness of symbols and signs. Through conscious and active participation in the liturgical celebrations, catechesis teaches the believer to understand the liturgical year, the true teacher of the faith, and the significance of Sunday, the day of the Lord and of the Christian community. Catechesis also aids in the appreciation of the expressions of faith found in popular piety. (DC no. 82)

The liturgy is the summit toward which the activity of the Church is directed; at the same time, it is the font from which all her power flows. For the aim and object of apostolic works is that all who are made sons of God by faith and baptism should come together to praise God in the midst of His Church, to take part in the sacrifice, and to eat the Lord's Supper. The liturgy in turn moves the faithful "filled with the paschal sacraments," to be "one in holiness" ... the renewal in the Eucharist between the Lord and man draws the faithful into the compelling love of Christ and sets them on fire. (*Sacrosanctum concilium* no. 10)

Catechesis, in fact, is set in motion by a first effective encounter between the one being catechized and the community that celebrates the mystery, which is to say that catechesis

reaches its true fulfillment in the liturgical life of the community. Catechesis therefore cannot be thought of merely as preparation for the sacraments, but must be understood in relationship to liturgical experience. “Catechesis is intrinsically linked with the whole of liturgical and sacramental activity, for it is in the sacraments, especially in the Eucharist, that Christ Jesus works in fullness for the transformation of human beings.” Therefore, liturgy and catechesis are inseparable and nourish one another. (DC no. 96 and CT no. 23)

The Christian’s formative journey, as attested to in the *mystagogical catecheses* of the Church Fathers, always had an experiential character, but never neglecting the understanding of the faith. The living and persuasive encounter with Christ proclaimed by authentic witnesses was critical. Therefore, one who introduces another to the mysteries is first of all a witness. This encounter finds its source and summit in the celebration of the Eucharist, and it is deepened through catechesis. (DC no. 97)

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)

Pillar II: The Celebration of the Christian Mystery -Being filled with God's grace
Grade 1

Indicator ID	Task of Catechesis II: Initiating into the Celebration of the Mystery	Scripture	CCC	Compendium	USCCA
	Standard 3 Sacraments: Understand, participate in and embrace the sacraments of the Church as effective signs of God's grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church to encounter the merciful love of God.		Paragraph USCCB Version	Question	Page
1.03.01	Identify sacraments as signs of God's love for me.	1 Cor 11:23-24 2 Pet 1:4	733-741	145	168-170
1.03.02	State that Jesus gave the sacraments to the Church .	Mt 28-19 1 Cor 11:26	1071-1075, 1113	219	168-171
1.03.03	Describe the Sacrament of Baptism as the first sacrament allowing Christians to receive other sacraments.	Gal 3:26-27	1212, 1262-1275	251, 263	183-187
1.03.04	Describe the Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation as God's sign of forgiveness to us.	Lk 15:11-24	1465	307	234-237
1.03.05	Exhibit basic recognition of the Sacrament of the Eucharist as a sign of Jesus sharing Himself with us during the Mass .	Lk 22:19 1 Cor 11:24	1328-1332, 1396	275, 287	220-229
1.03.06	Describe Holy Matrimony as a sign of God's love between husband and wife.	Gen 1:26-27	1601, 1603	337-338	283-285

Pillar II: The Celebration of the Christian Mystery -Being filled with God's grace
Grade 1

Indicator ID	Task of Catechesis II: Initiating into the Celebration of the Mystery	Scripture	CCC	Compendium	USCCA
	Standard 4 Liturgy: Know, 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 and mission of the Church.				
1.04.01	Show respect for God by entering the church building quietly, making the sign of the Cross with Holy Water and genuflecting to the presence of God in the tabernacle where present (In many military settings the Blessed Sacrament is reserved in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel).	Phil 2:9-11	1674	353	295
1.04.02	Describe the baptismal font as the place of the ritual of Baptism where we are first welcomed into the Church.	Acts 9:10-19 Mt 28:19	1182-1186	246	183-187
1.04.03	Describe the Mass as a time that God is present to us in His Word and in the Eucharist.	Acts 2:42	1346	277	217-220
1.04.04	Identify the proclamation of the Gospel at Mass as hearing God's Word spoken to us.	1 Thes 2:13	1349	328	218
1.04.05	State that Christ is present in those assembled, in the Word of God and in the priest.	Mt 28:20	1348-1355	328-329	218-220
1.04.06	Identify when the priest speaks the words of Jesus at the Last Supper as the time that we recognize Jesus' presence with us in the bread and wine that become his Body and Blood.	Lk 22:19-20 Mt 26:28	1365	273	219-220, 223
1.04.07	Identify the symbols and the colors of the seasons of the Church Year: Advent wreath, Lent ashes , palms, cross, Easter candle.		1168-1171	242	297



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Task of Catechesis III: Forming for life in Christ

Imitating Jesus Christ

Catechesis has the task of making the heart of every Christian resound with the call to live a new life in keeping with the dignity of the children of God received in Baptism and with the life of the Risen One that is communicated through the sacraments. This task consists in showing that the response to the lofty vocation to holiness (cf. LG 40) is a filial way of life that is capable of bringing every situation back to the way of truth and happiness that is Christ. In this sense, catechesis instructs the believer in following the Lord according to the dispositions described in the Beatitudes (Mt 5:1-12), which manifest his very life. “Jesus explained with great simplicity what it means to be holy when he gave us the Beatitudes (cf. Mt 5:3-12; Lk 6:20-23). The beatitudes are like a Christian identify card (Francis, Apostolic Exhortation *Gaudete et exsultate*, March 19, 2018).” (DC no. 83)

In the same way, the catechetical task of educating the believer to the good life of the Gospel involves the Christian formation of the moral conscience, so that in every circumstance he may listen to the Father’s will in order to discern, under the guidance of the Spirit and in harmony with the law of Christ (cf. Gal 6:2), the evil to be avoided and the good to be done and putting this into practice with diligent charity. This is why it is important to teach the believer to draw from the commandment of charity developed from the Decalogue (cf. Ex 20:1-17; Dt 5:6-21) and from the virtues, both human and Christian, guidelines for acting as Christians in the different areas of life. Not forgetting that the Lord came to give life in abundance (cf. Jn 10:10), catechesis should know how to point out “the attractiveness and the ideal of a life of wisdom, self-fulfillment and enrichment: so as to make believers “joyful messages of challenging proposal, guardians of the goodness and beauty which shine forth in a life of fidelity to the Gospel (cf. EG 168).” (DC no. 84)

The response to the common Christian vocation is realized in an incarnate manner, because every child of God, according to the measure of his freedom, listening to God and recognizing the charisms entrusted by him, has the responsibility of discovering his own role in the plan of salvation. Moral instruction in catechesis is therefore always imparted against a vocational background, looking first of all at one’s life as the first and fundamental vocation. Every form of catechesis is to do all it

can to illustrate the dignity of the Christian vocation, to provide accompaniment in the discernment of specific vocations, to help the believer to solidify his state in life. It is up to catechetical action to demonstrate that the faith lived in a commitment to loving as Christ did, is the way to foster the coming of the kingdom of God in the world and to hope in the promise of eternal beatitude. (DC no. 85)

Parents are also responsible for shaping the will of their children, fostering good habits and a natural inclination to goodness. This entails presenting certain ways of thinking and acting as desirable and worthwhile, as part of a gradual process of growth... Moral formation should always take place with active methods and a dialogue that teaches through sensitivity and by using a language that children can understand. It should also take place inductively, so that children can learn for themselves the importance of certain values, principles and norms, rather than by imposing these as absolute and unquestionable truths. (*Amoris laetitia* no. 264)

In the twilight of life, God will not judge us on our earthly possessions and human success, but rather on how much we have loved. (St. John of the Cross)

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)

If we completely rejoice the heart of God, let us strive in all things to conform ourselves to His divine will. Let us not only strive to conform ourselves, but also to unite ourselves to whatever dispositions God makes of us. Conformity signifies that we join our wills to the will of God. Uniformity means more. Uniformity means that we make one will of God's will and our will. In this way we will only what God wills. God's will alone is our will. (St. Alphonsus Liguori)

Pillar III: Life in Christ -Imitating Jesus Christ
Grade 1

Indicator ID	Task of Catechesis III: Forming for Life in Christ	Scripture	CCC	Compendium	USCCA
	Standard 5 Conscience: Form, develop and influence a moral conscience informed by Church teachings to discern, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, evil to be avoided and the good to be pursued by imitating the beatitudes and practicing the commandment of love at the heart of the decalogue.				
1.05.01	List and know images of the Holy Spirit.	1 Cor 12:13 1 Jn 2:20 Acts 2:3-4	694-701	139	107
1.05.02	Identify that we live good lives with the help of the Holy Spirit.	Rom 5:5	733-736	145	102-109
1.05.03	Recall that God created us to love – to do what is right and good in response to his love for us.	Eph 1:5-6	293, 338	53	15
1.05.04	State that God gives us the ability to choose right or wrong	Sir 15:14	1730-1732	363	310-311
1.05.05	Define sin as choosing to disobey God.	Jas 4:17	1732-1733	363	311
	Standard 6 Christian Living: Educate, understand and practice living the moral teachings of the Church in light of the Gospel message 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.				
1.06.01	Illustrate ways Jesus teaches us to love God and our neighbor, and state the Two Great Commandments of God and their meaning.	Jn 13:34-35, Lk 10:25-28	1965-1972	420	307-309
1.06.02	Show understanding that God created me as good and loving, to be respected and loved by others.	Gen 1:27	1699-1715, 1738, 2106	358	310
1.06.03	Recall that when other children are doing something that harms us, themselves or others, such as bullying, we should ask them to stop or ask parents/teachers to help.	Mt 7:12 Tob 4:15 1 Cor 8:12 Rom 14:21	1789	375	389-390
1.06.04	State that God wants us to love and obey our parents.	Eph 6:1-3	2196-2200, 2214-2220, 2251	455, 459	377



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Task of Catechesis IV: Teaching Prayer

Pray with Jesus Christ

The Catechism of the Catholic Church identifies three ways or expressions of prayer leading to composure of heart: vocal prayer, meditative prayer and contemplative prayer (CCC nos. 2700-2724). These three expressions of prayer are further defined by the four core forms or types of prayer, namely, adoration, contrition, thanksgiving and supplication (ACTS) (CCC nos. 1451, 2623-2649).

“Prayer is first of all a gift from God; in fact, in every one of the baptized ‘the Spirit himself intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words’ (Rom 8:26). Catechesis has the task of educating the believer for prayer and in prayer, developing the contemplative dimension of Christian experience. It is necessary to teach him to pray with Jesus Christ and like him: ‘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 [contrition] and awe for his glory. All of these sentiments are reflected in the Our Father, the prayer which Jesus taught his disciples and which is the model of all Christian prayer [...] When catechesis is permeated by a climate of prayer, the assimilation of the entire Christian life reaches its summit.’” (GDC no. 85; DC no. 86)

“This task implies the teaching of both personal prayer and liturgical and community prayer, initiating the believer into the permanent forms of prayer: blessing and adoration, petition [contrition], intercession, thanksgiving, and praise. There are several well-established means for achieving these ends: the prayerful reading of sacred scripture, in particular through the liturgy of the hours and *lectio divina*; the prayer of the heart called the Jesus prayer, the veneration of the Blessed Virgin Mary through practices of piety like the holy Rosary, supplications, processions, etc.” (DC no. 87; CCC 2626-2649; CCC 435)

“Spirit-filled evangelizers are evangelizers who pray and work... What is needed is the ability to cultivate an interior space which can give a Christian meaning to commitment and activity. Without prolonged moments of adoration, of prayerful encounter with the word, of sincere conversation with the Lord, our work easily becomes meaningless; we lose energy as a result of weariness and

difficulties, and our fervor dies out. The Church urgently needs the deep breath of prayer.” (*Evangelii gaudium* no. 262)

“God draws every human being towards himself, and every human being desires communion with God. Prayer is the basis and expression of the vital and personal relationship of a human person with the living and true God: ‘God tirelessly calls each person to that mysterious encounter known as prayer.’ 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.” (GDC no. 34 and CCC no. 2567)

“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)

**Pillar IV: Christian Prayer -Praying with Jesus Christ
Grade 1**

Indicator ID	Task of Catechesis IV: Teaching Prayer	Scripture	CCC	Compendium	USCCA
	PRAYER: 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.		Paragraph USCCB Version	Question	Page
1.07.01	Recognize that prayer is listening to and talking to God as our loving Father.	1 Sam 3:1-10	2558-2569, 2590	534	478, 490-492
1.07.02	Define prayer as coming into God's presence; when we love him, we are with him.	Ex 3:1-6	2652-2659	558	468-469
1.07.03	Explain how Jesus teaches us to pray.	Mt 6:5-8	2608-2614, 2621	544	466-467
1.07.04	Memorize and recite the Sign of the Cross, the Lord's Prayer, the Hail Mary and the Glory Be.	Mt 6:9-15 Lk 1:26-38		See <i>Sign of the Cross</i> , p. 181	184, See <i>Sign of the Cross</i> , 532
1.07.06	Explain what family prayer is.	Num 6:24-26 Dt 6:6-7	2685-2690, 2694-2695	565	472
1.07.07	Share an example of a prayer for the dead and pray for someone who has died.	Mt 9:23-25 Lk 7:11-17 Jn 11:38-44 Jn 14:12	958, 1030-1032	See <i>Eternal Rest</i> , p.181	161, 537 <i>Prayer for Souls in Purgatory</i>
1.07.08	Recognize that asking God for his help is called a prayer of petition.	Lk 11:5-10	2629-2636, 2646-2647	553-554	467-468
1.07.09	Recognize that when we pray to the Blessed Mother and the saints, they intercede to Jesus for us.	Jn 2:1-11	2673-2679, 2682-2684, 2692-2693	562-564	470-472
1.07.10	Describe how the church is a special and sacred place.	Is 56:7 Mt 21:13	2691, 2696	566	174



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Task of Catechesis V: Introduction to Community Life

Belonging to the Catholic Church as Co-responsible Missionary Disciples in Communion

The faith is professed, celebrated, expressed, and lived above all in community: The communitarian dimension is not just a ‘frame,’ an ‘outline,’ but an integral part of the Christian life, of witness and of evangelization” (Francis, general audience (January 15, 2014). This is well expressed in the classical principle: “Idem velle atque idem nolle -to want the same thing, and to reject the same thing -was recognized by antiquity as the authentic content of love: the one becomes similar to the other, and this leads to a community of will and thought” (Benedict XVI, Encyclical Letter *Deus Caritas Est*, December 25, 2005, 17). What makes this possible is cultivating a spirituality of communion. This makes one able to see the light of the Trinity reflected in the face of one’s brother as well, feeling through the profound unity of the mystical Body that he is part of oneself; sharing his joys and sufferings in order to perceive his desires; taking care of his needs; offering him a true and profound friendship. Looking above all at what is positive in the other in order to cherish him as a gift from God helps one to reject the selfish temptations that lead to competition, careerism, distrust and jealousy. (DC no. 88)

Catechesis, in reference to preparation for community life, therefore has the task of developing the sense of belonging to the Church; teaching the sense of ecclesial communion, promoting the acceptance of the Magisterium, communion with pastors, fraternal dialogue, forming believers in the sense of ecclesial co-responsibility, contributing as active participants to building up the community and as missionary disciples to its growth. (DC no. 89)

Being Church means being God’s people, in accordance with the great plan of his fatherly love. This means that we are to be God’s leaven in the midst of humanity. It means proclaiming and bringing God’s salvation into our world, which often goes astray and needs to be encouraged, given hope and strengthened on the way. The Church must be a place of mercy freely given, where everyone can feel welcomed, loved, forgiven and encouraged to live the good life of the Gospel. (*Evangelii Gaudium* no. 114)

The Church, by her nature a dialogical reality in that she is an image of the Trinity and is enlivened by the Holy Spirit, is committed in an irreversible way to the promotion of the unity of all the disciples of Christ. Life all ecclesial activities, catechesis as well is intrinsically marked by an ecumenical dimension, in the wake of the movement elicited by the Holy Spirit that drives the Catholic Church to seek perfect unity with the other Churches or Christian confessions according to the will of the Lord, on the basis of Baptism, Sacred Scripture, the common heritage of faith, and in particular today the powerful shared experience of martyrdom. On the one hand, the proclamation of the Gospel and catechesis are at the service of dialogue and ecumenical formation; on the other, the commitment to Christian unity is itself a credible way and instrument of evangelization in the world. (DC no. 344)

An attitude of openness in truth and in love must characterize the dialogue with the followers of non-Christian religions, in spite of various obstacles and difficulties, especially forms of fundamentalism on both sides. Interreligious dialogue is a necessary condition for peace in the world, and so it is a duty for Christians as well as other religious communities. This dialogue is in first place a conversation about human existence or simply, as the bishops of India have put it, a matter of “being open to them, sharing their joys and sorrows.” In this way we learn to accept others and their different ways of living, thinking and speaking. We can then join one another in taking up the duty of serving justice and peace, which should become a basic principle of all of our exchanges. A dialogue which seeks social peace and justice is in itself, beyond all merely practical considerations, an ethical commitment which brings about a new social situation. Efforts made in dealing with a specific theme can become a process in which, by mutual listening, both parts can be purified and enriched. These efforts, therefore, can also express love for truth. (*Evangelii Gaudium* no. 250)

At all times and in every race, God has given welcome to whosoever fears Him and does what is right. God, however, does not make men holy and save them merely as individuals, without bond or link between one another. Rather has it pleased Him to bring men together as one people, a people which acknowledges Him in truth and serves Him in holiness.” (*Lumen Gentium* no. 9)

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). Evangelization is an ecclesial process, inspired and supported by the Holy Spirit, through which the Gospel is proclaimed and spread throughout the world (DC 21).

In this renewed awareness of her vocation, the Church is also re-envisioning catechesis as one of her works *in a missionary going forth*. This means being willing to seek out the glimmers of truth that are already present in various human activities, trusting that God is mysteriously active in in the heart of the human being before this has been explicitly reached by the Gospel. In this sense, she will find ways to draw near to the people of our time, walking alongside them wherever they happen to be. Catechesis, moreover, forms believers for mission, accompanying them in the maturation of attitudes of faith and making them aware that they are *missionary disciples*, called to participate actively in the proclamation of the Gospel and to make the Kingdom of God present in the world.” (DC no. 50)

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Indicator ID	Task of Catechesis V: Introduction to Community Life	Scripture	CCC	Compendium	USCCA
	Standard 8 Catholic Church: Introduce, understand and share in 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.	Book, Chapter and Verses	Paragraph USCCB Version	Question	Page
1.08.01	State that the church is a place where people gather to praise, thank and worship God.	Jn 4:24 1 Pet 2:4-5 2Cor 6:16	1179-1186 1197-1199	244-246	174
1.08.02	Show understanding that because of our baptism the Church is God's special family.	Acts 2:41, 47; Eph 1:22	753-757	148	120
1.08.03	State that we learn about God through the Church.	1 Tim 3:15 Jude 3	171, 774-776, 780-782	152-154	23, 32-33
1.08.04	Identify the name Catholic as the name of the Church of which we are members.	Jn 11:52, 17:11	816, 870	162	130
1.08.05	State that Jesus Christ established the Church and commanded his followers to help the church grow.	Mt 16:18	852-856	173	138
1.08.06	Retell stories to show that the Church has many holy people some of whom are called saints .	Heb 12:1-2	823-828, 867	165	1, 101, 111, 125, 142, etc.
	Standard 9 Ecumenism: Introduce, understand and participate in the call of the Church to be a sign of unity in the world through knowledge of and collaboration with Eastern Catholic, Orthodox, and Christian churches.				
1.09.01	Understand that Jesus founded the Catholic Church.	Mt 16:18	813-815, 866, 870	161-162	114
1.09.02	Understand that other Christians share a common baptism and belief in Jesus even though they understand what Jesus taught us differently than we do	Eph 4:5-13	817-819	163	130

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Indicator ID	Task of Catechesis V: Introduction to Community Life	Scripture	CCC	Compendium	USCCA
	Standard 10 Interpersonal Relationships: Introduce principles of Catholic theology of the body to cultivate healthy and safe relationships.	Book, Chapter and Verses	Paragraph USCCB Version	Question	Page
1.10.01	Discuss that all persons are "created in God's image."	Gen 1:27	229, 337-349, 353-354	43, 63, 66-67	67-68, 73
1.10.02	Show how we love and respect our family.	Eph 6:1-6	1666, 2201-2205, 2249	350, 456	376-379, 384
1.10.03	Define womb as a special place where a baby grows.	Jer 1:5	2270	94, 98	408-410
1.10.04	Discuss that we treat others the way Jesus would have treated them.	Mt 7:12 Lk 6:31	1965-1972	420	87, 307-309, 325
1.10.05	Distinguish between respectful touches and disrespectful touches.	Mt 5:37	2336-2359	488-494	405-406
	Standard 11 Vocation Discernment: Understand, discern 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.				
1.11.01	Examine a variety of Christian vocations as a response to the baptismal call .	Mt 28:19-20	27-30, 897-900, 914-916, 925-927, 1547-1548,	2, 188	134-137, 452, See <i>Vocation</i> , 531
1.11.02	Show understanding that God calls us as his own to be loved and to love.	Jn 13:34	355-358, 1604	66	See <i>Meditation</i> , 401-402
1.11.03	State that marriage is a vocation and a sacrament between a man and a woman.	Gen 2:18-25 Eph 5:31	1601-1605, 1659-1660	337-338	279-285
1.11.04	Identify the priest as a man, chosen by God, ordained by the Bishop in the Church, leading people to the sacraments.	1 Tm 4:14-16	1554-1558, 1562-1571,	326, 328, 330	269-271

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Indicator ID	Task of Catechesis V: Introduction to Community Life	Scripture	CCC	Compendium	USCCA
	Standard 12 Catholic Social Teaching: Introduce, critique, and apply social justice and stewardship principles to societal situations in a way that acknowledges and affirms the dignity of the human person, the common good of the community and care of creation.	Book, Chapter and Verses	Paragraph USCCB Version	Question	Page
1.12.01	State that Jesus shows us how to live.	Mt 5:3-12	1716	359	307-309
1.12.02	Recognize that God has entrusted to all human beings the responsibility for the world and all its creatures.	Gen 2:15	678-679	135	424, 426, 450-455
1.12.03	Understand that we are called to be helpful and loving to our parents, brothers, sisters, friends, teachers, the poor and suffering.	Jn 13:34 Lk 6:20-23 Rom 13:8-10	2196-2200, 2247-2248	455-456	451
1.12.04	Know that as Catholics, we promise to take care of all God's creation.	Gen 2:15 2 Cor 8:9	2407, 2415	59, 506	424, 450-452
	Standard 13 Interreligious Dialogue: Introduce, 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 beyond Christianity by being witnesses of faith.				
1.13.01	Show understanding that God loves and cares for all people and we should, too.	Jn 13:34-35	782-786	154 -155	116-121
1.13.02	Understand that we care for all people of different cultures and races at every stage of life.	Jn 13:34-35 Gen 1:27 Col 1:15	1699-1715	358	324-327
1.13.03	State that Jesus was a Jew who lived and carried out his mission within the Jewish culture and tradition.	Mt 2:2 Jn 2:13; 7:2, 10 Mk 1:21 Lk 2:51-52	839-840	169	79-80, 98

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Indicator ID	Task of Catechesis V: Introduction to Community Life	Scripture	CCC	Compendium	USCCA
	Standard 14 Missionary Discipleship: Initiate, cultivate and send baptized and confirmed Catholics to be active participants in the evangelizing mission of the Church by proclaiming and teaching the person of Jesus Christ, nurtured by the Holy Eucharist and the community.	Book, Chapter and Verses	Paragraph USCCB Version	Question	Page
1.14.01	Understand that we are called to share our story of faith in Jesus and invite others to come to know and love him as we do.	Mt 28:19-20 Jn 4:28-29 Lk 24:32-35 Jn 20:18	849-851, 1546-1547	172	135-137
1.14.02	Tell that God created each person to love him and to love others.	Mt 22:37-40	50-58, 69-71	6-7	417
1.14.03	Recognize that God gave all of us gifts to share with others.	1 Cor 12:12-31	2534-2540, 2544-2547	551-553	450-452