

Catechists' Weekly Preparation

The same day as the previous religious education session has been conducted.

Read the lesson in the Catechist manual for the following week. Also read the section of the Archdiocesan Guidelines which you will be teaching. This gives you time to mull over the contents yourself and also to seek help in whatever areas you are unclear about. It gives time for ideas on presentation to germinate.

Look up and read prayerfully the Scripture passages suggested in the guidelines and in the manual. Deepen and broaden your understanding of these passages with the help of scripture resources. Allow them to soak into your own heart before you attempt to present them to the students.

At least 3 days prior to the session:

Study the lesson in the manual.

Decide if and where you need to change the manual's approach in order to better meet the needs of your students. Be very clear as to the reason for this change.

Prepare your written lesson plan, writing down exactly what you will do.

Have the lesson content and plan so well in your mind that you will not be riveted to the manual, but rather able to follow it while at the same time being attentive to the needs of the students and the action of the Holy Spirit.

Plan so that every minute of time in the session is well used in some way.

Plan to have a variety of learning activities to meet the various learning styles of the children/youth. Plan to keep the children's attention and interest.

Immediately Before the Religious Education Session:

Arrive at least 15 minutes before the session begins in order to prepare the learning space and to be in control of it when the children arrive.

Get all materials – books, media, art supplies, etc. – ready to be used so that no time is lost during the session.

Be sure you have a way of remembering each child's name (e.g. seating chart).

After the Religious Education Session:

Stay at least 10 minutes in order to see any student/parent who wishes to see you.

Lesson Plan for Religious Education Session

(Use Reference Pages in Planning)

Name of Catechist: _____ Date of Class: _____

Grade Level Taught _____ Section/Session: _____

Review: _____

Aim/Objective of Religious Education Session:

Catechist Manual : chapter and pages: _____

Archdiocesan Guidelines Concept(s):	Page Number(s):
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Scripture References	New Vocabulary
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Prayer Experience: _____

Teaching Methods: _____

Teaching Materials: _____

Homework: _____

Reference Pages To Be Used in Planning the Religious Education Session

Life Experience

- Which of the children's life experiences will I draw upon to evoke their enthusiasm and explain the content of this session?
- Should I use the life experience given in the textbook?
-

Catechesis (Faith Development)

- What is the Basic Teaching in the Archdiocesan Guidelines for this lesson?
- What is the Catechesis (Faith Development) in the Catechist's Manual?
- In my own words, describe the catechesis (i.e. church doctrine, Scripture, tradition, church law, etc.) that I will teach.

Sacred Scripture

- What are the Scripture references in the Archdiocesan Guidelines for this session?
- What are the Scripture references from the Catechist's Manual for this session?
- Do I wish to use any other Bible references? Why?

Prayer and Worship

- What is the suggestion for Prayer and Worship in the Archdiocesan Guidelines for this session?
- What is the Catechist's Manual suggestion for Prayer and Worship?
- What prayer experience will I share with the children/youth in my session?
- What special intentions should we remember to pray for?
- Should I include reference to any Holyday or Church season?
- What specific prayer do I want to review or teach?
-

Faith Response (Christian Living):

- What is Christian Living Response in Archdiocesan Guidelines for this session?
- What is the Faith Response encouraged in Catechist's Manual for this session?
- What Faith Response do I expect from the children and how will I encourage it?

Teaching Methods:

Which teaching methods will I use and how will I use these methods?

___ Bible reading and reflection	___ demonstration	___ memorization	___ project
___ examining a basic conception	___ activity	___ drama	___ game
___ reading of the textbook	___ story telling	___ art	___ music
___ discussion			
___ other:	_____		

Teaching Materials

Which teaching materials will I use?

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| _____ textbook | _____ DVD/Video |
| _____ Bible | _____ CD |
| _____ activity book | _____ PowerPoint/slides |
| _____ information sheets | _____ pictures |
| _____ worksheets | _____ audiotape |
| _____ chalkboard | _____ posters |
| _____ other: _____ | |

How will I use them: _____

Homework

- What homework assignment will help my students better understand and live Christ's message:

- Something to think about: _____

- Something to write about: _____

- Something to do: _____

- Something to review: _____

- Is there something in the assignment that will draw in and involve the student's parents in some way? _____

Catechist's Personal Evaluation (to be done after teaching the session):

- *How did the children/youth respond to this session?*
- *What should I review from the session for next week?*
- *How do I feel about this session?*
- *Would I do anything different next time?*
- *List at least two good things you or the children experienced from this session.*