



The Faith That Marks God's People

Guidelines for Catechesis

Grade Two

Archdiocese of New York
Revised - 2016

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May 15, 2016
Feast of Pentecost
Year of Mercy

Dear friends in the Lord:

With prayer and confidence in your dedication to the mission of catechesis – to bring everyone closer to Jesus Christ – I promulgate these *Guidelines for Catechesis, Pre-Kindergarten Through Grade Six* in the Catholic school and catechetical programs of the Archdiocese of New York.

This is the third edition of the *Guidelines*. Since they were first promulgated in 1987, the Archdiocesan Catechetical Office and the Office of the Superintendent of Schools found it necessary to revise and update them, particularly in light of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, published in 1995. This update incorporates added scriptural references, protocols on catechesis issued by the bishops of the United States, and the new translation of the *Roman Missal*.

Allow me to thank the leaders of the Guidelines Revision Committee for their efforts: Sr. Joan Curtin, CND, director of the Archdiocesan Catechetical Office and chairperson; Ms. Nancy Doran; Ms. Linda Fitzsimons; Ms. Margaret Hoblin; Sr. Teresita Morse, RJM; Mr. Philip Gorrasi; Ms. Lisette Robustelli; and Ms. Paige Sanchez.

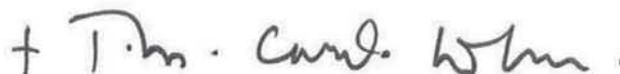
Just a few months after his election, Pope Francis spoke to catechists attending the International Congress on Catechesis in Rome, and thanked them for their commitment. He said:

Catechesis is a pillar of faith education and we need good catechists! Thank you for your service to the Church and in the Church. Even if at times it may be difficult and require a great deal of work, and although the results are not always what we hope for, teaching the faith is something beautiful! 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!

Permit me to add my own heartfelt thanks. I count on you, your knowledge of and faithfulness to Church teaching, and your pedagogical skills to assist me in sharing the faith that we were given at baptism and enriched by years of living and learning. Hopefully, you know that I could not carry out this sacred duty without you.

With prayerful best wishes, I am,

Faithfully in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Tim. Carol. Dolan." with a cross symbol to the left.

Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan
Archbishop of New York



The Faith That Marks God's People

The Faith That Marks God's People is developed according to the following format in grades one through six:

1. Each grade level is introduced by a statement of the year's doctrinal theme.
2. The pedagogical objective of the year follows the theme statement.
3. The **Guidelines** are to be read across the page, following the delineated bands.

The basic teachings of the faith are contained in the first two columns: "Core Content" and "Christian Living."

The "Core Content" column presents the faith concepts; the "Christian Living" column explains how these concepts are to be lived out by Catholics. The issues of morality, including respect for life and concern for justice and peace, form the substance of this column.

The "Sacred Scripture" column includes several passages in the Old or New Testament where the core content is imaged or taught.

The "Prayer and Worship" column suggests prayer and liturgical experiences for the child.

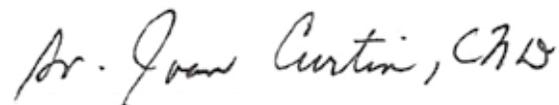
4. Throughout the Guidelines, from grades one through six, there is a developmental presentation of the major concepts.
5. On the final page of each grade level, there is a listing of vocabulary, prayers, and liturgical symbols and liturgical gestures to be taught. This page also includes the portion of the Creed that is to be taught or reviewed, and prayers to be encouraged.
6. After each entry in the **Guidelines**, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2nd edition, 1997*, is cited in support of the concept expressed. These citations are intended to deepen the catechist/teacher's understanding, on an adult level, of the content being taught.

The **Guidelines** are addressed to the catechist/teacher, not to the students. Nonetheless, throughout the **Guidelines**, the language has been kept as simple and straightforward as possible without sacrificing theological and doctrinal accuracy. It is hoped that the language used to present each concept will help the catechist/teacher to teach the concept according to the capacity of the student.

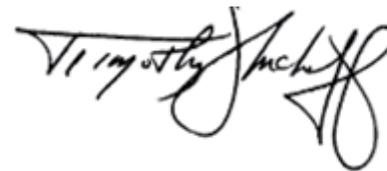
These **Guidelines** are not to be considered a substitute for the textbook. It is recommended that each parish select a single textbook series found to be in conformity with the US. Bishop's Protocol, for use in grades one through six for the school and parish programs, and that these **Guidelines** be used in conjunction with that textbook series. The **Guidelines** have been designed to assist the catechist/teacher in the use of the textbook by providing the essential content to be taught at each grade level.

To implement these **Guidelines** effectively, the catechist/teacher must be committed to give time and talent not only to catechizing others, but also to growing personally in faith and understanding. For this reason, an extensive Archdiocesan **Catechist Formation Program** in all counties of the Archdiocese is offered both online and on site to ensure ongoing theological, spiritual and pedagogical formation of all catechists/teachers.

Through this endeavor, it is hoped that the whole Church of New York will continue to grow in the faith that marks God's people.

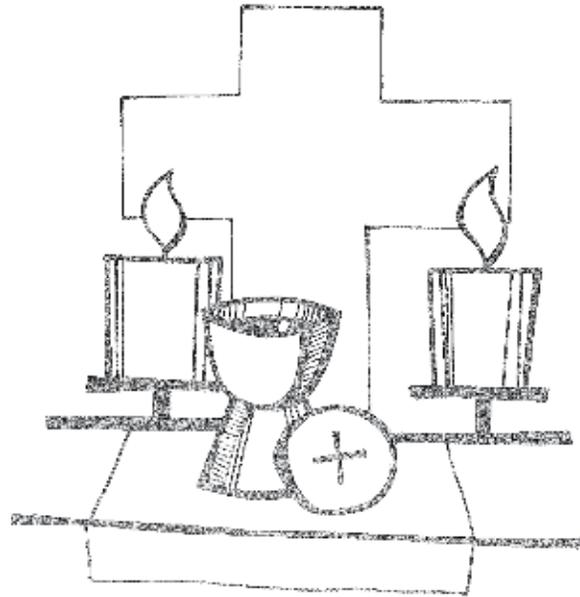


Sr. Joan Curtin, C.N.D.
Director, Catechetical Office



Dr. Timothy J. McNiff, Ed. D
Superintendent of Schools

GRADE TWO



THEME:

*Jesus nourishes us,
and strengthens God's life, grace, within us.*

OBJECTIVE:

To present Jesus as the model for Christian living, and to introduce the sacraments of Baptism, Penance and Eucharist.

Basic Teaching		Sacred Scripture	Prayer and Worship
Core Content	Christian Living		
God the Father gives us the gift of Jesus. 422, 443-45	We are in awe of God's wonderful gifts of human life and of grace, a sharing in God's own life. 343, 355, 1996-97, 2017, 2258, 2260	Jesus, gift of God John 3:16	
Jesus, the Son of God, who existed from all eternity, "was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary" (Incarnation). 359, 441-42, 454, 456, 461-63 470-76, 479, 483	We are to care for and respect the life of the unborn, persons with disabilities, the elderly and all people. 27, 1700, 1930, 1932, 2270, 2273, 2276	Jesus as Divine and Human (Incarnation) Mark 1:11	Continue to teach the Apostles' Creed: "and in Jesus Christ, his only Son ... from there he will come to judge the living and the dead." 194
Mary is the mother of Jesus and our mother. 485, 501, 509, 723, 724 726, 963, 968-70 Mary was always filled with a special grace from God. 721-22 Even before she was born, Mary was free from all sin. 508	Mary is the model for all Christians because she was always close to God and said "yes" " <i>fiat</i> " to God with faith and trust. 144, 273, 494, 506-7, 511, 967 973, 2617, 2030	Annunciation Luke 1:26-38 The Magnificat Luke 1:46-55	Review the Hail Mary. 435, 2676-77 Prepare the children for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, December 8. 410-11, 490-92, 722
Joseph is the foster father of Jesus. 437, 496-97, 532	Joseph too is our model because he trusted God's ways and treated people justly. 828, 1717, 2030 During the Advent season, we prepare prayerfully to celebrate Christ's coming among us. 524	Joseph Matthew 2:13-14	Encourage devotion to St. Joseph. 533, 957, 1674-76 Pray with the children, using the Advent wreath.

Core Content	Basic Teaching		Sacred Scripture	Prayer and Worship
		Christian Living		
<p>Jesus came to save all. 430, 517, 543, 457, 589, 606-07</p> <p>Jesus is God. his name means “God saves.” 430</p>	<p>During the Christmas season we celebrate God’s gift of Jesus to us. We remember the stories of Jesus’ birth. We pray. We give gifts to those we love. We also help the needy, such as the poor, the homeless, the lonely. 525-26, 544, 563</p>	<p>Birth of Jesus (Nativity) Luke 2:1-20</p> <p>Visit of the Wise Men (Epiphany) Matthew 2:1-12</p>	<p>Explain Christmas, December 25, as the celebration of Jesus’ birth. 525-26, 1171, 2177</p> <p>Explain the meaning of the Christmas crèche.</p>	
<p>Jesus was always obedient to God his Father, and he expects the same of us. When we are disobedient to God’s law, we sin. 532, 612, 1693,1850 2600,2603, 2606</p> <p>Jesus is our model of love and goodness. 520-21, 459, 1694 1698, 1709, 1953</p>	<p>To promote peace in society, in the Church, and in our families, God has willed that, after him, we should honor our parents and those to whom he has given authority for our good. This will promote peace in society, in the Church and in our families. 2199-2200, 2238, 2248, 2304</p> <p>One way to imitate Jesus’ love and goodness is to treat others fairly and justly. 459, 520, 1803, 1807, 2401</p>	<p>Hidden life with Mary and Joseph Luke 2:39-40</p> <p>Examples of his love and goodness Mark 6:53-56 Luke 7:11-15 John 21:4-12</p>	<p>Review the Our Father. 2759, 2765-66</p> <p>Explain the feast of the Holy Family 527, 529, 530, 534</p> <p>Encourage family prayer. 2204-05, 2225-26, 2685</p> <p>Explain the feast of the Sacred Heart which celebrates Jesus’ great love for each of us. 478</p>	
<p>Jesus died for us on the cross (Crucifixion). On Easter Sunday he rose from the dead (Resurrection). 616-17, 638, 656</p> <p>Jesus returned to his Father in heaven (Ascension) and sent the Holy Spirit to be with us always (Pentecost). 659, 731</p>	<p>Jesus died and rose to save us from being separated from God forever (hell), and to enable us to live with God forever (heaven). 326, 613-14, 618, 622-23, 655, 658 1023, 1034-36, 1861, 2795</p>	<p>Death and Resurrection Choose appropriate passages from the four Gospels.</p>	<p>Introduce Holy Week, especially Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, Easter Sunday. 1095, 1165, 1169</p>	

Core Content	Basic Teaching Christian Living	Sacred Scripture	Prayer and Worship
<p>Jesus is present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - within each of us by the life of grace, - in the community of the Church, the Body of Christ, of which Christ is the head, - when we gather in his name to pray together, - in his Word (Sacred Scripture), - in all the sacraments and in a special and unique way in the sacrament of the Eucharist. 65, 102-03,787-89, 1088 1092, 1104, 1348, 1373-74, 2011 		<p>The Presence of Jesus</p> <p>Matthew 18:20 John 6:35 John 14:23 Romans 12:4-5 1 Peter 1:23-25</p>	
<p>There are seven sacraments. The sacraments are signs – words and actions – we perceive through our senses. They show us Jesus’ love for us. They give us his grace. 1084, 1148, 1152</p> <p>Three of the sacraments are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Baptism by which we are freed from sin, share in God’s life, grace and become members of God’s family, the Church. 1213, 1262, 1265-67, 1997, 1999 - Penance and Reconciliation by which we receive and celebrate God’s forgiveness. In this sacrament we express sorrow for our sins, and are reconciled with the Church. 1422, 1440, 1442, 1446, 1451 1462, 1468-69, 1486, 1490 - Eucharist by which we receive the gift of Jesus’ Body and Blood which he shares with us at Mass as he shared them with the apostles at the Last Supper. 1322-23, 1333, 1337, 1340, 1382 	<p>We need help to live the Christian life. One of the greatest helps is the sacraments. 1123, 1133, 1966, 2030</p> <p>When we fail to live the Christian life, we need to say we are sorry to God and to anyone we have hurt. 1440, 1458, 1459, 1847</p> <p>When we gather with other members of God’s family at Mass and receive Communion, we are strengthened to live this Christian life. 1388, 1392, 1394, 2182</p>	<p>God’s saving presence in Jesus Hebrews 7:25</p> <p>Baptism Matthew 28:19-20</p> <p>Penance Luke 15:4-7 John 20:22-23</p> <p>Eucharist Mark 14:22-24 John 6:51</p>	<p>Explain the Rite of Baptism 1234-45,1255</p> <p>Baptism can be received only once. 1280</p> <p>Show the children the Easter candle. 1216, 1243, 1254</p> <p>Have the children learn the Act of Contrition. (Grade 2 – Page 6) 1451</p> <p>Encourage prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. Review the practice of genuflecting before the Blessed Sacrament as an expression of reverence for the Real Presence. 1330, 1374, 1378-80</p> <p>Explain that on Holy Thursday the Church celebrates Jesus’ gift of himself at the Last Supper. 610, 1096, 1339-40</p>

Core Content	Basic Teaching Christian Living	Sacred Scripture	Prayer and Worship
<p>The Sacrament of Penance is a celebration which makes clear:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - that God has given us free will to chose between what is good and what is evil, 1732, 1734, 1776-77, 1784, 1802 - that God gives us the Spirit to empower us to make loving choices of what is good, 1433, 1811, 1830 - that God continues to love us even when we sin, 1424, 1428, 1465 - that God calls us always to be sorry for our sins and to accept his forgiveness. 1425, 1847-48 	<p>Since God has given us free will, we are responsible for the choices we make. Our choices affect our lives, our relationship with God and our relationship with others. 1696, 1730, 1734, 1738, 1868</p> <p>We are expected to treat ourselves and other persons with gentleness and caring, and not with violence. 1823, 1832, 1869, 1970, 2305-06</p> <p>True freedom means we choose to live God’s way. Sin is a deliberate choice to act against the will of God, that is, against how God wants us to live. 1696, 1731, 1733, 1849-50</p>	<p>The Gift of Free Will Sirach (Ecclesiasticus) 15:14-15</p> <p>The Gift of the Holy Spirit John 14:15-17a</p> <p>The Gift of God’s Forgiveness Luke 7:36-50 Luke 15:11-24 1 John 4:10</p>	<p>Teach the Rite of Penance. 1447-49, 1451, 1455, 1459 1480, 1482</p> <p>Prepare the children for their first celebration of the Sacrament of Penance.* Have the children celebrate the Sacrament in a parish setting and with family participation whenever possible. 1140, 1438, 1482 2204-05, 2225-26</p> <p>Teach the children to examine their consciences in an age-appropriate manner.</p>
<p>The reception of Communion nourishes and strengthens our relationship with Christ begun in Baptism and continued throughout our lives. 1244, 1391-92</p> <p>At the Mass we gather together as God’s family for: 1140-41, 1348, 1369-70</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Liturgy of the Word, when we listen to God’s message to us so as to put it into practice in our lives, 1349 - the Liturgy of the Eucharist, when we offer with the priest the gifts of bread and wine. Through the invocation of the Holy Spirit, the wheat bread and grape wine are changed into the Body and Blood of Jesus (transubstantiation). In the Eucharist Jesus gives himself as the bread of life and the cup of salvation. 1346-47, 1350-55, 1376 	<p>We worship God on Sundays and holy days through the Eucharistic celebration. 1166-67, 1389, 2042-43, 2177, 2180-82, 2192</p> <p>In the Mass we:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - praise and thank God, - remember what God has done for us in Christ, - grow in love, which cleanses and preserves us from sin, - ask for help for ourselves and others. 1349, 1354, 1359-66, 1393-95 	<p>Last Supper 1 Corinthians 11:23-26</p>	<p>Teach the general outline of the Mass, and the simple responses at Mass. 1346</p> <p>Prepare the children for their first reception of Holy Communion.* Have the children celebrate the Sacrament in a parish setting and with family participation whenever possible. 140,1385, 2204-05, 2220, 2225-26</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>* The planning of this celebration should be in accord with the norms of the Church, take into account parish policies, and involve both priests and catechists.</p> </div>

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Continue to teach the Apostles' Creed up to "...and the dead. (Grade 1 – Page 6)

WORDS TO BE TAUGHT

Ascension 665
Blessed Sacrament 1330
Crucifixion 623
Charity 1813, 1822
Conscience 1713
Contrition 1451
Fiat 973, 2617
Grace 1997

Heaven 1023
Hell 1035
Holy Day 2177
Holy Week 1169
Liturgy of the Word 1349
Liturgy of the Eucharist 1350-55
Pentecost 731
Prayer 2590

Repentance 1492
Resurrection 651-55
Rite of Penance 1480
Sacrament of the Eucharist 1211, 1322-23
Sacrament of Penance 1420-22
Sacramental 1667-69

LITURGICAL SYMBOLS AND GESTURES TO BE TAUGHT

Reconciliation Room 1185
Confessional 1185

Give Sacred Scripture a special place in the classroom. 103, 132
Encourage a reverent and prayerful attitude in the place of worship. 1186, 1199
Foster the children's participation in the prayer and worship of the parish community. 2179, 2226

PRAYERS TO BE TAUGHT

Act of Contrition recommended for use throughout the Archdiocese*
Simple responses at Mass.

PRAYERS TO BE ENCOURAGED

Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament 1380

REVIEW PRAYERS OF THE PREVIOUS GRADES

Sign of the Cross 1235, 2157
Our Father 2759
Hail Mary 2676-77
The Glory Be (Doxology, Grade 1 – Page 5)
Morning and evening prayer 2659, 2685, 2698
Grace at meals 2698, 2834
Spontaneous prayer 2590, 2659-60

***ACT OF CONTRITION**

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.

(taken from the Rite of Penance)

Acknowledgments:

References obtained through the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Website (usccb.org)

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The Apostles’ Creed is taken from the Roman Missal 2010 (International Commission on English in the Liturgy)

The Glory Be is taken from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Website (usccb.org)

The Protocol for Assessing the Conformity of Catechetical Materials with the Catechism of the Catholic Church was used to guide the revision process.