

**Diocese of Columbus**  
**Grade Four Religion COS**  
Based on the **Six Tasks of Catechesis\***

**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.** Identify some different names for Jesus, e.g., Savior, Christ, Emmanuel, Lamb of God etc. (CCC 430-451)
- I. A. 2.** Know that Jesus has a fully human nature which includes human emotions (CCC 470-478; Jn 11:33-38; Lk 4:2; Mt 21:12; CFCL I.A.7) **ADDICTION SUICIDE**
- I. A. 3.** Know that Jesus has a fully divine nature. He was conceived in the womb of the Virgin Mary through the power of the Holy Spirit (CCC 464-469; CFCL I.A.7)
- I. A. 4.** Understand that because he is free from sin Jesus' body did not decay after his death (CCC 627, 630)

**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.** Identify Divine Revelation as God's self-communication about his plan of creation and salvation (CCC 51-53)
- I. B. 2.** Know that "testament" or "covenant" is a special promise initiated by God who invites his people to respond (CCC 56-64)
- I. B. 3.** Understand that the Bible is the written story of the covenant relationship between God and the Israelites, and God and the Christian community (CCC 128-130)
- I. B. 4.** Identify some books in Sacred Scripture, e.g., Genesis, Exodus, Psalms, the Gospels, etc. (CCC 120)
- I. B. 5.** Locate books, chapters, and verses in Sacred Scripture
- I. B. 6.** Understand that Jesus studied and taught the Old Testament (CCC 121-123; Lk 2:41-52; 4:14-22)
- I. B. 7.** Know that the New Testament is the story and teachings of Jesus and the early Christian community (CCC 124)

**C. Creeds and Doctrines of the Church** The Creed expresses the faith of our Church and professes it to the world

- I. C. 1.** Understand that God is all-knowing (CCC 268)
- I. C. 2.** Know the three main parts of the Apostles' Creed (CCC 190-191)
- I. C. 3.** Define a "Precept of the Church" (CCC 2041-2043)
- I. C. 4.** Know that Satan was an angel who disobeyed God and separated himself from God forever (CCC 391-392; Lk 10:18)
- I. C. 5.** Know that Hell is eternal separation from God (CCC 1033; CFCL I.A.27)
- I. C. 6.** **Define the Marian dogmas of the Immaculate Conception and the Assumption** (CCC 484, 494, 966)

**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. Identify some martyrs and saints who by their witness fostered the growth of the Church (CCC 2473; Acts 7:54-60, 16:11-15)

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. Know that Mary's relationship with Jesus gives her a unique role in the life of the Church (CCC 964-975; CFCL I.A.31)

I. E. 2. **Know that we do not worship Mary and the Saints, but we do honor them for their example of holiness. (CCC 971)**

I. E. 3. Know that missionaries spread the Gospel message and strengthen the Church (CCC 849-856; Acts 8:26-40)

## 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. Know that God shows his love by sending Jesus to save us from sin and death through the Paschal Mystery (CCC 601, 654; 1Cor 15:14; CFCL I.A.8) **ADDICTION SUICIDE**

B. **Sacraments** Sacraments are special celebrations of God's love for his people

II. B. 1. Review the meaning of a sacrament (CCC 1131)

II. B. 2. Identify the sacraments of Initiation, Healing, and Service (CCC 1212, 1421, 1534)

II. B. 3. Know that the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation includes both "God's forgiveness and reconciliation with the church" (CCC 1440; 1468-1469; CFCL I.A.28)

**ADDICTION RACISM**

II. B. 4. Know that the penance given by the priest gives healing to the sinner and helps one to repair relationships with God and neighbor (CCC 1459) **ADDICTION RACISM**

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

II. C. 1. Identify the Lenten practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving (CCC 1438)

II. C. 2. Identify Easter as the most important feast day of the year (CCC 1169)

II. C. 3. Identify the Holy Days of Obligation (CCC 2177)

II. C. 4. Identify major feasts of Mary in her role as Mother of God, e.g., Annunciation, Visitation, Assumption, Christmas (CCC 1172)

D. **Dimensions of Priesthood: Baptismal and Ordained** Like Jesus, we are called to be priest, prophet, and king

II. D. 1. Identify the three degrees of holy orders: diaconate, presbyterate, and episcopacy (CCC 1536)

## 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. Locate the Two Great Commandments in Scripture (CCC 2055; Dt 6:5; Lv 19:18; Lk 10:25-28)
  - III. A. 2. **Know that we are called to love unconditionally.** (CFCL I.A.9) **ADDICTION RACISM SUICIDE**
- 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. Memorize the Ten Commandments (CCC 2051ff; Ex 20:2-17)
  - III. B. 2. Retell the story of the Exodus and the Ten Commandments (Ex 7-20)
  - III. B. 3. Identify the Beatitudes as the heart of Jesus’ teaching (CCC 1716; Mt 5:1-12; Lk 6:20-26; CFCL I.A.19) **ADDICTION RACISM SUICIDE**
- C. Sin and Grace** God’s love can overcome the evil of sin in our world
- III. C. 1. Know that sin is freely choosing what is wrong and failing to do what is right (CCC 1849-1850) **ADDICTION RACISM SUICIDE**
  - III. C. 2. Identify the different types of sin: personal sin (mortal and venial) and social sin (CCC 1852-1869, 1886-1888; Rom 1:28-32; Gal 5:19-21)
  - III. C. 3. **Know that if one dies without confessing a mortal sin they separate themselves from God for all eternity.** (CCC 1033; CFCL I.A.27)
  - III. C. 4. **Identify the effects of Original Sin for humanity.** (CCC 396-401; Gn 3; CFCL I.A.4 & 5)
  - III. C. 5. Describe grace as a sharing in God’s life (CCC 1997) **ADDICTION SUICIDE**
  - III. C. 6. Know that the Holy Spirit gives one the power and strength to live the Christian life (CCC 1704, 1813, 1830; Jn 14:16-18) **ADDICTION SUICIDE**
- D. Conscience Formation** The Gospel calls us to ongoing conversion, transforming our ways of thinking and living
- III. D. 1. Know that conscience is God speaking in the heart of each person (CCC 1776; Hos 2:16) **ADDICTION RACISM SUICIDE**
  - III. D. 2. Know that grace helps one to follow one’s conscience (CCC 1776, 1785) **ADDICTION RACISM SUICIDE**
  - III. D. 3. Identify resources for developing a well formed conscience, e.g., Sacred Scripture, prayer, and the teachings of the Magisterium (CCC 1783-1785)
  - III. D. 4. Know that a well-formed conscience calls one to conversion (CCC 1797) **ADDICTION RACISM**
  - III. D. 5. **Know that temptation is an attraction to sin.** (CFCL I.A.5)
- E. Objective Moral Norms** The Scriptures and Tradition of the Church teach us about right and wrong
- III. E. 1. Identify the Holy Spirit as the Church’s guide in knowing what is right and wrong (CCC 749, 768, 857; Jn 16:13) **ADDICTION RACISM**
  - III. E. 2. Know that the pope, in union with the bishops, has the responsibility to establish moral laws that “teach the faithful the way of life and truth” (CCC 2034, 2037)
  - III. E. 3. Understand that the moral law exists to help one grow in holiness (CCC 1950)
- F. Gospel of Life** All life is a gift from God and is to be held sacred

- III. F. 1. Understand why we respect our bodies and those of others (CCC 364-365; 1Cor 6:19-20) **ADDICTION SUICIDE**
- III. F. 2. Know that each person has a body and a soul (CCC 362-365) **ADDICTION RACISM SUICIDE**
- III. F. 3. **Know that God created us with human sexuality that is either male or female.** (CCC 369-370; CFCL I.A.2)

**G. Living a Moral Life** As disciples of Jesus, we desire to follow him in his attitudes and actions

- III. G. 1. Define “virtue” as a good habit (CCC 1803) **ADDICTION RACISM SUICIDE**
- III. G. 2. Identify the theological virtues (CCC 1812-1918)
- III. G. 3. Know that the theological virtues come from God (CCC 1813)
- III. G. 4. Identify the cardinal virtues (CCC 1805-1809)
- III. G. 5. Know how the cardinal virtues help one live a moral life and “become like God” (CCC 1805)

**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 the traditional prayers of the Church: e.g., Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, Act of Contrition, etc.
- IV. A. 2. Identify some prayers in Scripture, e.g., the psalms, the Magnificat, and the prayers of Simeon and Zachariah (CCC 2653-2654)

**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. Know that all people have a desire for God in their hearts (CCC 2566) **SUICIDE**
- IV.B.2. Know that prayer is the foundation of one’s relationship with God (CCC 2565; CFCL I.A.24) **ADDICTION SUICIDE**
- IV.B.3. **Understand that God wants to be with us in prayer** (CCC 2742-2744) **ADDICTION SUICIDE**

**C. Communal Prayer** We share prayer with others, and worship together as the People of God

- IV.C.1. Understand the importance of Sunday Mass as a celebration of the parish community (CCC 2655; Acts 20:7)

**D. Popular Piety and Devotions** Our families and friends share with us ways to grow closer to God

- VI. D. 1. Describe the purpose of a sacramental (CCC 1167-1670)
- VI. D. 2. Identify the 20 mysteries of the rosary (CCC 1675)

**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.** Recognize that knowledge, study, and practice of one's faith are integral to growth in holiness (*CFCL I.A.22*)
- V. A. 2.** Recognize that one responds to the love of God by growing in relationship to God, others, self, and all creation **ADDICTION RACISM SUICIDE**
- 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.** Explain how the Ten Commandments are guidelines for relationships with God and other people (*CCC 1955, 2061-2062*) **ADDICTION RACISM SUICIDE**
- V. B. 2.** Explain how the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation restores a healthy relationship with God and others (*CCC 1469*) **ADDICTION RACISM**
- V. B. 3.** **Understand that there are times when we need to sacrifice our wants and desires for the good of others** (*CFCL I.A.24 & 25*) **ADDICTION RACISM SUICIDE**
- 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.** Explain the concept of the family as the domestic church: a place of faith, hope, and charity (*CCC 2204*)
- V. C. 2.** Recognize that God made men and women equal in dignity (*CCC 2203; CFCL I.A.2*)
- V. C. 3.** Know that families cooperate with God's work of creation in bearing, raising, and educating children (*CCC 2205*)
- V. C. 4.** Know that families are called to witness the Gospel to each other and to the larger community (*CCC 2207-2210*)
- D. Faith Communities** Participation in the life and mission of the Church is both personal and communal
- V. D. 1.** Identify the Church as including all those living on earth, those in Heaven, and those in Purgatory (*CCC 954*)
- V. D. 2.** Define the term "People of God" (*CCC 781-782*)
- V. D. 3.** Know that the Apostle's Creed is an expression of the Church's faith (*CCC 194*)
- 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 Jesus used parables to teach about the kingdom of God, e.g., the Good Samaritan, the Sower and the Seed, the Unforgiving Servant (*CCC 546*) **ADDICTION RACISM**
- V. E. 2.** Identify the Four Marks of the Church (*CCC 813-865*)
- V. E. 3.** Identify the priest as the leader of a parish and the bishop as a leader of a diocese (*CCC 2179*)
- F. Ecumenism** We share in promoting the unity of all God's people as a basic part of our fidelity to the Gospel
- V. F. 1.** Know that all baptized Christians are brothers and sisters in Christ (*CCC 838*) **RACISM SUICIDE**
- V. F. 2.** Know that the *Our Father/Lord's Prayer* is the common prayer of Christians (*CCC 2771; Mt 6:9-14*)

**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 evangelization as sharing with others, one's faith in Jesus (CCC 905)
  - VI. A. 2.** Recall the term "disciple" as meaning one who accepts Jesus' call to follow him and to bring others into relationship with him (CCC 618, 767; Acts 11:26)
- 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 every baptized person is called to love and serve God at every stage of life (Jas 2:14-17) **SUICIDE**
  - VI. B. 2.** Name some of the particular vocations within the Church **and how each vocation is a response to love** (CFCL I.A.21)
- 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 the virtue of justice as giving God and others what is due to them (CCC 1807) **RACISM**
  - VI. C. 2.** Explain why the poor and marginalized have a special place in the teachings of Jesus **ADDICTION RACISM SUICIDE**
  - VI. C. 3.** Define the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy (CCC 2447; Mt 25) **ADDICTION RACISM**
- 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.** Know that only Christians believe that Jesus Christ is God

\*Committee on Education of the United States Catholic Conference. *Our Hearts Were Burning Within Us: A Pastoral Plan for Adult Faith Formation in the United States*. Washington, DC: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 1999.