I. Catechesis Promotes Knowledge of the Faith

*(Catechism of the Catholic Church, 26-1065; General Directory for Catechesis, 84-85, 87)*

### A. The Person of Jesus Christ

*Jesus loves and invites every person to be in relationship with him*

1. **I.A. 1.** Know Jesus is both human and divine, Son of Mary and Son of God (CCC 495; CFCL I.A.7)

2. **I.A. 2.** Know some key events in Jesus’ life: e.g., his birth, his death, and his rising to new life

3. **I.A. 3.** Know that Jesus died on the cross to show God’s love for all people (CCC 609; CFCL I.A.8)

### B. Understand Scripture

*Scripture is the living Word of God, a history of the covenant and a guide for life today*

1. **I.B. 1.** Identify the Bible as the inspired word of God (CCC 105)

2. **I.B. 2.** Know that the Bible is full of stories that show God’s love for his people, e.g., Creation, Noah’s ark, Moses, Good Shepherd, Good Samaritan, etc. (CFCL I.A.6)

3. **I.B. 3.** The Gospels tell us the Good News about Jesus (CCC 121-125)

### C. Creeds and Doctrines of the Church

*The Creed expresses the faith of our Church and professes it to the world*

1. **I.C. 1.** Identify God as Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (CCC 233)

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Diocese of Columbus

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I. C. 2. Recognize that the Holy Spirit is a gift from God (CCC 733; Jn 14:16, 26; CFCL I.A.7 & 9)

I. C. 3. Know that God created the world and made it good (CCC 295, 299; Gen 1:1-31; CFCL I.A.1)

I. C. 4. Know that God is Love (CCC 1604; CFCL I.A.1)

I. C. 5. Know that God desires all people to be happy with him now and forever in Heaven (CCC 1023-1024; Jn 14:2-3)

I. C. 6. Know that angels are God’s messengers sent to help and protect (CCC 329, 336)

D. Discover the Church’s Tradition and Relevance of Church History

Our Church has a rich heritage which still serves as a guide for us today

I. D. 1. Know that God’s gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost is the birthday of the Church (CCC 731-732)

E. Christian Thought and Culture

Our Church’s tradition is based in an appreciation for the gifts of many persons – theologians, saints, artists, teachers and preachers – living as faithful disciples of Jesus

I. E. 1. Recognize saints as holy people who are examples of how to love God and one another (CCC 823)
II. Catechesis Promotes Knowledge of the Meaning of the Liturgy and Sacraments (CCC 1066-1690; GDC 84-85, 87)

A. Paschal Mystery Forms and Transforms

The liturgical and sacramental life of the Church informs, forms, and transforms us as disciples of Jesus in the world (CCC 654, 1066-1067, 1085)

II. A. 1. Know that the liturgy teaches about the life of Jesus (CCC 1194)

Ch. 9-12; 14-16; KT: The Sacraments

II. A. 2. Know that the liturgy is the special prayer of God’s family (CCC 1068, 1140)

Ch. 9-12; 14-16; KT: The Sacraments

B. Sacraments

Sacraments are special celebrations of God’s love for us

II. B. 1. Identify sacraments as special times when Jesus comes to be with us (CCC 1131)

Ch. 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16; KT: The Sacraments

II. B. 2. Recognize that through Baptism we are freed from Original Sin, share in God’s life, and become members of God’s family (CCC 1213)

Ch. 9, 10; KT: The Sacraments

II. B. 3. Recognize that at Mass the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ (CCC 1375)

Ch. 15, KT: The Sacraments

II. B. 4. Recognize the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation as a gift from God (CCC 1468-1469)

Ch. 14; KT: The Sacraments
C. Liturgical Catechesis

**We are invited into full, active, and conscious participation in the liturgical life of the Church (CCC 1071)**

**II. C. 1.** Identify the different liturgical seasons and their respective colors (CCC 1163-1171, 1194)

**II. C. 2.** Recognize that we celebrate Sunday as the Lord’s Day because of Jesus’ Resurrection (CCC 1166-67, 1193)

**II. C. 3.** Identify sacred objects and spaces in church, e.g., altar, ambo, baptismal font, Book of the Gospels, tabernacle etc. (CCC 1182-1185)

**II. C. 4.** Identify liturgical postures and their meaning, e.g., standing (reverence); sitting (attentive listening); and kneeling (adoration) (CCC 1153-1158)

**II. C. 5.** Understand that Christians learn about Jesus in the scripture readings at Mass (CCC 1349)

**II. C. 6.** Know that there are some special days, besides Sunday, that we go to Mass, e.g., All Saints Day; Immaculate Conception of Mary; Christmas; Mary, Mother of God; Assumption of Mary (CCC 1171, 1173)

D. Dimensions of Priesthood: Baptismal and Ordained

**Like Jesus, we are called to be priest, prophet, and king**

**II. D. 1.** Know that because of their baptism all people are called to serve God (CCC 871, 1140)
III. Catechesis Promotes Moral Formation in Jesus Christ

(CCC 1691-2557; GDC 84-85, 87)

A. Commandment to Love

The ‘new commandment’ of Jesus, to love one another as he, God, has loved us is one of the defining characteristics of the Christian faith (Jn 13:34-35)

III. A. 1. Know that Jesus reveals to us that God is Trinity: Father, Son and Spirit (CCC 240, 243; CFCL I.A.1)

III. A. 2. Understand that Jesus wants all people to love God and love one another (CCC 1878, 1970; Lk 10:25-28; CFCL I.A.1, 9)

B. Ten Commandments and Beatitudes

The Scriptures, especially in the Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount, give us moral guidance

III. B. 1. Understand that God gives rules to follow, to help all people love each other (CCC 1962, 1965)

III. B. 2. Understand that, by his example, Jesus teaches us how to love God and each other (CCC 520, 1823; Jn 13:34-35; Jn 15:12; CFCL I.A.9)

C. Sin and Grace

God’s love can overcome the evil of sin in our world

III. C. 1. Know that Jesus wants us to forgive those who hurt us (CCC 2840; Lk 6:35; Lk 17:3-4; Lk 23:33-34)

III. C. 2. Define sin as choosing to disobey God and hurt others (CCC 1849-1850; Gn 3)
III. C. 3. Know that before the Fall, Adam and Eve shared in friendship with God (CCC 396; CFCL I.A.4)

III. C. 4. Know that Original Sin occurred when Adam and Eve disobeyed God (CCC 897; CFCL I.A.4)

III. C. 5. Describe the differences between an accident, a mistake, and a sin

III. C. 6. Know that God’s grace helps people to live as his children

D. Conscience Formation

The Gospel calls us to ongoing conversion, transforming our ways of thinking and living

III. D. 1. God gives people the freedom to choose (CCC 1730-1731, 1744)

III. D. 2. Recognize that the Holy Spirit works within each person to help them make good choices (CCC 729, 1830; Jn 14:26)

E. Objective Moral Norms

The Scriptures and Tradition of the Church teach us about right and wrong

III. E. 1. God gives the Holy Spirit, the Bible, and the laws of the Church to help the baptized know right and wrong (CCC 1785)

F. Gospel of Life

All life is a gift from God and is to be held sacred

III. F. 1. Recognize that God created all life: human, animal, and plant and called it good (CCC 299, 339; Gn 1:20-27)
III. F. 2. Understand that all people are made in God’s image (CCC 355; Gn 1:27; CFCL I.A.1)

III. F. 3. Know oneself as loved and valued (Mt 6:25-34; CFCL I.A.1)

III. F. 4. Know that care and respect for our bodies and for those of others is a response to God’s love (CCC 1004)

G. Living a Moral Life

As disciples of Jesus, we desire to follow him in his attitudes and actions

III. G. 1. Recognize the life and teachings of Jesus as a model for how all people should live (CCC 1694)

III. G. 2. Know that in our Baptism, we receive special graces from God to help us love and serve him as disciples of Jesus (CCC 1812-1813; CFCL I.A.12, 28)

IV. Catechesis Teaches the Christian

How to Pray

(CCC 2558-2865; GDC 84-85, 87)

A. Christian Prayer Tradition

Prayer in all its many forms is a language of love, faith, and hope

IV. A. 1. Know/pray the Sign of the Cross (CCC 2166)

IV. A. 2. Identify different times and places to pray (CCC 2157, 2743)

IV. A. 3. Recite the following formal prayers: Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be (CCC 2688)

IV. A. 4. Recognize that one can pray alone or with others (CCC 2664)
B. Personal Prayer

_The mystery of God’s action in our lives draws us into a deeper relationship and a deeper desire to respond in prayer (CCC 2591)_

IV. B. 1. Understand that praying is listening to and talking with God (CCC 2564)

Ch. 13, 24; KT: Christian Prayer

IV. B. 2. Understand one needs to spend time with God in prayer (CCC 2744; CFCL I.A.24)

Ch. 13, 24; KT: Christian Prayer

IV. B. 3. Know that one can pray with words, with quiet listening, and with actions (CCC 2700-2708, 2722)

Ch. 13, 24; KT: Christian Prayer

C. Communal Prayer

_We share prayer with others, and worship together as the People of God_

IV. C. 1. Know that the church building is a sacred place where the faith community gathers to worship (CCC 1181, 2691, 2696)

Ch. 9

IV. C. 2. Identify some appropriate gestures in use in church, e.g., sitting, standing, kneeling, genuflecting, sign of the cross, sign of peace, etc. (CCC 1153-1155)

Ch. 13, 24; KT: Christian Prayer

D. Popular Piety and Devotions

_Our families and friends share with us ways to grow closer to God_

IV. D. 1. Know that Holy Water is a sign of baptism (CCC 1668)

Ch. 10

IV. D. 2. Know that one can ask others to pray for them, e.g., saints, family, friends, church community (CCC 2683-2684)

Ch. 13

IV. D. 3. Know that Jesus' mother, Mary, is a special friend in prayer (CCC 2682)

Ch. 13; CPP
V. Catechesis Prepares the Christian to Live in Community and to Participate in the Life and Mission of the Church
(GDC 84, 86-87)

A. Spiritual Growth

Our community life is built on the understanding that humans grow and develop physically, mentally, emotionally, and socially as well as spiritually

V. A. 1. Know that it is God’s plan for people to grow in holiness (CCC 2013-2015, 2813; Lk 2:40, 52)

V. A. 2. Know that God gives grace to help people to grow more like him (CCC 2021-2023)

B. Relationships and Responsibilities

In the Gospel, Jesus teaches us that living together in the Kingdom of God, we must grow in understanding, compassion, and care for the least and in mutual charity

V. B. 1. Identify some ways Jesus shows people how to love God, each other, and creation (CCC 2407, 2415-2418; Gn 1:26; Lk 10:25-28)

V. B. 2. Understand that feelings are natural and necessary in building relationships with God, self, and others

V. B. 3. Understand that our bodies are gifts from God and must be treated with respect. (CCC 1695; 1 Cor 6:19; CFCL I.A.24)

C. Marriage and Family Life—Domestic Church

Our family life is the church of the home, where we learn to love God and care for each other
V. C. 1. Know that at the Annunciation, Mary said “yes” to God to be the mother of Jesus (CCC 484-486, 490; Lk 1:26-38)

V. C. 2. Know that Joseph is the foster father of Jesus (CCC 437)

V. C. 3. Know that the family is where one first learns to pray (CCC 2204-2206)

D. Faith Communities

Participation in the life and mission of the Church is both personal and communal (CCC 1134)

V. D. 1. Know that people become members of God’s family, the Church, at Baptism (CCC 1213)

V. D. 2. Understand that those who believe in Jesus form God’s true family, the Church (CCC 752; Acts 2:42-47; Acts 4:32-35)

V. D. 3. Identify God’s family as consisting of people from all races, languages, and abilities (CCC 543; Mt 8:11)

E. Nature and Mission of the Church

The Church is the family of God, sent to bring the Good News of Jesus to all people

V. E. 1. Know that God calls his Church to help build the Kingdom of God on earth (CCC 541, 567; Mt 6:33)

F. Ecumenism

We share in promoting the unity of all God’s people as part of our fidelity to the Gospel

V. F. 1. Nothing at this age
**VI. Catechesis promotes a Missionary Spirit that prepares the faithful to transform the world**

*(GDC 84, 86-87)*

### A. Evangelization

*The Sacraments of Initiation both invite and empower us to live as disciples in the larger society and in the world*

**VI. A. 1.** Know that all baptized Christians are called to follow Jesus and be his disciples *(CCC 1269-1270, 1694)*

### B. Vocation/Apostolate

*Each is called to a particular task in helping to reveal the Kingdom of God in the service of God’s plan for the world*

**VI. B. 1.** Understand that each person is called to love God in a special way *(CCC 52, 2093; Dt 6:4-5; Mt 9:9-13)*

**VI. B. 2.** Know that in Baptism we are made members of God’s family *(CCC 1279)*

### C. Social Action and Transformation

*The Social Teachings of our tradition inspire us to concern and to action aimed at the well-being of all humankind*

**VI. C. 1.** Know that a Christian is called to help build the Kingdom of God *(CCC 2046; Mt 6:33)*

**VI. C. 2.** Give examples of how one can help others in need *(Mt 25)*

**VI. C. 3.** Name ways that one can take care of God’s creation
D. Interreligious Dialogue

*We dialogue and work with people of other faiths, to build understanding and to find our common hopes and values for a better world*

VI. D. 1. Nothing at this age