

# The Seed is the Word of God

CURRICULUM GUIDE  
Kindergarten through Grade Twelve



School of Evangelization  
ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN





## Office of the Bishop

*Diocese of Brooklyn*

310 Prospect Park West  
Brooklyn, New York 11215

May 15, 2014

Dear Monsignor / Father, Catechetical Leader, and Catechist:

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, in his address to participants during the pilgrimage of catechists on the occasion of the Year of Faith and the International Congress on Catechesis, said, “It is perhaps the best legacy we can pass on: the Faith! To educate in the Faith, to make it grow, to help children, young people, and adults to know and love the Lord more and more is one of the most exciting aspects of education. It builds up the Church!”

The School of Evangelization, formed under my direction in the fall of 2013, fosters the ongoing Faith formation and education of all involved in this most important ministry of the Church: the young and the old, the student and the catechist, the parent and the pastor.

I encourage you to promote the catechetical mission of the Church in our parish programs and academies and schools in Brooklyn and Queens by using this *The Seed is The Word of God Curriculum Guide* as your primary catechetical guide.

Please be assured that all involved in the education and formation in the Faith of our young people and their parents, so vital a part of our Church today, are remembered daily in my masses and prayers.

In a special way, I thank Mr. Theodore Musco, Executive Director of the School of Evangelization and Director of the Office of Faith Formation; Sr. Alice Michael, SUSC, Coordinator, RCIA and Children's Faith Formation; Mrs. Frances DeLuca; Miss Mary Flannery and Mr. Lawrence Rilla for their contributions to this Curriculum Guide.

Asking Christ Our Teacher to extend His choicest blessings upon you and with every best wish, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Nicholas DiMarzio, Ph.D., D.D.  
Bishop of Brooklyn



# Introduction

Since 2011, *The Seed is the Word of God Resource for Catechetical Planning* has served as the primary resource for organizing our religious education programs in the parishes, schools, and academies of the Diocese of Brooklyn. It was written to provide pastors, administrators, catechetical leaders, catechists and parents the tools necessary to ensure that a well-planned and complete program of religious education is available for every student. It also provided guidance for ensuring parish programs of lifelong faith formation (Appendix One).

I am pleased to present the new *The Seed is the Word of God Curriculum Guide*. Revisions have been made to the original 2011 document based on the comments by many of you in the field. Outcomes are now organized for kindergarten through grade eight by individual grade. Standards and outcomes are presented for each of the core courses found in the *Doctrinal Elements of a Curriculum Framework* (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops) for young people of high school age. Vocabulary words, saints, prayers, and liturgical terms have been added to kindergarten through grade eight sections. Appendices include a Plan for Lifelong Formation, Media Resources, Parent/Adult Standards and Outcomes, Sacrament Standards, USCCB Approved Texts, and a listing of important Church documents regarding the New Evangelization and Catechesis.

*The Seed is the Word of God Curriculum Guide* provides the catechist with the resource for teaching the faith comprehensively to children and youth. It contains the following:

- **SIX TASKS OF CATECHESIS** found in the *National Directory for Catechesis*. These serve as the basic doctrinal building blocks for organizing our religious education programs.
- **STANDARDS** that serve as statements of what the Church teaches. The textbook you use will provide the materials and methods to communicate the Church's teaching.
- **OUTCOMES** that state what the learner will know, believe, or be expected to do at the end of the lesson and will indicate how that knowledge or skill will be demonstrated.

When planning to teach religion, a catechist will make use of the following resources in this particular order:

- **FIRST** Scope and Sequence (from your program's approved text)
- **SECOND** Catechist Manual (from your program's approved text)
- **THIRD** *The Seed is the Word of God Curriculum Guide*

*The Seed of the Word of God* will help the catechist determine whether progress has been made at the specific grade level. The catechist will use the document as a checklist to indicate those standards and outcomes that have been successfully completed. The catechist will make use of this guide throughout each catechetical year to determine that the required standards and outcomes are being met.

Thank you for your faithfulness and commitment to the ministry of catechesis.

Theodore J. Musco  
Executive Director  
School of Evangelization



# Catechetical Tasks, Standards, and Outcomes

## KINDERGARTEN

### CATECHETICAL TASK ONE: CREED

Catechesis promotes knowledge of the faith

**Standard One:** We believe in God the Father as our Creator.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Kindergarten, the learner should:

- Recognize that God created everything

**Standard Two:** We believe in Jesus Christ as the Divine Son of God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Kindergarten, the learner should:

- Know that God the Father sent Jesus to be our Savior (Christmas)

**Standard Three:** The Bible is the revealed Word of God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Kindergarten, the learner should:

- Understand that the Bible is the Word of God

**Standard Four:** Catholic teaching is based on Sacred Scripture, the Creeds, and the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Kindergarten, the learner should:

- Recognize God as the Father of all creation

**Standard Five:** We believe that men and women are created to live in union with God in this life and in Heaven forever.

**Outcome:** By the completion of Kindergarten, the learner should:

- Recognize that God is always with us



## KINDERGARTEN

### CATECHETICAL TASK TWO: SACRAMENTS

Catechesis promotes a greater participation in the Liturgy and the sacraments of the Church.

**Standard One:** Encourage active participation in the Mass and various other liturgical celebrations of the faith community.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Kindergarten, the learner should:

- Begin to respond to the various parts of the Mass by learning the proper responses

**Standard Two:** Promote a basic understanding of the Catholic Church as the People of God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Kindergarten, the learner should:

- Know that we are created to be part of God's family of believers

**Standard Three:** Catholics prepare to celebrate the sacraments with an emphasis on the centrality of the Eucharist.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Kindergarten, the learner should:

- Understand that in the Sacrament of Baptism, we are welcomed into the Catholic Church

**Standard Four:** Instill a sense of priority to actively participate in Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Kindergarten, the learner should:

- See by the good example of their parents a reverent participation in Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation



## KINDERGARTEN

### CATECHETICAL TASK THREE: MORALITY

Catechesis promotes moral formation in Jesus Christ.

**Standard One:** Catechetical programs teach the reality of sin and evil in the world.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Kindergarten, the learner should:

- Understand the difference between right and wrong

**Standard Two:** Jesus is the model for Catholic/Christian living and decision making.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Kindergarten, the learner should:

- Understand that Jesus shows us the difference between right and wrong

**Standard Three:** A person's conscience is formed by Church teachings.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Kindergarten, the learner should:

- Explain how Jesus lived and treated others

**Standard Four:** Catechetical programs present and explain age-appropriate moral truths concerning human life.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Kindergarten, the learner should:

- Be able to express that God created each of us and loves us always



## KINDERGARTEN

### CATECHETICAL TASK FOUR: PRAYER

Catechesis teaches the Christian how to pray with Christ.

**Standard One:** Learners actively participate in the Mass, various forms of worship, formal prayers, and devotions.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Kindergarten, the learner should:

- Learn from their parents how to celebrate Easter and Christmas as special religious Holy Days

**Standard Two:** Catechetical programs support and empower parents as the primary educators of their children.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Kindergarten, the parents should:

- Cultivate the habit of prayer in the home, especially around meals and bedtime

**Standard Three:** Private prayer is a means by which we communicate with God and strengthen our relationship with Him.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Kindergarten, the learner should:

- Understand that we can always talk to God privately and He will hear our prayer



## KINDERGARTEN

### CATECHETICAL TASK FIVE: EVANGELIZATION

Catechesis prepares the Christian to live in community and to participate actively in the life and mission of the Church.

**Standard One:** A variety of vocational callings are a response to one's Baptism in Christ.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Kindergarten, the learner should:

- Hear stories of people who led good, holy lives

**Standard Two:** Engage the learner in service to the community as a response to the Gospels and as a primary way of coming to know, love, and serve God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Kindergarten, the learner should:

- Participate in age-appropriate works of charity

**Standard Three:** Promote understanding and respect for different cultures and religions.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Kindergarten, the learner should:

- Show respect for individuals of different ethnic backgrounds

**Standard Four:** Support the exercise of responsible stewardship for the gift of God's creation.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Kindergarten, the learner should:

- Realize that everyone is responsible for caring about God's creation



## KINDERGARTEN

### CATECHETICAL TASK SIX: EVANGELIZATION

Catechesis promotes a missionary spirit that prepares the faithful to be and to give a clear Christian witness in society.

**Standard One:** Society, as well as the individual, must work to apply the principles of social justice and peace-making to personal and societal situations.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Kindergarten, the learner should:

- Know that we must love others as God loves us

**Standard Two:** Acknowledge and affirm the dignity of each human person.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Kindergarten, the learner should:

- Understand that we are to care for the needs of others by being kind and considerate

**Standard Three:** The Ten Commandments and the eight Beatitudes provide a foundation for Catholic/Christian living.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Kindergarten, the learner should:

- Know that Jesus taught us how to treat others with love and kindness

BIBLE	SAINTS	PRAYERS	LITURGY
Creation	St. Mary	Angel of God	Jesus speaks to us in the Bible
Annunciation	St. Joseph		
Birth of Jesus			
The Good Shepherd			



## GRADE ONE

### CATECHETICAL TASK ONE: CREED

Catechesis promotes knowledge of the faith.

**Standard One:** We believe in God the Father as our Creator.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade One, the learner should:

- Be able to identify what God created

**Standard Two:** We believe in Jesus Christ as the Divine Son of God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade One, the learner should:

- Know that Jesus died (Good Friday) and rose for us (Easter Sunday)

**Standard Three:** The Bible is the revealed Word of God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade One, the learner should:

- Understand the meaning of simple Bible stories such as the story of creation in the Book of Genesis

**Standard Four:** Catholic teaching is based on Sacred Scripture, the Creeds, and the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade One, the learner should:

- Learn that Mary is the Mother of Jesus

**Standard Five:** We believe that men and women are created to live in union with God in this life and in Heaven forever.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade One, the learner should:

- Be familiar with the Bible story of Adam and Eve



## GRADE ONE

### CATECHETICAL TASK TWO: SACRAMENTS

Catechesis promotes a greater participation in the Liturgy and the sacraments of the Church.

**Standard One:** Encourage active participation in the Mass and various other liturgical celebrations of the faith community.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade One, the learner should:

- Recognize that the priest leads the worship in Church and the deacon assists the priest at Mass

**Standard Two:** Promote a basic understanding of the Catholic Church as the People of God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade One, the learner should:

- Know that we are created to be part of God's family of believers

**Standard Three:** Catholics prepare to celebrate the sacraments with an emphasis on the centrality of the Eucharist.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade One, the learner should:

- Understand that the Sacrament of Baptism welcomes us into the Catholic Church and into a life of Faith in Jesus

**Standard Four:** Instill a sense of priority to actively participate in Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade One, the learner should:

- Recognize Sunday as the Lord's Day, a day of rest



## GRADE ONE

### CATECHETICAL TASK THREE: MORALITY

Catechesis promotes moral formation in Jesus Christ.

**Standard One:** Catechetical programs teach the reality of sin and evil in the world.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade One, the learner should:

- Understand that God who is a loving Father has expectations for each of us just as our parents/guardians do

**Standard Two:** Jesus is the model for Catholic/Christian living and decision making.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade One, the learner should:

- Understand that stories in the New Testament help us to know Jesus as one who cares about us and others

**Standard Three:** A person's conscience is formed by Church teachings.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade One, the learner should:

- Begin to follow Church teachings as taught by their parents and catechists

**Standard Four:** Catechetical programs present and explain age-appropriate moral truths concerning human life.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade One, the learner should:

- Be able to recognize that God and their parents love them even though they might do something wrong



## GRADE ONE

### CATECHETICAL TASK FOUR: PRAYER

Catechesis teaches the Christian how to pray with Christ.

**Standard One:** Learners actively participate in the Mass, various forms of worship, formal prayers, and devotions.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade One, the learner should:

- Understand that the Church is the place we go to pray and worship God with others

**Standard Two:** Catechetical programs support and empower parents as the primary educators of their children.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade One, the parents should:

- Work with their children to memorize and pray basic prayers

**Standard Three:** Private prayer is a means by which we communicate with God and strengthen our relationship with Him.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade One, the learner should:

- Understand that we can always talk to God privately and He will hear our prayer



## GRADE ONE

### CATECHETICAL TASK FIVE: EVANGELIZATION

Catechesis prepares the Christian to live in community and to participate actively in the life and mission of the Church.

**Standard One:** A variety of vocational callings are a response to one's Baptism in Christ.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade One, the learner should:

- Listen to stories of people who led good and holy lives by responding to their Baptismal calling

**Standard Two:** Engage the learner in service to the community as a response to the Gospels and as a primary way of coming to know, love, and serve God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade One, the learner should:

- Help others by serving as Jesus did

**Standard Three:** Promote understanding and respect for different cultures and religions.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade One, the learner should:

- Know that God created each of us as individuals with specific gifts and talents

**Standard Four:** Support the exercise of responsible stewardship for the gift of God's creation.

**OUTCOMES:** By the completion of Grade One, the learner should:

- Realize that God created everything out of nothing
- Realize that everyone is responsible for caring about God's creation



## GRADE ONE

### CATECHETICAL TASK SIX: EVANGELIZATION

Catechesis promotes a missionary spirit that prepares the faithful to be and to give a clear Christian witness in society.

**Standard One:** Society, as well as the individual, must work to apply the principles of social justice and peace-making to personal and societal situations.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade One, the learner should:

- Know that we must love others as God loves us

**Standard Two:** Acknowledge and affirm the dignity of each human person.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade One, the learner should:

- Understand that we are to care for the needs of others by being kind and considerate

**Standard Three:** The Ten Commandments and the Eight Beatitudes provide a foundation for Catholic/Christian living.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade One, the learner should:

- Recognize the stories in the Bible that relate to the Ten Commandments and the Eight Beatitudes

BIBLE	SAINTS	PRAYERS	LITURGY
Adam and Eve	St. Francis of Assisi	Hail Mary	Liturgical colors
Moses (birth)	St. Anthony of Padua	Glory be	White or gold (Christmas, Easter, Solemnities)
Visitation	St. Therese of Lisieux		Green (Ordinary Time)
Presentation in the Temple			Purple (Advent and Lent)
Finding of Jesus in the Temple			Red (Pentecost, feast of the apostles and martyrs)
			chalice
			ciborium
			cruets



## GRADE TWO

### CATECHETICAL TASK ONE: CREED

Catechesis promotes knowledge of the faith.

**Standard One:** We believe in God the Father as our Creator.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Two, the learner should:

- Understand that we are created to be part of the Family of God

**Standard Two:** We believe in Jesus Christ as the Divine Son of God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Two, the learner should:

- Recognize that Jesus is our brother and the Son of God

**Standard Three:** The Bible is the revealed Word of God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Two, the learner should:

- Be familiar with the following Bible stories:
  - The Birth of Jesus
  - Finding Jesus in the Temple
  - The Good Shepherd
  - The Last Supper

**Standard Four:** Catholic teaching is based on Sacred Scripture, the Creeds, and the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Two, the learner should:

- Recognize that the Holy Family is made up of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

**Standard Five:** We believe that men and women are created to live in union with God in this life and in Heaven forever.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Two, the learner should:

- Understand the Bible story of Adam and Eve



## GRADE TWO

### CATECHETICAL TASK TWO: SACRAMENTS

Catechesis promotes a greater participation in the Liturgy and the sacraments of the Church.

**Standard One:** Encourage active participation in the Mass and various other liturgical celebrations of the faith community.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Two, the learner should:

- Understand that Jesus changed ordinary bread and wine into His Body and Blood at the Last Supper (Holy Thursday)
- Understand that the Eucharist is the real presence of Jesus at Mass
- Participate reverently in Sunday Mass, Holy Days of Obligation, and other liturgical celebrations

**Standard Two:** Promote a basic understanding of the Catholic Church as the People of God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Two, the learner should:

- Understand that we are members of many families:
  - Our own family
  - Our Parish Family
  - Our School/Academy Family

**Standard Three:** Catholics prepare to celebrate the Sacraments with an emphasis on the centrality of the Eucharist.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Two, the learner should:

- Know that Jesus instituted the Eucharist at the Last Supper

**Standard Four:** Instill a sense of priority to actively participate in Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Two, the learner should:

- Understand that participation in Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation is part of every Catholic's responsibility

Standards for First Penance can be found in Appendix Four.

Standards for First Eucharist can be found in Appendix Four.



## GRADE TWO

### CATECHETICAL TASK THREE: MORALITY

Catechesis promotes moral formation in Jesus Christ.

**Standard One:** Catechetical programs teach the reality of sin and evil in the world.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Two, the learner should:

- Be able to express sorrow when they do something wrong on purpose

**Standard Two:** Jesus is the model for Catholic/Christian living and decision making.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Two, the learner should:

- Help others by serving as Jesus did

**Standard Three:** A person's conscience is formed by Church teachings.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Two, the learner should:

- Know that God loves us and is always ready to forgive us

**Standard Four:** Catechetical programs present and explain age-appropriate moral truths concerning human life.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Two, the learner should:

- Understand stories of saints and modern day people who provide us with good examples and models of Catholic/Christian living:
  - Saint Francis of Assisi
  - Saint Rose of Lima
  - Blessed Teresa of Calcutta
  - Venerable Dorothy Day



## GRADE TWO

### CATECHETICAL TASK FOUR: PRAYER

Catechesis teaches the Christian how to pray with Christ.

**Standard One:** Learners actively participate in the Mass, various forms of worship, formal prayers, and devotions.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Two, the learner should:

- Realize that prayer is talking and listening to God
- Know that we can pray and worship God in various ways, especially at Mass

**Standard Two:** Catechetical programs support and empower parents as the primary educators of their children.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Two, the parents should:

- Work with their children to memorize and understand basic Catholic prayers

**Standard Three:** Private prayer is a means by which we communicate with God and strengthen our relationship with Him.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Two, the learner should:

- Know that the Holy Spirit helps us to pray



## GRADE TWO

### CATECHETICAL TASK FIVE: EVANGELIZATION

Catechesis prepares the Christian to live in community and to participate actively in the life and mission of the Church.

**Standard One:** A variety of vocational callings are a response to one's Baptism in Christ.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Two, the learner should:

- Listen to stories of people who responded to their Baptismal calling, for example:
  - Saint Theresa of Lisieux, Carmelite Nun
  - Saint Catherine of Siena, Dominican Lay Person
  - Saint Dominic, founder of the Order of Preachers (Dominicans)
  - Saint Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits)

**Standard Two:** Engage the learner in service to the community as a response to the Gospels and as a primary way of coming to know, love, and serve God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Two, the learner should:

- Help others by serving as Jesus did

**Standard Three:** Promote understanding and respect for different cultures and religions.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Two, the learner should:

- Know that God created each of us with individual gifts and talents

**Standard Four:** Support the exercise of responsible stewardship for the gift of God's creation.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Two, the learner should:

- Recognize that everyone is responsible to care for God's creation



## GRADE TWO

### CATECHETICAL TASK SIX: EVANGELIZATION

Catechesis promotes a missionary spirit that prepares the faithful to be and to give a clear Christian witness in society.

**Standard One:** Society, as well as the individual, must work to apply the principles of social justice and peace-making to personal and societal situations.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Two, the learner should:

- Know that we must love others as God loves us

**Standard Two:** Acknowledge and affirm the dignity of each human person.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Two, the learner should:

- Understand that we are to care for the needs of others by being kind and considerate

**Standard Three:** The Ten Commandments and the Eight Beatitudes provide a foundation for Catholic/Christian living.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Two, the learner should:

- Know that Jesus taught us how to live by the Ten Commandments and Eight Beatitudes so that we can fittingly receive the Sacraments

BIBLE	SAINTS	PRAYERS	LITURGY
Abraham Wedding of Cana Baptism of Jesus Institution of the Eucharist Crucifixion and Death of Jesus	St. John the Baptist St. Margaret Mary Our Lady of Fatima St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	Our Father Act of Contrition	Liturgical seasons Advent (4 weeks prior to Christmas) Christmas (December 25th to Baptism of Jesus) Ordinary Time (day after Baptism of Jesus to Ash Wednesday) Lent (Ash Wednesday to sundown on Holy Thursday) Triduum (sundown of Holy Thursday to Easter Sunday Evening Prayer) Easter (50 days culminating on Pentecost) Ordinary Time (picks up on day after Pentecost to Christ the King)  paten Liturgy of the Eucharist Baptismal Font Holy water pot and sprinkler



## GRADE THREE

### CATECHETICAL TASK ONE: CREED

Catechesis promotes knowledge of the faith.

**Standard One:** We believe in God the Father as our Creator.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Three, the learner should:

- Have a better understanding that God created the world freely and out of love

**Standard Two:** We believe in Jesus Christ as the Divine Son of God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Three, the learner should:

- Know that the name Jesus means “God saves”

**Standard Three:** The Bible is the revealed Word of God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Three, the learner should:

- Understand that the Bible is the inspired Word of God

**Standard Four:** Catholic teaching is based on Sacred Scripture, the Creeds, and the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Three, the learner should:

- Acknowledge Mary as the Mother of God

**Standard Five:** We believe that men and women are created to live in union with God in this life and in Heaven forever.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Three, the learner should:

- Understand that we are created in God’s image and likeless and that we are to try to live peacefully with others



## GRADE THREE

### CATECHETICAL TASK TWO: SACRAMENTS

Catechesis promotes a greater participation in the Liturgy and the sacraments of the Church.

**Standard One:** Encourage active participation in the Mass and various other liturgical celebrations of the faith community.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Three, the learner should:

- Understand that the Mass is the center of our life of prayer and worship

**Standard Two:** Promote a basic understanding of the Catholic Church as the People of God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Three, the learner should:

- Begin to understand various complementary definitions of the Church such as:
  - People of God
  - Body of Christ
  - Community of Disciples

**Standard Three:** Catholics prepare to celebrate the sacraments with an emphasis on the centrality of the Eucharist.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Three, the learner should:

- Participate in a communal celebration of the Sacrament of Penance which is followed by individual Confession
- Receive the Holy Eucharist at least weekly, and on Holy Days of Obligation

**Standard Four:** Instill a sense of priority to actively participate in Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Three, the learner should:

- Know that if they want to receive Holy Eucharist, they must be in a state of grace
- Understand that the Mass is both a sacred meal and a holy sacrifice

Preparation for Confirmation is ongoing from the first reception of the Holy Eucharist to the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation. Standards for the Sacrament of Confirmation are found in Appendix Four. The Sacrament of Confirmation is conferred in grade eight.



## GRADE THREE

### CATECHETICAL TASK THREE: MORALITY

Catechesis promotes moral formation in Jesus Christ.

**Standard One:** Catechetical programs teach the reality of sin and evil in the world.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Three, the learner should:

- Understand that all sins for which we are truly sorry can be forgiven

**Standard Two:** Jesus is the model for Catholic/Christian living and decision making.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Three, the learner should:

- Realize that Jesus always lived in perfect communion with the Father

**Standard Three:** A person's conscience is formed by Church teachings.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Three, the learner should:

- Realize that because God is love, we are called to love

**Standard Four:** Catechetical programs present and explain age-appropriate moral truths concerning human life.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Three, the learner should:

- Know that love is the fundamental vocation of every person



## GRADE THREE

### CATECHETICAL TASK FOUR: PRAYER

Catechesis teaches the Christian how to pray with Christ.

**Standard One:** Learners actively participate in the Mass, various forms of worship, formal prayers, and devotions.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Three, the learner should:

- Continue to grow in his/her personal prayer life by learning and reciting different types of prayer

**Standard Two:** Catechetical programs support and empower parents as the primary educators of their children.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Three, the parents should:

- Give powerful example of the importance of worship by attending and participating at every Mass every Sunday and Holy Day
- Work with the child to memorize and understand the following prayers:
  - Mass responses
  - the Memorare

**Standard Three:** Private prayer is a means by which we communicate with God and strengthen our relationship with Him.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Three, the learner should:

- Understand that spontaneous prayer is an important part of our prayer life
- Spend time in private prayer on a daily basis



## GRADE THREE

### CATECHETICAL TASK FIVE: EVANGELIZATION

Catechesis prepares the Christian to live in community and to participate actively in the life and mission of the Church.

**Standard One:** A variety of vocational callings are a response to one's Baptism in Christ.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Three, the learner should:

- Realize that the Lord calls each of us to live a life of service
- Begin to appreciate that some might be called to serve as:
  - Priest
  - Deacon
  - Religious Brother
  - Religious Sister

**Standard Two:** Engage the learner in service to the community as a response to the Gospels and as a primary way of coming to know, love, and serve God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Three, the learner should:

- Actively participate in age-appropriate service projects

**Standard Three:** Promote understanding and respect for different cultures and religions.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Three, the learner should:

- Respond joyfully to God's call to give one's self in love to God and neighbor

**Standard Four:** Support the exercise of responsible stewardship for the gift of God's creation.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Three, the learner should:

- Demonstrate respect for all forms of life



## GRADE THREE

### CATECHETICAL TASK SIX: EVANGELIZATION

Catechesis promotes a missionary spirit that prepares the faithful to be and to give a clear Christian witness in society.

**Standard One:** Society, as well as the individual, must work to apply the principles of social justice and peace-making to personal and societal situations.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Three, the learner should:

- Realize the importance of respecting those who exercise proper authority in the family, in the Church, and in society

**Standard Two:** Acknowledge and affirm the dignity of each human person.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Three, the learner should:

- Be aware that we have a duty to care for the rights of others

**Standard Three:** The Ten Commandments and the Eight Beatitudes provide a foundation for Catholic/Christian living.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Three, the learner should:

- Understand the Ten Commandments in greater detail
- Understand the Eight Beatitudes in greater detail

GRADE THREE

BIBLE	SAINTS	PRAYERS	LITURGY
Moses (Leader of the Israelites)	St. Nicholas	Gloria of the Mass	incense
Noah	St. Peter		thurifer
Proclaiming the Kingdom of God	St. Paul		Introduction Rites
The Agony in the Garden			Entrance Hymn
The Scourging of Jesus			Greeting
			Penitential Rite
			Lord Have Mercy
			Gloria
			Opening Prayer (Collect)



## GRADE FOUR

### CATECHETICAL TASK ONE: CREED

Catechesis promotes knowledge of the faith.

**Standard One:** We believe in God the Father as our Creator.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Four, the learner should:

- Further understand the notion that God created the world freely and out of love

**Standard Two:** We believe in Jesus Christ as the Divine Son of God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Four, the learner should:

- Know that the name Jesus means “God saves” and that Jesus taught us to love God as our Father and each other as brothers and sisters in His name

**Standard Three:** The Bible is the revealed Word of God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Four, the learner should:

- Be familiar with the following Bible stories and passages:
  - Promise of Living Water
  - Institution of the Eucharist
  - Woman at the Well
  - Anointing with Oil
  - Call of the Apostles
  - The Great Commission

**Standard Four:** Catholic teaching is based on Sacred Scripture, the Creeds, and the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Four, the learner should:

- Have a working knowledge of the Apostles Creed

**Standard Five:** We believe that men and women are created to live in union with God in this life and in Heaven forever.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Four, the learner should:

- Realize that through the Sacraments of Baptism and Penance, we are restored to life with Christ



## GRADE FOUR

### CATECHETICAL TASK TWO: SACRAMENTS

Catechesis promotes a greater participation in the Liturgy and the sacraments of the Church.

**Standard One:** Encourage active participation in the Mass and various other liturgical celebrations of the faith community.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Four, the learner should:

- Understand that the Mass is the center of Catholic life and worship

**Standard Two:** Promote a basic understanding of the Catholic Church as the People of God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Four, the learner should:

- Understand various complementary definitions of the Church:
  - People of God
  - Body of Christ
  - Community of Disciples
  - Worldwide Community of Faith
- Know that a parish is a community of believers who worship and work together
- Know that a pastor is the priest who leads the parish in worship, prayer, and teaching
- Know that a parish is part of a diocese, a local area of the Church led by the Bishop

**Standard Three:** Catholics prepare to celebrate the sacraments with an emphasis on the centrality of the Eucharist.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Four, the learner should:

- Understand that the Eucharist gives spiritual nourishment for the journey of Faith

**Standard Four:** Instill a sense of priority to actively participate in Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Four, the learner should:

- Be able to explain that the Church celebrates Christ's resurrection on each and every Sunday, which is why it is called the "Lord's Day"



## GRADE FOUR

### CATECHETICAL TASK THREE: MORALITY

Catechesis promotes moral formation in Jesus Christ.

**Standard One:** Catechetical programs teach the reality of sin and evil in the world.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Four, the learner should:

- Realize that in spite of our good intentions, we often fail to follow Jesus. We call this failure sin.
- Understand that sin is an offense against God and neighbor
- Understand that by committing the first sin, Adam lost the original holiness God intended when Adam was created

**Standard Two:** Jesus is the model for Catholic/Christian living and decision making.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Four, the learner should:

- Realize that God has given each of us the freedom and the responsibility to choose what is right and good

**Standard Three:** A person's conscience is formed by Church teachings.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Four, the learner should:

- Realize that by God's grace we are called to live a holy life

**Standard Four:** Catechetical programs present and explain age-appropriate moral truths concerning human life.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Four, the learner should:

- Know that love is the fundamental vocation of every person



## GRADE FOUR

### CATECHETICAL TASK FOUR: PRAYER

Catechesis teaches the Christian how to pray with Christ.

**Standard One:** Learners actively participate in the Mass, various forms of worship, formal prayers, and devotions.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Four, the learner should:

- Learn how to pray the Rosary

**Standard Two:** Catechetical programs support and empower parents as the primary educators of their children.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Four, the parents should:

- Prepare to occasionally lead family prayer at home

**Standard Three:** Private prayer is a means by which we communicate with God and strengthen our relationship with Him.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Four, the learner should:

- Spend time in private prayer on a daily basis



## GRADE FOUR

### CATECHETICAL TASK FIVE: EVANGELIZATION

Catechesis prepares the Christian to live in community and to participate actively in the life and mission of the Church.

**Standard One:** A variety of vocational callings are a response to one's Baptism in Christ.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Four, the learner should:

- Realize that the Lord calls each of us to live a life of service

**Standard Two:** Engage the learner in service to the community as a response to the Gospels and as a primary way of coming to know, love, and serve God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Four, the learner should:

- Actively participate in age-appropriate service projects

**Standard Three:** Promote understanding and respect for different cultures and religions.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Four, the learner should:

- Learn to appreciate the cultural differences of those in the neighborhood, parish, or school/academy community

**Standard Four:** Support the exercise of responsible stewardship for the gift of God's creation.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Four, the learner should:

- Understand that we were made to be part of a world that God created so that we could contribute positively to the family of God



## GRADE FOUR

### CATECHETICAL TASK SIX: EVANGELIZATION

Catechesis promotes a missionary spirit that prepares the faithful to be and to give a clear Christian witness in society.

**Standard One:** Society, as well as the individual, must work to apply the principles of social justice and peace-making to personal and societal situations.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Four, the learner should:

- Realize the importance of respecting those who exercise proper authority in the home, in Church, in the school/academy, and in society

**Standard Two:** Acknowledge and affirm the dignity of each human person.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Four, the learner should:

- Be aware that we have a duty to care and respect the rights of others

**Standard Three:** The Ten Commandments and the Eight Beatitudes provide a foundation for Catholic/Christian living.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Four, the learner should:

- Recognize when one is not following the Ten Commandments or the Eight Beatitudes

GRADE FOUR

BIBLE	SAINTS	PRAYERS	LITURGY
Moses (Ten Commandments)	St. Martin of Tours	The Apostles Creed	monstrance
The Scouring of Jesus	Our Lady of Lourdes		lunette
The Carrying of the Cross	Our Lady of Guadalupe		The Liturgy of the Word
The Resurrection			1st Reading (from Old Testament; except Eastertime, Acts of the Apostles)
The Ascension of Jesus			Responsorial Psalm
			2nd Reading (letters in the New Testament)
			Gospel
			Homily
			General Intercessions



## GRADE FIVE

### CATECHETICAL TASK ONE: CREED

Catechesis promotes knowledge of the faith.

**Standard One:** We believe in God the Father as our Creator.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Five, the learner should:

- Understand that God created the world freely and out of love for all creation

**Standard Two:** We believe in Jesus Christ as the Divine Son of God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Five, the learner should:

- Understand that Jesus taught us to love God as our Father and to love each other as brothers and sisters in His name

**Standard Three:** The Bible is the revealed Word of God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Five, the learner should:

- Recognize that the Mass readings are taken from the Bible and are found in the book called the Lectionary

**Standard Four:** Catholic teaching is based on Sacred Scripture, the Creeds, and the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Five, the learner should:

- Acknowledge Mary as the Mother of God and Mother of the Church

**Standard Five:** We believe that men and women are created to live in union with God in this life and in Heaven forever.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Five, the learner should:

- Understand that we are created in God's image and likeness and that we are to live in peace with others



## GRADE FIVE

### CATECHETICAL TASK TWO: SACRAMENTS

Catechesis promotes a greater participation in the Liturgy and the sacraments of the Church.

**Standard One:** Encourage active participation in the Mass and various other liturgical celebrations of the faith community.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Five, the learner should:

- Experience planning and participating in a Mass or in other liturgical celebrations

**Standard Two:** Promote a basic understanding of the Catholic Church as the People of God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Five, the learner should:

- Enhance his/her understanding of the various complementary definitions of the Church

**Standard Three:** Catholics prepare to celebrate the Sacraments with an emphasis on the centrality of the Eucharist.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Five, the learner should:

- Understand the Eucharist as central to the Sacramental life of the Church
- Understand that during the Liturgy of the Eucharist, we offer gifts of bread and wine and receive the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ
- Understand that Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders are one time Sacraments that cannot be repeated because of the indelible mark left on the soul

**Standard Four:** Instill a sense of priority to actively participate in Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Five, the learner should:

- Be familiar with the liturgical seasons and the associated colors



## GRADE FIVE

### CATECHETICAL TASK THREE: MORALITY

Catechesis promotes moral formation in Jesus Christ.

**Standard One:** Catechetical programs teach the reality of sin and evil in the world.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Five, the learner should:

- Realize that in spite of our good intentions, we often fail to follow Jesus. We call this failure “sin”.

**Standard Two:** Jesus is the model for Catholic/Christian living and decision making.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Five, the learner should:

- Understand that Christian morality is best understood as an invitation to live as Jesus did
- Understand that morality is about God’s love for us and the way He calls us to act

**Standard Three:** A person’s conscience is formed by Church teachings.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Five, the learner should:

- Know that the Holy Spirit guides the Church and each of us in making good moral decisions

**Standard Four:** Catechetical programs present and explain age-appropriate moral truths concerning human life.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Five, the learner should:

- Know that our bodies are a gift of God and are to be treated with care and respect



## GRADE FIVE

### CATECHETICAL TASK FOUR: PRAYER

Catechesis teaches the Christian how to pray with Christ.

**Standard One:** Learners actively participate in the Mass, various forms of worship, formal prayers, and devotions.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Five, the learner should:

- Help to celebrate the seasons of Advent and Lent in the home

**Standard Two:** Catechetical programs support and empower parents as the primary educators of their children.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Five, the parents should:

- Give a powerful example of the importance of prayer and worship by attending and participating at Mass every Sunday and Holy Day

**Standard Three:** Private prayer is a means by which we communicate with God and strengthen our relationship with Him.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Five, the learner should:

- Understand that spontaneous prayer is an important part of our prayer life



## GRADE FIVE

### CATECHETICAL TASK FIVE: EVANGELIZATION

Catechesis prepares the Christian to live in community and to participate actively in the life and mission of the Church.

**Standard One:** A variety of vocational callings are a response to one's Baptism in Christ.

- OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Five, the learner should:
- Realize that the Lord calls each of us to live a life of service
  - Appreciate that most are called to live as members of the laity:
    - Married
    - Single
  - Appreciate that some are called to serve as:
    - Priests
    - Deacons
    - Religious Brothers
    - Religious Sisters

**Standard Two:** Engage the learner in service to the community as a response to the Gospels and as a primary way of coming to know, love, and serve God.

- OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Five, the learner should:
- Actively participate in a variety of age-appropriate service projects

**Standard Three:** Promote understanding and respect for different cultures and religions.

- OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Five, the learner should:
- Learn about the major religions of the world

**Standard Four:** Support the exercise of responsible stewardship for the gift of God's creation.

- OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Five, the learner should:
- Understand that we are made to contribute positively to building up the "Kingdom of God"



## GRADE FIVE

### CATECHETICAL TASK SIX: EVANGELIZATION

Catechesis promotes a missionary spirit that prepares the faithful to be and to give a clear Christian witness in society.

**Standard One:** Society, as well as the individual, must work to apply the principles of social justice and peace-making to personal and societal situations.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Five, the learner should:

- Realize the importance of respecting those who exercise proper authority in the home, in the Church, and in society

**Standard Two:** Acknowledge and affirm the dignity of each human person.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Five, the learner should:

- Know that we have a duty to care for and respect the rights of others

**Standard Three:** The Ten Commandments and the Eight Beatitudes provide a foundation for Catholic/Christian living.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Five, the learner should:

- Recognize when one is not following the Ten Commandments and the Eight Beatitudes

GRADE FIVE

BIBLE	SAINTS	PRAYERS	LITURGY
Covenant with Abraham	St. Martin de Porres St. Matthias St. Juan Diego	Our Father Hail Mary Glory Be	sacred oils (chrism) Oil of Catechumens (Used at baptism) Oil of the Sick (used to anoint the sick) Chrism Oil (used for Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders, in the consecration of churches, chalices, patens, altars, and altar stones, and in the solemn blessing of bells and baptismal water)  Sunday readings: Cycle A—Gospel of St. Matthew Cycle B—Gospel of St. Mark Cycle C—Gospel of St. Luke (during Easter and Christmas—Gospel of St. John)  Daily readings: Year I: Odd numbered years Year II: Even numbered years



## GRADE SIX

### CATECHETICAL TASK ONE: CREED

Catechesis promotes knowledge of the faith.

**Standard One:** We believe in God the Father as our Creator.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Six, the learner should:

- Understand that God created us to love one another
- Know that all of creation is holy and needs to be cared for

**Standard Two:** We believe in Jesus Christ as the Divine Son of God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Six, the learner should:

- Appreciate Jesus as our Savior and Redeemer

**Standard Three:** The Bible is the revealed Word of God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Six, the learner should:

- Know about the lives of Biblical characters and how they were an essential part of salvation history:
  - Moses
  - Abraham
  - The Prophets
  - The Kings

**Standard Four:** Catholic teaching is based on Sacred Scripture, the Creeds, and the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Six, the learner should:

- Learn and understand that Faith is necessary for salvation

**Standard Five:** We believe that men and women are created to live in union with God in this life and in Heaven forever.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Six, the learner should:

- Understand the meaning of the “Communion of Saints”



## GRADE SIX

### CATECHETICAL TASK TWO: SACRAMENTS

Catechesis promotes a greater participation in the Liturgy and the sacraments of the Church.

**Standard One:** Encourage active participation in the Mass and various other liturgical celebrations of the faith community.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Six, the learner should:

- Learn to pray to one's patron saint

**Standard Two:** Promote a basic understanding of the Catholic Church as the People of God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Six, the learner should:

- Understand that the teachings, prayers, and liturgies of the Church help us to better achieve our salvation in Jesus

**Standard Three:** Catholics prepare to celebrate the Sacraments with an emphasis on the centrality of the Eucharist.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Six, the learner should:

- Know the difference between the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist

**Standard Four:** Instill a sense of priority to actively participate in Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Six, the learner should:

- Understand that the Liturgy is the work of the whole Church, celebrant and people, with Christ as its Head



## GRADE SIX

### CATECHETICAL TASK THREE: MORALITY

Catechesis promotes moral formation in Jesus Christ.

**Standard One:** Catechetical programs teach the reality of sin and evil in the world.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Six, the learner should:

- Understand that Christian morality involves striving to live and love as Jesus did

**Standard Two:** Jesus is the model for Catholic/Christian living and decision making.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Six, the learner should:

- Take the Word of God, make it part of their Faith and prayer, and then put it into practice
- Understand that Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life

**Standard Three:** A person's conscience is formed by Church teachings.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Six, the learner should:

- Understand that conscience must be properly formed
- Realize that feelings and emotions are never wrong in and of themselves

**Standard Four:** Catechetical programs present and explain age-appropriate moral truths concerning human life.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Six, the learner should:

- Know that we are called to respect and protect the rights of others



## GRADE SIX

### CATECHETICAL TASK FOUR: PRAYER

Catechesis teaches the Christian how to pray with Christ.

**Standard One:** Learners actively participate in the Mass, various forms of worship, formal prayers, and devotions.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Six, the learner should:

- Learn about one's patron saint and the special relationship that is implied

**Standard Two:** Catechetical programs support and empower parents as the primary educators of their children.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Six, the parents should:

- Have helped their child memorize various familiar prayers

**Standard Three:** Private prayer is a means by which we communicate with God and strengthen our relationship with Him.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Six, the learner should:

- Further develop a habit of personal prayer and reflection



## GRADE SIX

### CATECHETICAL TASK FIVE: EVANGELIZATION

Catechesis prepares the Christian to live in community and to participate actively in the life and mission of the Church.

**Standard One:** A variety of vocational callings are a response to one's Baptism in Christ.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Six, the learner should:

- Observe those who have been called to marriage and how they are living out their Baptismal calling as husband and wife, father and mother, according to God's plan for them

**Standard Two:** Engage the learner in service to the community as a response to the Gospels and as a primary way of coming to know, love, and serve God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Six, the learner should:

- Realize that God gave us the spiritual gift of a free will

**Standard Three:** Promote understanding and respect for different cultures and religions.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Six, the learner should:

- Recognize that the Jewish Faith is a response to God's revelation as found in the Old Testament

**Standard Four:** Support the exercise of responsible stewardship for the gift of God's creation.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Six, the learner should:

- Be aware and have respect for all of God's creation



## GRADE SIX

### CATECHETICAL TASK SIX: EVANGELIZATION

Catechesis promotes a missionary spirit that prepares the faithful to be and to give a clear Christian witness in society.

**Standard One:** Society, as well as the individual, must work to apply the principles of social justice and peace-making to personal and societal situations.

**OUTCOME:**

By the completion of Grade Six, the learner should:

- Be aware of the need for world peace and begin to understand how we can help bring about peace in our world

**Standard Two:** Acknowledge and affirm the dignity of each human person.

**OUTCOME:**

By the completion of Grade Six, the learner should:

- Recognize and celebrate the gifts and talents of others

**Standard Three:** The Ten Commandments and the Eight Beatitudes provide a foundation for Catholic/Christian living.

**OUTCOME:**

By the completion of Grade Six, the learner should:

- Be able to recognize when we have not followed the Ten Commandments and the Eight Beatitudes in our daily life

BIBLE	SAINTS	PRAYERS	LITURGY
Covenant with Moses	St. Stephen St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross St. Joan of Arc St. John Bosco	Nicene Creed	Liturgy of the Eucharist



## GRADE SEVEN

### CATECHETICAL TASK ONE: CREED

Catechesis promotes knowledge of the faith.

**Standard One:** We believe in God the Father as our Creator.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Seven, the learner should:

- Understand that God created us to love one another

**Standard Two:** We believe in Jesus Christ as the Divine Son of God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Seven, the learner should:

- Realize that when we call Jesus LORD, we acknowledge and accept His divinity

**Standard Three:** The Bible is the revealed Word of God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Seven, the learner should:

- Recognize that the Catholic Church accepts and venerates forty six Books of the Old Testament and twenty seven Books of the New Testament
- Be familiar with important passages in:
  - The four Gospels
  - The Acts of the Apostles
  - The Letters of Saint Paul

**Standard Four:** Catholic teaching is based on Sacred Scripture, the Creeds, and the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Seven, the learner should:

- Memorize and commit to the following Precepts of the Church:
  - Observe the prescribed days of fast and abstinence
  - Attend Mass on Sunday and Holy Days of Obligation
  - Confess one's sins at least once a year
  - Receive Holy Eucharist at least once during the Easter season
  - Provide for the material needs of the Church and emphasize the meaning of charity

**Standard Five:** We believe that men and women are created to live in union with God in this life and in Heaven forever.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Seven, the learner should:

- Recognize that we gather together as Catholics to enhance our strength and unity, to praise and worship God, and to assist those in need



## GRADE SEVEN

### CATECHETICAL TASK TWO: SACRAMENTS

Catechesis promotes a greater participation in the Liturgy and the sacraments of the Church.

**Standard One:** Encourage active participation in the Mass and various other liturgical celebrations of the faith community.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Seven, the learner should:

- Participate in opportunities for personal and public prayer such as a retreat or Day of Recollection

**Standard Two:** Promote a basic understanding of the Catholic Church as the People of God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Seven, the learner should:

- Appreciate that the Church is a unified body of diverse people and cultures

**Standard Three:** Catholics prepare to celebrate the sacraments with an emphasis on the centrality of the Eucharist.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Seven, the learner should:

- Understand that the only way to truly be forgiven for mortal sin is to go to Confession and receive absolution from a priest or bishop before approaching the Sacrament of the Eucharist

**Standard Four:** Instill a sense of priority to actively participate in Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Seven, the learner should:

- Identify each major portion of the Liturgical Year:
  - Advent
  - Christmas
  - Lent
  - Easter
  - Ordinary Time



## GRADE SEVEN

### CATECHETICAL TASK THREE: MORALITY

Catechesis promotes moral formation in Jesus Christ.

**Standard One:** Catechetical programs teach the reality of sin and evil in the world.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Seven, the learner should:

- Understand and explain the difference between mortal and venial sin

**Standard Two:** Jesus is the model for Catholic/Christian living and decision making.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Seven, the learner should:

- Memorize and practice the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy

**Standard Three:** A person's conscience is formed by Church teachings.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Seven, the learner should:

- Understand that a person must ultimately obey the judgment of his/her conscience

**Standard Four:** Catechetical programs present and explain age-appropriate moral truths concerning human life.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Seven, the learner should:

- Have a basic understanding of the Catholic/Christian definition of love and its implication



## GRADE SEVEN

### CATECHETICAL TASK FOUR: PRAYER

Catechesis teaches the Christian how to pray with Christ.

**Standard One:** Learners actively participate in the Mass, various forms of worship, formal prayers, and devotions.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Seven, the learner should:

- Participate in opportunities for personal and public prayer such as:
  - Retreat
  - Day of Recollection

**Standard Two:** Catechetical programs support and empower parents as the primary educators of their children.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Seven, the parents should:

- Have helped their child memorize and understand the following prayers:
  - Prayer to the Holy Spirit
  - The Apostles Creed
  - Prayer for Vocations

**Standard Three:** Private prayer is a means by which we communicate with God and strengthen our relationship with Him.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Seven, the learner should:

- Further develop a habit of personal prayer and reflection



## GRADE SEVEN

### CATECHETICAL TASK FIVE: EVANGELIZATION

Catechesis prepares the Christian to live in community and to participate actively in the life and mission of the Church.

**Standard One:** A variety of vocational callings are a response to one's Baptism in Christ.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Seven, the learner should:

- Consider the possibility of God's call to lead a single life in special union with Him
- Investigate the calling to investigate the calling to be a:
  - Priest
  - Deacon
  - Religious Brother
  - Religious Sister
  - Consecrated Lay Person

**Standard Two:** Engage the learner in service to the community as a response to the Gospels and as a primary way of coming to know, love, and serve God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Seven, the learner should:

- Read stories of the saints who lived lives that reflected God's goodness

**Standard Three:** Promote understanding and respect for different cultures and religions.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Seven, the learner should:

- Learn about the major religions such as:
  - Judaism
  - Islam
  - Protestantism

**Standard Four:** Support the exercise of responsible stewardship for the gift of God's creation.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Seven, the learner should:

- Be aware and have respect for all of God's creation



## GRADE SEVEN

### CATECHETICAL TASK SIX: EVANGELIZATION

Catechesis promotes a missionary spirit that prepares the faithful to be and to give a clear Christian witness in society.

**Standard One:** Society, as well as the individual, must work to apply the principles of social justice and peace-making to personal and societal situations.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Seven, the learner should:

- Be aware of the need for world peace and begin to understand how we can help to bring about peace

**Standard Two:** Acknowledge and affirm the dignity of each human person.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Seven, the learner should:

- Understand that God, by creating man and women, made each one special and unique in service to each other and to the world in which they live

**Standard Three:** The Ten Commandments and the Eight Beatitudes provide a foundation for Catholic/Christian living.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Seven, the learner should:

- Give witness to the Eight Beatitudes by caring for one's friends and neighbors

BIBLE	SAINTS	PRAYERS	LITURGY
Jewish Passover/Eucharist	St. Maria Goretti St. John Neumann St. Kateri Tekakwitha	Prayers to the Holy Spirit The Apostles Creed Prayers for Vocations	The Mass The Rosary



## GRADE EIGHT

### CATECHETICAL TASK ONE: CREED

Catechesis promotes knowledge of the faith.

**Standard One:** We believe in God the Father as our Creator.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Eight, the learner should:

- Know that all of God's creation is holy and is to be cared for

**Standard Two:** We believe in Jesus Christ as the Divine Son of God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Eight, the learner should:

- Acknowledge that the Resurrection is an historical event.  
The Risen Christ was actually witnessed by His Disciples.

**Standard Three:** The Bible is the revealed Word of God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Eight, the learner should:

- Be able to explain the Covenant that God made with Moses

**Standard Four:** Catholic teaching is based on Sacred Scripture, the Creeds, and the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Eight, the learner should:

- Understand that the Catholic Church is founded by Christ and sustained by the guidance of the Holy Spirit
- Understand that the Catholic Church has four marks and be able to explain the meaning of each:
  - One
  - Holy
  - Catholic
  - Apostolic

**Standard Five:** We believe that men and women are created to live in union with God in this life and in Heaven forever.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Eight, the learner should:

- Recognize that we gather together as Catholics to enhance our Faith and unity, to praise and worship God, and to assist those in need



## GRADE EIGHT

### CATECHETICAL TASK TWO: SACRAMENTS

Catechesis promotes a greater participation in the Liturgy and the sacraments of the Church.

**Standard One:** Encourage active participation in the Mass and various other liturgical celebrations of the faith community.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Eight, the learner should:

- Participate in opportunities for personal and public prayer such as:
  - Retreat
  - Day of Recollection

**Standard Two:** Promote a basic understanding of the Catholic Church as the People of God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Eight, the learner should:

- Appreciate that the Church is a unified body of diverse people and cultures

**Standard Three:** Catholics prepare to celebrate the Sacraments with an emphasis on the centrality of the Eucharist.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Eight, the learner should:

- Be able to express that by consecration at Mass, the transubstantiation of the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ occurs
- Explain that Confirmation, like Baptism, leaves an indelible mark on the soul and can only be received once
- Understand the purpose of receiving the Holy Spirit in Confirmation
- Express a desire to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation

**Standard Four:** Instill a sense of priority to actively participate in Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Eight, the learner should:

- Have a basic understanding of the uniqueness and centrality of the Real Presence of Christ

Preparation for Confirmation is ongoing from the first reception of the Holy Eucharist to the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation. Standards for the Sacrament of Confirmation are found in Appendix Four. The Sacrament of Confirmation is conferred in grade eight.



## GRADE EIGHT

### CATECHETICAL TASK THREE: MORALITY

Catechesis promotes moral formation in Jesus Christ.

**Standard One:** Catechetical programs teach the reality of sin and evil in the world.

**OUTCOME:**

By the completion of Grade Eight, the learner should:

- Realize that sin is not only choosing to do wrong but also choosing not to do good
- Identify and explain the Seven Capital Sins

**Standard Two:** Jesus is the model for Catholic/Christian living and decision making.

**OUTCOME:**

By the completion of Grade Eight, the learner should:

- Understand the definition of virtue and the importance of the development of virtue in one's life

**Standard Three:** A person's conscience is formed by Church teachings.

**OUTCOME:**

By the completion of Grade Eight, the learner should:

- Understand and acknowledge the Church's official teachings on life issues such as:
  - Adultery
  - Euthanasia
  - Abortion
  - Homosexuality
  - HIV/AIDS

**Standard Four:** Catechetical programs present and explain age-appropriate moral truths concerning human life.

**OUTCOME:**

By the completion of Grade Eight, the learner should:

- Understand that the gift of sexuality is the sum total of those physical, emotional, and spiritual qualities that make us male or female
- Know that by creating us as male and female, God bestowed a difference and yet an equality to both men and women



## GRADE EIGHT

### CATECHETICAL TASK FOUR: PRAYER

Catechesis teaches the Christian how to pray with Christ.

**Standard One:** Learners actively participate in the Mass, various forms of worship, formal prayers, and devotions.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Eight, the learner should:

- Participate in opportunities for both public and personal prayer such as:
  - Retreat
  - Day of Recollection

**Standard Two:** Catechetical programs support and empower parents as the primary educators of their children.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Eight, the parents should:

- Have helped their child memorize and understand the following prayers:
  - The Apostles Creed
  - Prayers to the Holy Spirit
  - Prayers for one's Vocation in life

**Standard Three:** Private prayer is a means by which we communicate with God and strengthen our relationship with Him.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Eight, the learner should:

- Further develop a habit of personal prayer and reflection



## GRADE EIGHT

### CATECHETICAL TASK FIVE: EVANGELIZATION

Catechesis prepares the Christian to live in community and to participate actively in the life and mission of the Church.

**Standard One:** A variety of vocational callings are a response to one's Baptism in Christ.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Eight, the learner should:

- Observe those who have responded to their Baptismal calling according to God's plan for them

**Standard Two:** Engage the learner in service to the community as a response to the Gospels and as a primary way of coming to know, love, and serve God.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Eight, the learner should:

- Continue to develop a sincere response to those in need, understanding that we are not called to "cure" the ills of society or of any one person, but rather to journey with others by respecting their human dignity

**Standard Three:** Promote understanding and respect for different cultures and religions.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Eight, the learner should:

- Learn about the major religions such as:
  - Judaism
  - Islam
  - Protestantism
  - and their relationship to Catholicism

**Standard Four:** Support the exercise of responsible stewardship for the gift of God's creation.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Eight, the learner should:

- Beware and have respect for all of God's creation



## GRADE EIGHT

### CATECHETICAL TASK SIX: EVANGELIZATION

Catechesis promotes a missionary spirit that prepares the faithful to be and to give a clear Christian witness in society.

**Standard One:** Society, as well as the individual, must work to apply the principles of social justice and peace-making to personal and societal situations.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Eight, the learner should:

- Be aware of the need for world peace and justice, and to begin to understand how we can help bring about a more just society

**Standard Two:** Acknowledge and affirm the dignity of each human person.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Eight, the learner should:

- Understand that God, by creating man and woman, made each one special in service to each other and to the world in which they live

**Standard Three:** The Ten Commandments and the Eight Beatitudes provide a foundation for Catholic/Christian living.

**OUTCOME:** By the completion of Grade Eight, the learner should:

- Give concrete witness to the Eight Beatitudes by caring for their friends and neighbors

#### BIBLE

#### SAINTS

The names of the saints chosen for Confirmation

Strongly encourage Breaking Open the Word (the Gospel for the coming Sunday or Monday following the Sunday liturgy)

Proclaim the Gospel, give some background on its meaning, encourage students to apply the message to their daily lives. There are many internet helps:

For Loyola Press (type in the browser the particular Sunday in the Liturgical Year, then the Cycle (A, B, C), then Sunday Connection – Loyola Press):

**32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, C Sunday Connection – Loyola Press** There are ideas for Grades 1-3, 4-6, and 7-8.

For Sadlier <http://www.sadlierreligion.com/webelieve/gather.cfm>



## HIGH SCHOOL (Grades 9–12)

### The Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture

**Standard One:** There is a thirst for God within all people.

**OUTCOME:** The learners will understand that our longing for God is His way of initiating a personal relationship with each of us.

**Standard Two:** God is revealed to us in many ways.

**OUTCOME:** The learners will understand the difference between Natural Revelation and Divine Revelation, and will understand how the study of the Bible reveals Jesus Christ, the Living Word.

**Standard Three:** God, who inspired the Biblical writers, is the author of all Sacred Scripture.

**OUTCOME:** The learners will know that inspiration is the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Biblical writers, thus making the Bible a sacred text for Christians.

**Standard Four:** The Church is responsible for providing criteria for the authentic interpretation of Sacred Scripture, in both the literal and spiritual senses.

**OUTCOME:** The learners will be able to read and interpret Sacred Scripture within the tradition and teaching of the Church, taking into account the time when it was written and both the literal and spiritual sense of the content.

**Standard Five:** The Church teaches us how to relate truths of faith to science.

**OUTCOME:** The learners will understand the difference between the Catholic understanding of Sacred Scripture and that of those who interpret the Bible through ancillary approaches such as history, literature, archaeology, fundamentalism or a symbolic method.

**Standard Six:** The Old and New Testaments of the Bible record salvation history in God's teachings and actions prior to the coming of Jesus and in the teachings and actions of Christ Himself.

**OUTCOME:** The learners will know the main works that compose both the Old Testament and the New Testament and understand how the Old and New Testaments reveal salvation history by distinguishing between the original covenant God made with the Jewish people and the new covenant made by Jesus Christ.

**Standard Seven:** In proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ, the Gospels occupy the central place in Sacred Scripture.

**OUTCOME:** The learners will be aware of the structure and role both the Synoptic Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke and the Gospel of John play in recording the life of Jesus Christ and His work of redemption.



## Who is Jesus Christ?

**Standard One:** Revelation is the gift of God gradually revealing Himself. (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 50-73, 230-231)

**OUTCOME:** The learners will:

- appreciate that God' self revelation is ultimately for our salvation and the salvation of humankind.
- realize that faith is our response to God's revelation.

**Standard Two:** Jesus is fully God and full man. (CCC, 461-495)

**Outcome:** The learners will:

- be able to describe what is meant by the Incarnation, including the unique role of Mary, the Mother of God.
- come to know the central mystery of our faith; namely, in one God there are three Divine Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**Standard Three:** Jesus reveals the Father and redeems us by His grace. (CCC, 356-361)

**OUTCOME:** The learners will:

- come to know that the example of Jesus teaches us what it means to be fully human.
- develop an awareness of the God-given dignity of every person as created in the image and likeness of God.
- come to better understand the purpose of life on earth.
- come to know that because of the Death and Resurrection of Jesus, we too are destined to rise from death and be reunited with God.



## The Mission of Jesus Christ

**Standard One:** God is the ultimate creator of all that is on earth (“in the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.”)

**OUTCOME:** The learners will:

- come to realize that the Bible and modern science address the important question of the origin of the world and of man differently.
- come to better understand why the human person is the summit of God’s creation.

**Standard Two:** Creation has its own goodness and proper perfection but did not spring forth complete from the Creator. Rather, the universe was created “in a state of journeying.” (CCC, 302-303)

**OUTCOME:** The learners will understand that the notion of “Divine Providence” means that God is present in the world and in our lives; that God guides the world by giving each person the responsibility to complete and perfect the work of His creation. God is at work in the actions of creatures.

**Standard Three:** The doctrine of Original Sin explains the reality of sin and evil in the world. (CCC, 396-409)

**OUTCOME:** Through Biblical accounts of the fall of the angels and the rebellion of Adam and Eve the learners will see that even in a world created good, evil and disunity are the result of sin.

**Standard Four:** Christ died for our sins. He gave his life as a ransom for many. (Matt.20:28)

**OUTCOME:** The learners will come to have a deeper understanding of the redemptive mission of Jesus Christ and that His mission is taught and celebrated by the Church throughout the liturgical year.

**Standard Five:** Everyone is called to holiness. (CCC, 2012-2013)

**OUTCOME:** The learners will come to know that we are called to accept and live by the grace of our redemption and that the Holy Spirit enables us to live a life of holiness, prayer and service to others.



## The Mission of Christ continues in the Church

**Standard One:** The Church was instituted by Christ. (CCC,763-786)

**OUTCOME:** The learners will:

- realize that Jesus inaugurated the Church by preaching the Good News that the Reign of God was at hand and by the total self-giving of Himself for our salvation.
- be able to point to Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit was manifested to and poured out upon the apostles, marking the beginning of the spread of the Church.
- come to understand that the Kingdom announced by Christ is now open to all who believe in Him.
- be able to describe the “marks” of the Church which we profess in the Nicene Creed; namely, the Church of Christ is one, holy, catholic and apostolic.

**Standard Two:** The mission of the Church is to evangelize, to preach the Good News of Jesus Christ to all people. (Matt.28:19-20) (CCC, 813-860)

**OUTCOME:** The learners will:

- discover that they share in this same mission by their Christ-like witness in the everyday circumstances of their lives. Hence, membership and active participation in the life of the Church is essential.
- come to understand that when they live as faithful members of the Church, they are living as disciples of Jesus.
- come to have a better understanding of the teaching, “outside the Church there is no salvation.” Positively stated, it means that all salvation comes from Christ through the Church which is His Body in time. Christ is always present in the Church, especially in her liturgical and sacramental celebrations.

**Standard Three:** The Magisterium is the ultimate teaching authority in the Church.

**OUTCOME:** The learners will come to realize that while many are called to teach in the name of Jesus (eg. priests, parents, preachers and parish catechists) the ultimate teaching authority in the Church is entrusted to the Pope and the Bishops throughout the world in union with Him.



### The Sacraments as privileged encounters with Jesus Christ.

**Standard One:** A sacrament is an efficacious sign and symbol of God's grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church by which the divine life is shared with us through the workings of the Holy Spirit. (CCC, 1131-1134)

**OUTCOME:** The learners will:

- understand that although they are celebrated at different times and stages in our life, the purpose of the sacraments is to give worship to God, to build up the Body of Christ, and to nourish, strengthen and express our faith.
- come to better understand that just as Christ is the ever-present sacrament of God, the Church is the ever-present sacrament of Christ. We encounter Christ today in and through the sacraments.

**Standard Two:** The seven Sacraments of the Church can be divided into three groups. The Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist (CCC, 1275); The Sacraments of Healing: Penance/Reconciliation (CCC, 986) and the Anointing of the Sick (CCC, 1499-1519); and the Sacraments of Service: Holy Orders (CCC, 1536-1538) and Matrimony (CCC, 1601-1623).

**OUTCOME:** The learners will:

- discover that over the centuries, the Church has discerned that among of all its prayers, rituals and liturgical celebrations, there are seven that are said to be "instituted" by the actions and instructions of Jesus.
- know what each sacrament is and how each sacrament confers the grace it signifies.

**Standard Three:** The three sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Orders confer, in addition to sacramental grace, an indelible, sacramental character or seal. This character or seal signifies a positive disposition of grace and purpose for the individual in the life of the Church.

**OUTCOME:** The learners will come to realize that participation in the sacraments of the Church benefits both the individual and the Church.



## Life in Christ

**Standard One:** Incorporated into Christ by Baptism, Christians participate in the life of the Risen Lord by striving to conform their thoughts, words and actions to Him, who is “the way, the truth and the life.” (Jn.14:6)

**OUTCOME:**

The learners will:

- come to realize that by using one’s free will, he/she is capable of directing oneself to a life that seeks what is good, true and just.
- better appreciate that personal prayer and the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit offer us the grace and strength to live a moral life for all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons and daughters of God (Romans 8:14).
- be challenged to explore the guidance for moral behavior that comes from various types of laws:
  - *Natural Moral Law* reflects the order and harmony of the creative world. Established with the use of reason, natural law precepts enables every person to discern what is good and what is evil. (CCC, 1954-1960)
  - The *Ten Commandments* are the privileged expression of natural law revealed by God in the Old Testament and fulfilled by Jesus in the New Covenant. (CCC, 2052-2073)
  - The *Beatitudes* in the New Testament (Matt.3:12) express the vocation of every disciple of Christ. They shed light on the actions and attitudes that are characteristic of the Christian life and the need to sustain hope and promise in the midst of tribulations. (CCC, 1716-1724)
  - The *Law of Conscience* is present in the heart of every person. It is a judgment of reason that determines the moral quality of a particular act and enables one to assess and assume responsibility for acts performed. Everyone is obliged to faithfully follow what he/she knows to be just and right. (CCC, 1776-1794)
  - *Precepts of the Church* are set in the context of obligations for spiritual formation and growth that are bound to and nourished by the liturgical life of the Church. (CCC, 2041-2043)



**Standard Two:** All Christians in any state of life are called to 'life in Christ' and to the perfection of charity. As followers of Jesus, all are called to holiness (CCC, 2013).

**OUTCOME:** The learners will come to understand that failure to live a virtuous life easily results in self-centeredness and sin. Sin is an abuse of the freedom that God has granted to every human person. The way of perfection will always involve the Way of the Cross. Spiritual progress entails renunciation and self discipline.

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**Standard Three:** The very real consequences of sin and disobedience are recorded in Chapter 3 of the Book of Genesis. The Church, interpreting the symbolism of this biblical language in an authentic way, refers to this teaching as "Original Sin." By this sin, Adam and Eve transmitted to their descendents a wounded and weakened human nature. (CCC, 385-390)

**OUTCOME:** The learners will:

- come to appreciate how sin disrupted man's original state of holiness and justice, the inner harmony of the human person, the relationship of men and women to God and to each other, and to the created world.
- review the definition of sin, the different kinds sin, the gravity of both mortal and venial sin, and the effects of sin on others and on society (CCC, 1846-1876).
- better appreciate that we are redeemed, forgiven and never abandoned by Jesus Christ. Where sin abounds, grace abounds all the more.

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# Appendix One: Life-long Faith Formation Objectives Plan

Life-long Faith Formation Objectives Plan is based on the Four Pillars of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (CCC) and on broad learning objectives for various stages of growth and development. Life-long Faith Formation Objectives Plan is to be used by parish, school, and academy leadership to plan and organize programs of life-long formation in conjunction, wherever possible, with the information found in *The Seed is the Word of God Curriculum Guide*, 2014.

STAGES OF GROWTH	Pillar 1: CREED The Profession of Faith	Pillar 2: SACRAMENTS The Celebration of the Christian Mystery	Pillar 3: MORALITY Life in Christ	Pillar 4: PRAYER Christian Prayer Community and Service
<p><b>Infants</b> Age 0-3</p> <p>“God’s love is communicated to infants . . . primarily through their parents.”</p> <p>NDC,#177</p> <p><i>The role of the parent as Catechist is...</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To read Bible stories</li> <li>To speak about Jesus especially at Christmas and Easter time.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To nourish the faith that was promised in Baptism through story telling and sharing family photos</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To form and practice Christian values</li> <li>To encourage family life as modeled by the Holy Family</li> <li>To celebrate the gift of life</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To teach basic children’s prayers</li> <li>To pray at certain times of the day</li> <li>To incorporate prayer into everyday life</li> <li>To speak normally and naturally about God</li> </ul>
<p><b>Children</b> Age 4-11</p> <p>“Catechesis for school-age children ‘is an initial catechesis but not a fragmentary one, although in an elementary way, all the principle mysteries of faith and their effects on the child’s moral and religious life.’”</p> <p>CT, #37</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To emphasize that growth in faith is gradual and incremental</li> <li>To develop an appreciation of the Gospel stories, especially the parables of Jesus</li> <li>To provide ongoing faith formation in the home as well as in the school</li> <li>To link the idea of family stories with Bible stories</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide family-centered opportunities where Liturgy and Catechesis are linked</li> <li>To promote an adequate preparation for the community’s celebration of the Eucharist</li> <li>To provide appropriate Sacramental preparation for both candidates and parents</li> <li>To offer regular opportunities for the celebration of the Sacrament of Penance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To present Jesus as a model for Christian living</li> <li>To recognize the dignity of each individual person</li> <li>To encourage a respect of other cultures and religions</li> <li>To provide opportunities for personal and spiritual development</li> <li>To teach age appropriate moral truths</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide experiences of communal prayer</li> <li>To promote private prayer as an opportunity for personal communication with God</li> <li>To learn more formal prayers</li> <li>To experience various liturgies</li> </ul>
<p><b>Adolescents</b> Age 12-17</p> <p>“The catechesis of young people ‘Prepares [them] for the important Christian commitments of adult life.’”</p> <p>CT, #39</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To emphasize a more mature understanding of belief in God</li> <li>To provide for the reading, study and meditation of Sacred Scripture</li> <li>To live one’s Baptismal commitment to evangelization</li> <li>To recognize Christ in the face of others: family, friends, teachers, etc.</li> <li>To offer various learning and teaching styles to encourage growth in the Faith</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To offer thoughtful and creative preparation opportunities for the Sacrament of Confirmation</li> <li>To provide ways for adolescents to participate alongside adults in the celebration of Liturgies and Sacraments</li> <li>To provide opportunities for teens to actively plan and participate in the Sunday Liturgy</li> <li>To provide a basic understanding of the various “states in life” and the charisms of each</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide examples of Christian living by those who are trusted and admired</li> <li>To be mindful of the physical, social, and psychological differences of individuals and provide for each adolescent’s needs</li> <li>To provide ways of understanding what religion (Christianity) has to do with life</li> <li>To encourage the learner to better understand and respect those of different faiths</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To promote ways to develop a deeper prayer relationship with God</li> <li>To provide ways of participating in liturgical prayers with understanding</li> <li>To provide ways to serve the community in a prayer leadership role</li> <li>To integrate prayer experiences into the individual’s life</li> </ul>



STAGES OF GROWTH	Pillar 1: CREED The Profession of Faith	Pillar 2: SACRAMENTS The Celebration of the Christian Mystery	Pillar 3: MORALITY Life in Christ	Pillar 4: PRAYER Christian Prayer Community and Service
<p><b>Young Adults</b> Age 18-25</p> <p>“The inspiration for catechesis for young adults is Christ’s proposal . . . ‘come follow me.’” NDC, p. 196</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide retreat experiences for the deepening of one’s faith life</li> <li>To raise issues with young adults that would help them make moral decisions</li> <li>To offer regular, age appropriate catechetical experiences that are a way of life, not an occasional event</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide various opportunities for participation in the Sacraments of the Church</li> <li>To encourage active consideration of one’s vocational call</li> <li>To provide adequate preparation for marriage</li> <li>To provide parent sessions in preparation for the Baptism of infants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To encourage an acceptance of Christ’s call to “Come follow me”</li> <li>To provide “points of contact” for young adults</li> <li>To provide parish and diocesan programs of evangelization that will encourage people to meet Christ or come back to Him through a personal invitation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To draw young adults into the liturgical, pastoral, and communal life of the Church</li> <li>To provide prayerful retreat experiences</li> <li>To encourage regular attendance at Sunday Liturgy</li> </ul>
<p><b>Adults</b> Age 26-65</p> <p>“ . . . Adults have a right and a duty to bring to maturity the seed of faith sown in them by God.” GDC, #173</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To recognize and respect the maturity with which adults receive and convey the Teachings of the Church</li> <li>To emphasize the Church’s social teachings</li> <li>To encourage the regular reading of and reflection on the Sacred Scripture</li> <li>To provide opportunities for ongoing faith formation especially, but not limited to the teachings of our faith, the Creed, and the history of the Church</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To encourage participation in the sacraments with family members and friends</li> <li>To provide regular opportunities for the reception of the Sacrament of Penance</li> <li>To celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage and encourage a Catholic family life</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To focus on the universal call to holiness</li> <li>To adhere to the Church’s teachings regarding the dignity of the human person</li> <li>To engage in the ecumenical and interreligious dialogue and prayer</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To prioritize regular prayer time</li> <li>To engage in various traditions of Catholic spirituality</li> <li>To promote regular Mass attendance</li> <li>To recognize and participate in the daily prayer life of the Church</li> </ul>
<p><b>Older Adults</b> Age 66 and older</p> <p>“ . . . the church owes the elderly ‘adequate catechetical care.’” NCD, p 193</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide opportunities for the sharing of one’s faith with others</li> <li>To encourage age-appropriate ongoing faith formation</li> <li>To provide activities for connection to the larger community of faith</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To encourage a sharing of one’s sacramental experiences with those of other generations</li> <li>To provide opportunities for participation in the sacramental life of the Church</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To encourage older people to become providers of pastoral care, not merely recipients of pastoral care</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To encourage a reflective prayer life</li> <li>To encourage private prayer for the needs of self, others and the Church</li> </ul>

*General Directory for Catechesis* (GDC), Congregation for the Clergy, 1997  
*National Directory for Catechesis* (NDC), United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2005  
*The Catechism of the Catholic Church* (CCC), The Holy See, Vatican City, 1994  
*On Catechesis in Our Time* (*Catechesi Tradendae*) (CT), Pope John Paul II, 1979



## Appendix Two: Resources

CTN digital religion videos are available through LEARN360 (an interactive, media-on-demand digital delivery service) to Parishes that have an association with a Diocesan School or an Academy. Some videos have teacher resources and most videos are downloadable. There are videos available for ALL grade levels, Kindergarten through High School, focusing on the elementary levels.

This is what you will find within our 500 Catholic videos:

- Animated videos
- Short film videos produced by teens
- Sacramental videos
- Character Builder programs
- Documentaries
- Vocational videos
- Missionary videos
- Church Doctrine and Teaching programs
- Lent, Easter, Advent & Christmas programs
- Lives of Saints programs

If you're ready to integrate technology into your Religion class, opening up an account would be the next step. Contact CTN for more information. Once account is created, there are Learn360 "How To Guides" on our website, under Teacher Resources - [www.ctnbq.org](http://www.ctnbq.org)

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## Appendix Three: Parent/Adult Standards and Outcomes

The following Standards and Outcomes are to be used when organizing sessions for parent and adults. They coordinate with what is being taught at various grade levels to students in parish, school, and academy programs of religious education.

### CATECHETICAL TASK ONE: CREED

Catechesis promotes knowledge of faith.

**Standard One:** We believe in God the Father as our Creator.

**OUTCOME:** Parents continue to reflect on their understanding of married life and love so as to create a Christian environment in the home.

**Standard Two:** We believe in Jesus Christ as the Divine Son of God.

**OUTCOME:** Parents and adults see in the Person of Jesus a model of divine love and forgiveness.

**Standard Three:** The Bible is the revealed Word of God.

**OUTCOME:** Parents and adults come to a better understanding that the Word of God gives guidance and meaning to their lives.

**Standard Four:** Catholic teachings based on Sacred Scripture, the Creeds, and the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

**OUTCOME:** Parents and adults:

- give the Bible a special place of honor in their homes and family lives.
- rely on official Church documents to form their ongoing understanding of Catholic teachings and to make important decisions in their lives.

**Standard Five:** We believe that men and women were created to live in union with God in this life and in Heaven forever.

**OUTCOME:** Parents and adults give witness that faith in God and fellowship with the Church are necessary means of salvation.



## CATECHETICAL TASK TWO: SACRAMENTS

Catechesis promotes a greater participation in the Liturgy and the sacraments of the Church.

**Standard One:** Encourage active participation in the Mass and various other liturgical celebrations of the faith community.

**OUTCOME:** Parents and adults catechize others by the witness of their Christian lives and by their participation in the life of their local parish.

**Standard Two:** Promote a basic understanding of the Catholic Church as the People of God.

**OUTCOME:** Parents and adults see the Church as both human and divine, and as a sign and instrument of God's plan to unite all of God's people in Christ Jesus.

**Standard Three:** Catholics prepare and celebrate the Sacraments with an emphasis on the centrality of the Eucharist.

**OUTCOME:** Parents:

- by word and example, assist their children in preparing for the Sacraments of Initiation.
- briefly explain the symbols, words and actions associated with each Sacrament:
  - Baptism (CCC#1234-1245)
  - Penance (CCC#1423-1424, 1480-1484)
  - Eucharist (CCC#1328-1344, 1348-1355)
  - Confirmation (CCC#1293-1301)
  - Holy Orders (CCC#1537-1538, 1541-1543, 1572-1574)
  - Matrimony (CCC#1621-1624)
  - Anointing of the Sick (CCC#1517-1519)

**Standard Four:** Instill a sense of priority to actively participate in Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation.

**OUTCOME:** Parents and adults actively participate in the sacramental life of the Church, especially the Sunday Eucharist.



**CATECHETICAL TASK THREE: MORALITY**

Catechesis promotes moral formation in Jesus Christ.

**Standard One:** Catechetical programs teach the reality of sin and evil in the world.**OUTCOME:** Parents and adults counteract the presence of sin and evil in the world by practicing the spiritual and corporal works of mercy.**Standard Two:** Jesus is the model for Catholic/Christian living and decision making.**OUTCOME:** Parents and adults:

- rely on the Person of Jesus, the moral teachings of the Church, and the movement of the Holy Spirit to grow in moral maturity.
- teach their children that one's intention and the circumstances surrounding an action can change the moral nature of the act but can never justify the commission of an objective evil.

**Standard Three:** A person's conscience is formed by Church teachings.**OUTCOME:** Parents and adults seek to live and teach with a conscience formed and informed by the Beatitudes and Teachings of the Church.**Standard 4:** Catechetical programs present and explain age appropriate moral truths concerning human life.**OUTCOME:** Parents instruct their child in the spiritual, physical, and emotional dimensions of the gift of sexuality.

**CATECHETICAL TASK 4: PRAYER**

Catechesis teaches the Christian how to pray with Christ.

**Standard One:** Learners actively participate in the Mass, various forms of worship, formal prayers, and devotions.

**OUTCOME:** Parents teach their child:

- appropriate prayers and Bible stories.
- the true meaning of feast days like Christmas and Easter.

**Standard Two:** Faith Formation programs support and empower parents as the primary religious educators of their children.

**OUTCOME:** Parents teach prayer by being people of prayer.

**Standard Three:** Private prayer is a means by which we communicate with God and strengthen our relationship with Him.

**OUTCOME:** Parents and adults make prayer and spiritual reflection an essential part of their lives.

**CATECHETICAL TASK FIVE: EVANGELIZATION**

Catechesis prepares the Christian to live in community and to participate actively in the life and mission of the Church.

**Standard One:** A variety of vocational callings are a response to one's baptism in Christ.

**Outcome:** Parents and adults realize that like the Church, they too have a duty to proclaim Christ to others at home, in the workplace, and in society in general.

**Standard Two:** Engage the learner in service to the community as a response to the Gospels and as a primary way of coming to know, love, and serve God.

**OUTCOME:** Parents and adults demonstrate discipleship by sharing their time, talent and treasure with the poor and elderly.

**Standard Three:** Promote understanding and respect for different cultures and religions.

**OUTCOME:** Parents expose their child to the traditions of other cultures and religions, and show respect for all.

**Standard Four:** Support the exercise of responsible stewardship for the gift of God's creation.

**OUTCOME:** Parents and adults teach their child examples of stewardship for the gift of God's creation.



**CATECHETICAL TASK SIX: EVANGELIZATION** Catechesis promotes a missionary spirit that prepares the faithful to be and to give a clear Christian witness in society.

**Standard One:** Society, as well as the individual, must work to apply the principles of social justice and peacemaking to personal and societal situations.

**OUTCOME:** Parents teach their child to recognize some of the challenges to human dignity such as the right to life for all, the treatment of immigrants, and the victims of prejudice and crime.

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**Standard Two:** Acknowledge and affirm the dignity of each human person.

**OUTCOME:** Parents and adults treat one another and others in ways that respect their God-given dignity.

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**Standard Three:** The Ten Commandments and the Eight Beatitudes provide a foundation for Catholic/Christian living.

**OUTCOME:** Parents and adults speak of the many ways God helps us to live as disciples of Christ, such as the Ten Commandments and the Eight Beatitudes.

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## Appendix Four: General Standards for Sacraments

These standards apply to all catechists who are preparing candidates to receive the Sacrament of Penance, Eucharist, and/or Confirmation.

Regardless of his/her age, a candidate preparing to receive the Sacrament of Penance, Holy Eucharist, or Confirmation is expected to know and understand the following:

### EUCCHARIST

In preparation to receive the Sacrament of Eucharist, the candidate must know and understand at least the following:

- The Eucharist is a living memorial of Christ's sacrifice for all mankind and a commemoration of His Last Supper.
- Jesus instituted the Eucharist at the Last Supper on the night before He died for us.
- The ordinary bread and wine becomes the Body and Blood of Christ (transubstantiation).
- A fast of at least one hour before receiving the Eucharist is required.
- A person must be in a state of grace before receiving the Eucharist.
- The Eucharist brings us closer to God and one another.
- A person must receive the Eucharist at least once a year during the Easter season.
- The Eucharist is the "source and summit" of our life.
- The celebrant of the Eucharist is a validly ordained priest or bishop who acts in the Person of Jesus and in the name of the Church.

### PENANCE

In preparation to receive the Sacrament of Penance, the candidate must know and understand at least the following:

- The Sacrament of Penance may also be known as the sacrament of Reconciliation, Forgiveness, Confession, and Conversion.
- Christ instituted the Sacrament of Penance for those who are baptized but have been separated from Him by sin.
- Penance helps us to grow in relationship with Jesus and one another (the Church).
- Penance allows us to overcome our failures and weaknesses.
- The priest is the ordinary minister of Penance but we are truly confessing to Jesus Himself.
- The priest is bound to maintain the "sacramental seal" and to never reveal what was said to him while hearing one's Confession.
- The Act of Contrition may be said in this form or any other similar form:

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart.  
In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things.  
I firmly intend, with your help,  
To do penance, to sin no more,  
And to avoid whatever leads me to sin.  
Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us.  
In His name, my God, have mercy.  
Amen.



- A person is required to confess mortal sin at least once a year but always before receiving Eucharist.
- A mortal sin is something that is seriously wrong, freely chosen, and breaks the relationship with God.
- A venial sin is a sin that is less serious than a mortal sin but still hurts our relationship with God.

## CONFIRMATION

In preparation to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, the candidate must know and understand at least the following:

- The ordinary minister of the Sacrament of Confirmation is the Bishop.
- Confirmation is that sacrament that completes what was begun in Baptism.
- The effect of Confirmation is a special outpouring of the Holy Spirit that gives us strength to witness to our Catholic faith.
- The essential rites of Confirmation include the anointing with Sacred Chrism and the laying on of hands.
- One must be in a state of grace to receive Confirmation.
- Confirmation leaves an indelible mark on one's soul.

The Confirmation candidate must prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation by assuming the role of disciple and serving the needs of the community.



## Appendix Five: USCCB Conformity Listing of Texts and Series

Please refer to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Conformity Listing of Catechetical Texts and Series found on the Internet at <http://usccb.org/about/evangelization-and-catechesis/subcommittee-on-catechism/upload/Current-Conformity-List.pdf>



## Appendix Six: Official Church Catechetical and New Evangelization Documents

[The Catechism of the Catholic Church](#)

[Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church](#)

[The General Directory for Catechesis](#) (1997)

[Catechesi Tradendae](#) (1979) – John Paul II exhortation “On Catechesis in Our Time”

[Evangelii Nuntiandi](#) (1975) – Paul VI exhortation “On Evangelization in the Modern World”

[Guide for Catechists](#) (1993) – Document of vocational, formative and promotional orientation of Catechists, Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples

[Adult Catechesis in the Christian Community: Some Principles and Guidelines](#) (1990), International Council for Catechesis

[The General Catechetical Directory](#) (1971)

Documents of the Second Vatican Council:

[Dei Verbum](#) (1965) – Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation

[Lumen Gentium](#) (1964) – Dogmatic Constitution on the Church

[Gaudium et Spes](#) (1965) – Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World

[Gravissimum Educationis](#) (1965) – Declaration on Christian Education

[Ad Gentes](#) – Decree on the Mission Activity of the Church

[Inter Mirifica](#) (1963) – Decree on the Media of Social Communications -

The United States *National Directory for Catechesis* (2003) is available only in book form

The *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults* (2006) is available only in book form

[Doctrinal Elements for a Curriculum Framework for the Development of Catechetical Materials for Young People of High School Age](#) (2008)

[Adaptation of Doctrinal Elements for Use in Parish and Youth Ministry Programs](#) (2010)

[Catechetical Formation in Chaste Living: Guidelines for Curriculum Design and Publication](#) (2008)

[Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry](#) (1997)

[Go and Make Disciples: A National Plan and Strategy for Catholic Evangelization in the United States](#) (1992)

[Co-Workers in the Vineyard of the Lord: A Resource for Guiding the Development of Lay Ecclesial Ministry](#) (2005)

[Our Hearts Were Burning Within Us: A Pastoral Plan for Adult Faith Formation in the United States](#) (1999)

[Conformity Listing of Catechetical Texts and Series Special Needs Resource Directory](#) (2007)

[Sacramental Catechesis: An Online Resource for Dioceses and Eparchies](#) (2012)

[Disciples Called to Witness](#)

[The New Evangelization for the Transmission of the Christian Faith](#)

[Porta Fidei](#)

[Go Make Disciples](#)

[Final List of Propositions of Ordinary General Assemblies of the Synod of Bishops](#)









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