The Correlation between the Elementary Religion Curriculum
Diocese of Columbus
and
The Pflaum Gospel Weeklies: What the Church Believes and Teaches
February 2017

The Pflaum Faith Formation program integrates a complete doctrinal catechesis with the liturgical life of the Church. Overall, there is a very high percentage of correlation between the Curriculum of Columbus and the Pflaum Gospel Weeklies: What the Church Believes and Teaches Faith Formation program, pre-school through grade eight. The strength of the correlation is especially in the area of truths referred to by the bishops as the hierarchy of truths, the central truths of the Catholic faith.

Each Student Objective of the curriculum was aligned either with the doctrine from the lectionary readings from cycle A, B, and C or with Pflaum’s *What the Church Believes and Teaches*. The page numbers with each outcome refers to the pages in *What the Church Believes and Teaches* for the appropriate age level.

The development of the doctrine of the Sunday readings leaves open the possibility of even further correlation between the Curriculum of the Diocese of Columbus and The Pflaum Faith Formation program.
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) p7

   I. A. 2. Describe what it means to say that Jesus Christ is both fully human and fully divine p10

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) p7

   I. B. 2. Know how the Canon of Scripture was determined (CCC 80-83) p7

   I. B. 3. Understand that the Magisterium has the authority to interpret Sacred Scripture authentically (CCC 84-87) p8

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

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

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) p14

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) p6

   I.D.2. Identify the Reformation and the Counter-Reformation

   I.D.3. Define “heresy” (CCC 2089)

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)

II. Catechesis Promotes Knowledge of the Meaning of the Liturgy and Sacraments

(CCC, 1066-1690; GDC, 84-85, 87) p19-26
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 p20

II.A.1. Describe how the liturgy and the sacraments strengthen one to live as a disciple of Jesus Christ (CCC 1108) p19-20

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) p23-24

B. Sacraments Sacraments are special celebrations of God’s love for us p22-26,62

II.B.1. Cite sources in the New Testament that show the sacraments are derived from Jesus’ life and mission (CCC 1114-1116) p22-23

II.B.2. Recall that Confirmation is the sacrament which completes Christian Initiation (CCC 1285) p22-23

II.B.3. Know that the sacraments are actions of the Church and an integral part of her public prayer (CCC 1071, 1140) p20-26

C. Liturgical Catechesis We are invited into full, active, and conscious participation in the liturgical life of the Church p19-20

II.C.1. Describe the cycle of the liturgical year and how the celebrations relate to everyday life (CCC 1171) p20

II.C.2. Explain the reason for the “Sunday Obligation” (CCC 2180-2183) p20,33

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) p13

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) p13

III. Catechism Promotes Moral Formation in Jesus Christ p29-36

(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. p29,36

III.A.1. Know that one is able to live the “New Commandment” through the grace of the Holy Spirit (CCC #1966) p35

B. Ten Commandments and Beatitudes The Scriptures, especially in the Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount, give us moral guidance p32-35

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) p35

III.B.2. Describe how living the Beatitudes expresses the Christian life of discipleship (CCC # 1716-1717) p35

C. Sin and Grace God’s love can overcome the evil of sin in our world p29-31

III.C.1. Explain how one’s choices have both personal and social consequences (CCC 1730-1738, 1740) p30-31

III.C.2. Know that social sin can exist at the local, national, and global levels p31

III.C.3. Know that grace is first and foremost the gift of the Spirit that justifies and sanctifies (CCC 2003) p32
D. **Conscience Formation** The Gospel calls us to ongoing conversion, transforming our ways of thinking and living  

III.D.1. Explain the process of developing a well-formed conscience and how it affects one’s decisions (CCC 1783-1785)  

III.D.2. Describe the role of virtue in forming one’s conscience (CCC 1834; Phil 4:8)  

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 (CCC1959)  

III.E.2. Know that a life conformed to Sacred Scripture and the teachings of the Church leads to beatitude (CCC1724)  

A,C, p7,35  

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)  

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)  

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)  

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)  

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)  

III.G.3. Know that Christians are called to make virtuous choices in everyday life  

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)  

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  

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

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)  

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

ABC  

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)
V. Catechism 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)  

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)  

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)  

V.C.3. Explain what is meant by the indissolubility of marriage (CCC 1614-1617)  

D. Faith Communities Participation in the life and mission of the Church is both personal and communal  


V.D.2. Examine ways in which adolescents can share in the work of the parish (CCC 26)  

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  

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)  

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

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)
Correlation of the Pflaum Gospel Weeklies Faith Formation Program - VISIONS

VI. Catechesis Promotes a Missionary Spirit that Prepares the Faithful to Transform the World
(GDC, #84, 86-87)  p12

A. Evangelization The Sacraments of Initiation both invite and empower us to live as disciples in
the larger society and in the world  p22-24
VI.A.1. Identify what is meant by the “New Evangelization”

B. Vocation/Apostolate Each of is called to a particular task in helping to reveal the Kingdom of
God in the service of God’s plan for the world  p12
VI.B.1. Know that a personal apostolate is a means of living out the missionary spirit of the
Church  p12

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  p51
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) ABC, p51
VI.C.2. Know that the common good and human dignity are foundational principles for building
a better world (CCC 1807, 1928-1933)  p31,51
VI.C.3. Identify the seven themes of Catholic Social Teaching (CCC 1943-1948, 2419-2425)  p51

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

*Committee on Education of the United States Catholic Conference. Our Hearts Were Burning Within
Conference of Catholic Bishops, 1999