

WCCY: We Celebrate the Church Year
CPP: Catholic Prayers and Practices

WCM: We Celebrate the Mass
SOR: Sacrament of Reconciliation

KT: Key Teachings of the Catholic Church
CST: Catholic Social Teaching

Grade 7 and 8 texts:

CNT: Christ in the New Testament
CGM: Christ Reveals God's Mystery

CL: Christ in the Liturgy
LCJ: Life in Christ Jesus

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

I. A. 1. Explain that Jesus Christ is the fullness of God's self-revelation and the fulfillment of his promises (CCC 51-53, 65; Heb 1:1-4; CFCL I.A.6)

LCJ: Ch. 3; CGM: Ch. 8-12;
KT: Jesus Christ, Incarnate Son of God

I. A. 2. Describe what it means to say that Jesus Christ is both fully human and fully divine (CFCL I.A.7)

CGM: Ch. 8; KT: Jesus Christ, Incarnate Son of God

B. Understand Scripture

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

I. B. 1. Explain the meaning of "inspiration" in Sacred Scripture (CCC 105-108)

CNT: Ch. 1; KT: Sacred Scripture

I. B. 2. Know how the Canon of Scripture was determined (CCC 80-83)

CNT: Ch. 1; KT: Sacred Scripture

I. B. 3. Understand that the Magisterium has the authority to interpret Sacred Scripture authentically (CCC 84-87)

LCJ: Ch. 5; CGM: Ch. 1, 7;
KT: Divine Revelation

I. B. 4. Understand that the New Testament epistles were written to address questions and concerns in the early Church

CNT: 1-12; KT: Sacred Scripture

I. B. 5. Identify some tools used in biblical study e.g., bible dictionary, bible commentary, bible atlas

CNT: Ch. 11

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C. Creeds and Doctrines of the Church

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

- I. C. 1. Recognize that there is “an order or ‘hierarchy’ of truths within the Church’s teaching” (CCC 90)
- I. C. 2. Define “dogma,” “doctrine,” and “discipline”
- I. C. 3. Describe the Last Things (CCC 954)

CGM: Ch. 1, 6

CGM: Ch. 1, 6

CGM: Ch. 11; KT: Life Everlasting

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. Name some of the early ecumenical councils of the Church (CCC 464-468)
- I. D. 2. Identify the Reformation and the Counter-Reformation
- I. D. 3. Define “heresy” (CCC 2089)

CGM: Ch. 1

CGM: Ch. 7

CGM: Ch. 1

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. Describe the relationship of science to faith in the Catholic tradition (CCC 159)

CGM: Ch. 2

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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

- II. A. 1. Describe how the liturgy and the sacraments strengthen one to live as a disciple of Jesus Christ (CCC 1108; CFCL I.A.17)
- II. A. 2. Know that participation in the Eucharist is an actual participation in the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ (CCC 1068, 1088, 1090, 1104)

B. Sacraments

Sacraments are special celebrations of God's love for us

- II. B. 1. Cite sources in the New Testament that show the sacraments are derived from Jesus' life and mission (CCC 1114-1116)
- II. B. 2. Recall that Confirmation is the sacrament which completes Christian Initiation (CCC 1285)
- II. B. 3. Know that the sacraments are actions of the Church and an integral part of her public prayer (CCC 1071, 1140)

CL: Ch. 5-12; KT: The Sacraments

CL: Ch. 10; WCM; KT: The Sacraments

CL: Ch. 7-12

CL: Ch. 9; KT: The Sacraments

CL: Ch. 7-12; KT: The Sacraments

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C. Liturgical Catechesis

We are invited into full, active, and conscious participation in the liturgical life of the Church

- II. C. 1. Describe the cycle of the liturgical year and how the celebrations relate to everyday life (CCC 1171)
- II. C. 2. Explain the reason for the “Sunday Obligation” (CCC 2180-2183)

CGM: Ch. 3; CL: Ch. 8

LCJ: Ch. 8

D. Dimensions of Priesthood: Baptismal and Ordained

Like Jesus, we are called to be priest, prophet, and king (CCC 783-786, 871; 1 Pet 2:9)

- II. D. 1. Identify examples of the roles of priest, prophet, and king in the lives of the baptized and ordained priesthood. (CCC 783-786, 871; 1Pt2:9)

CL: Ch. 9, 12

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

- III. A. 1. Know that one is able to live the “New Commandment” through the grace of the Holy Spirit (CCC 1966)

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- III. A. 2.** Know that the mutual, self-giving love of the Trinity is the model for true Christian love (CCC 2331; CFCL I.A.3)
- III. A. 3.** Know the virtue of charity is the greatest virtue and the foundation for living chastity (CCC 1822; CFCL I.A.15, 24)
- III. A. 4.** Know that the practice of chastity fosters: authentic friendship, generous unselfish love, the ability to sacrifice for others and true love of self (CCC 2338-2345; CFCL I.A.25)

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.** Compare and contrast the beatitudes as expressed in the “Sermon on the Mount” and the “Sermon on the Plain” (Mt 5:1-11; Lk 6:2-26)
- III. B. 2.** Describe how living the Beatitudes expresses the Christian life of discipleship (CCC 1716-1717)

C. Sin and Grace

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

- III. C. 1.** Recall that venial sins weaken one’s relationship with God, but mortal sins destroy that relationship (CCC 1855; CFCL I.A.27)
- III. C. 2.** Recall the elements that must be present for a sin to be mortal (CCC 1857)

CGM: Ch. 6; KT: The Holy Trinity

LCJ: Ch. 5; KT: The Virtues

LCJ: Ch. 10

LCJ: Ch. 2, 8-11; KT: The Moral Life

LCJ: Ch. 2

LCJ: Ch. 2

LCJ: Ch. 4; KT: Moral Evil and Sin

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III. C. 3. Know that grace and the life of virtue help one overcome human weaknesses caused by sin (CFCL I.A.17)

LCJ: Ch. 4; KT: Moral Evil and Sin

III. C. 4. Explain how one’s choices have both personal and social consequences (CCC 1730-1738, 1740)

LCJ: Ch. 4; KT: Moral Evil and Sin

III. C. 5. Know that social sin can exist at the local, national, and global levels

LCJ: Ch. 4; KT: Moral Evil and Sin

D. Conscience Formation

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

III. D. 1. Know that virtues help to train the conscience to make good choices (CCC 1834; Phil 4:8)

LCJ: Ch. 5; KT: The Virtues

III. D. 2. Know that sinful choices weaken one’s conscience making it harder to choose correctly (CCC 1865)

LCJ: Ch. 4

III. D. 3. Know that properly forming one’s conscience is a life-long task that needs constant prayer, study, and grace (CCC 1783; CFCL I.A.22)

LCJ: Ch. 4

E. Objective Moral Norms

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

III. E. 1. Describe how natural law is foundational to all moral law (CCC 1959)

LCJ: Ch. 4

III. E. 2. Know that a life conformed to Sacred Scripture and the teachings of the Church leads to eternal life (CCC 1724)

LCJ: Ch. 2

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III. E. 3. Know that moral law must inform one's conscience (CCC 1783-1785)

LCJ: Ch. 4

III. E. 4. Understand how choosing virtue and avoiding vice enable one to obey moral law (CFCL I.A.13)

LCJ: Ch. 4

F. Gospel of Life

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

III. F. 1. Know that the mystery of the Incarnation affirms the goodness of creation and the dignity of humanity (CCC 461-463)

LCJ: Ch. 2; CNT: Ch. 9; KT: Jesus Christ, the Incarnate Son of God

III. F. 2. Know that human work of every kind is a participation in God's creative work and therefore integral to human dignity (CCC 2427-2428)

CGM: Ch. 5; LCJ: Ch. 2

III. F. 3. Understand that human dignity is expressed fully when all aspects of one's life work together (physical, social, emotional, intellectual, spiritual) (CCC 901, 2461; CFCL I.A.21, 22)

LCJ: Ch. 2

G. Living a Moral Life

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

III. G. 1. Identify the Gifts of the Holy Spirit and how they help one live a moral life (CCC 1830-1832; Is 11:1-2)

LCJ: Ch. 6

III. G. 2. Identify the Fruits of the Holy Spirit as signs of the Spirit at work in the life of a disciple (CCC 1832; Gal 5: 22-23)

LCJ: Ch. 6

III. G. 3. Identify ways to foster chastity: modesty, prayer, respect, and self-control (CFCL I.A.24)

LCJ: Ch. 10

III. G. 4. Identify benefits to living a chaste life for the individual and the community (CCC 2338-2345, 2517-2527; CFCL I.A.25)

LCJ: Ch. 10

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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. Identify the steps in Lectio Divina (CCC 1177, 2708)

CGM: Ch. 3

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

IV. B. 1. Understand that personal prayer is unique to one’s relationship with God

CL: Ch. 5

IV. B. 2. Understand that perseverance in prayer is important (CCC 2730)

CL: Ch. 5, 6; KT: Christian Prayer

IV. B. 3. Know that prayer is essential for living one’s vocation to love (CCC 2656-2657, 2548-2550)

CL: Ch. 5, 6; KT: Christian Prayer

IV. B. 4. Know that in prayer, God shows us who he created us to be

CL: Ch. 5, 6; KT: Christian Prayer

C. Communal Prayer

We share prayer with others, and worship together as the People of God

IV. C. 1. Explain why the “Liturgy of the Hours” is the “prayer of the whole People of God” (CCC 1175)

CL: Ch. 6

IV. C. 2. Describe the role of art and music in communal prayer (CCC 1156-1162)

CL: Ch. 6

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D. Popular Piety and Devotions

Our families and friends share with us ways to grow closer to God

- IV. D. 1.** Explain how popular piety and devotions support personal and communal prayer (CCC 1675, 1679)
- IV. D. 2.** Distinguish between sacraments and sacramentals (CCC 1131, 1677-1678)

CL: Ch. 5

LCJ: Ch. 8

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.** Describe how the gifts of the Spirit, given explicitly in the Sacrament of Confirmation, foster spiritual growth (CCC 736, 1303, 1316)
- V. A. 2.** Explain how participation in community supports and sustains spiritual growth (CCC 2182)
- V. A. 3.** Know that when we use our freedom to act rightly, and resist temptation, we grow in virtue and holiness (CFCL I.A.22)

LCJ: Ch. 6

LCJ: Ch. 9

LCJ: Ch. 4, 5; KT: The Virtues

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B. Relationships and Responsibilities

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

- V. B. 1. Know that a disciple has a responsibility to participate in “social interchange” that promotes the common good (CCC 1913-1917)
- V. B. 2. Explain how the Eucharist commits us to service of the poor (CCC 1397-98)

LCJ: Ch. 5; CST: Unit 1 Closer;
 CST: Unit 2 Closer

 CL: Ch. 10

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. Identify some responsibilities that parents have towards their children and that children have toward their parents (CCC 2214-2231)
- V. C. 2. Understand why the Church teaches that sexual activity is reserved for marriage (CCC 2350, 2360-2363, 2390-2391; CFCL I.A.29, 30)
- V. C. 3. Explain what is meant by the indissolubility of marriage (CCC 1614-1617)

LCJ: Ch. 9

 LCJ: Ch. 10

 CL: Ch. 12

D. Faith Communities

Participation in the life and mission of the Church is both personal and communal

- V. D. 1. Describe some of the unique characteristics of the Early Church communities (CCC 949-953; Acts 2:42-47, 4:32-35; 2Thes 3:6-16)

CGM: Ch. 1

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V. D. 2. Examine ways in which adolescents can share in the work of the parish

CL: Ch. 1, 7, 9; CGM: Ch. 12;
CNT: Ch. 11, 12

V. D. 3. Define the term *sensus fidei*, or “the sense of faith” (CCC 92; Jn 16:13; 1Jn 2:20)

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. Identify some of the New Testament stories of the Church’s mission to share the Good News

CNT: Ch. 1-12

V. E. 2. Know that the role of the Magisterium is to foster unity by expressing the authentic teaching of the Catholic Church (CCC 890)

LCJ: Ch. 4

V. E. 3. Know that the life and mission of the Catholic Church is expressed in different Rites (CCC 814)

CL: Ch. 9, 10, 11, 12

F. Ecumenism

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

V. F. 1. Know that Christ desires unity for his Church and calls the faithful to work towards it (CCC 820-822; Jn 17:20-21)

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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. Identify what is meant by the “New Evangelization”

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. Know that a personal apostolate is a means of living out the missionary spirit of the Church

CL: Ch. 12

VI. B. 2. Reflect and describe how a personal apostolate can be lived out in a vocation and/or a career

CL: Ch. 12

VI. B. 3. Know that all people are called to live chastely (CFCL I.A.20)

CL: Ch. 12

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. Understand that Catholic Social Teaching provides principles for reflection, criteria for judgment, and guidelines for action in building the Kingdom of God (CCC 2423)

LCJ: Ch. 3; CST: Unit 1 Closer; CST: Unit 2 Closer

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VI. C. 2. Know that the common good and human dignity are foundational principles for building a better world (CCC 1807, 1928-1933)

LCJ: Ch. 5, 10; CST: Unit 1 Closer;
CST: Unit 2 Closer

VI. C. 3. Identify the seven themes of Catholic Social Teaching (CCC 1943-1948, 2419-2425)

LCJ: Ch. 3

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. Define the term “monotheism”

CGM: Ch. 4

VI. D. 2. Identify the three world religions rooted in monotheistic belief (Judaism, Christianity, and Islam) (CCC 839-841)

CGM: Ch. 4