

## Religion Standards – Six Tasks of Catechesis

The Diocese of Dallas religion curriculum standards are organized around the six tasks of catechesis outlined in the National Directory of Catechesis. “Forming his disciples, Jesus entrusted to them “the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven”; he taught them how to pray; he opened his “meek and humble heart” to them; and he sent them “ahead of him in pairs to every town and place he intended to visit. The fundamental task of catechesis is to achieve this same objective: the formation of disciples of Jesus Christ. Jesus instructed his disciples; he prayed with them; he showed them how to live; and he gave them his mission”(NDC, 20).

Mary Kathleen Glavich, SND, in *The Six Tasks of Catechesis: Key Principles and Practices for Forming Faith*, explains each task as follows:

1. Teaching knowledge of the faith means imparting the truths about the God whom Jesus revealed, the story of salvation in which Jesus is promised (Old Testament), the history of the church that Jesus founded, and the teachings of Jesus and his church.
2. Teaching liturgy is presenting the seven sacraments, the acts of Jesus today on behalf of his people. Chief among these is the Eucharist, during which the sacrifice of Jesus is re-presented and he unites himself to us and one another in Communion
3. Teaching prayer is leading children to foster a relationship with Jesus so that he becomes their best friend and their way, truth, and life.
4. Teaching moral formation is encouraging children to live like Jesus and make decisions in the light of his moral teachings.
5. Teaching community is informing children about Christ’s church, the family of God they belong to, and showing them how to take an active role in it.
6. Teaching mission means making children aware of Christ’s mandate to spread the Good News, motivating them to do so, and providing opportunities to fulfill this responsibility.

Because all six tasks are interconnected, when planning lessons, teacher should teach all six tasks. “Suppose a lesson teaches that the Bible is God’s word and that the Holy Spirit inspired the human authors. It might cover the parts of the Bible, the kinds of books and how to interpret a Scripture citation. All of these pertain to the knowledge of faith. How improved the lesson would be if other tasks were added, for example in these ways:

- Teach the children to pray the Prayer to the Holy Spirit before reading the Bible (prayer)
- Refer to the readings from last Sunday’s Mass (liturgy)
- For practice in looking up a passage, choose some that are moral instructions (moral formation)
- Form groups and ask the children to share their favorite Bible passages (community)
- Give students the assignment of telling a sibling or a friend a story about Jesus (mission)

Glavich, Mary Kathleen. *The Six Tasks of Catechesis: Key Principles and Practices for Forming Faith*. Twenty Third Publications, 2016.

**I. Knowledge of Faith**

Application & Instructional Focus	Standards	Unit	Notes
<p><b>K.1A</b> <b>The Person of Jesus</b> Know that Jesus invites every person to be in relationship with him.</p>	<p>K.1A.1 Understand that Jesus came to show God’s love (CCC 458) K.1A.2 Know that Jesus’ love is unending and complete (CCC 220-221, 1337)</p>		
<p><b>K.1B</b> <b>Sacred Scripture</b> Recognize Sacred Scripture as the living word of God, a story of the covenant, and a guide for life today.</p>	<p>K.1B.1 Recognize the Bible as a holy and special book that tells us about God (CCC 103-104) K.1B.2 Demonstrate respect and reverence while listening to and handling the Bible K.1B.3 Discover that the creation story teaches that God created all things good (CCC 299, 339: Gen 1:12, 18, 21, 25, 31) K.1B.4 Identify some major people in the Old Testament (i.e. Noah, Moses, etc.) through storytelling and drama (CCC 121-123)</p>		
<p><b>K.1C</b> <b>Creed</b> Explain and pray the Creed as an expression of our faith.</p>	<p>K.1C.1 Know that God, the Creator, made the world and all living creatures (CCC 290-291, 295; Gen 1:1-31) K.1C.2 Understand that God loves and takes care of all people (CCC 54-55, 303-305: Mt 6:25-34; Rom 8:28) K.1C.3 Name the three Divine Persons as Father, Son (Jesus), and Holy Spirit (CCC 261, 316, 320)^ K.1C.4 Retell the life of Jesus (CCC 454, 479, 480-483, 495, 561, 620-621, 656, 665)</p>		
<p><b>K.1D</b> <b>Church History</b> Describe Church structure and history.</p>	<p>K.1D.1 Know that God’s family includes the saints in heaven (CCC 954)</p>		

## II. Liturgy and Sacraments

Application & Instructional Focus	Standards	Unit	Notes
<b>K.2A Paschal Mystery</b> Explain how the liturgy and sacraments inform, form, and transform us as disciples.	K.2A.1 Recognize that by baptism we become members of Jesus’ family (CCC 1213) K.2A.2 Know that Jesus is present with his family, the Church, when they pray and celebrate together (CCC 1373)		
<b>K.2B Sacraments</b> Explain the purpose of the sacraments and the centrality of the Eucharist.	K.2B.1 Recognize that a sacrament is a special celebration of God’s love (CCC 1131-1134) K.2B.2 Recognize that baptism is a gift from God (CCC 1279)		
<b>K.2C Liturgical Catechesis</b> Engage in the liturgical life of the Church.	K.2C.1 Explain that we go to mass to pray together, learn about Jesus, grow closer to Him, and remember the sacrifice He made to save us from our sins K.2C.2 Know that Sunday is a special day for the Church (CCC 1167, 1193) K.2C.3 Know that we use our bodies to pray at Mass (CCC 1153-1155) K.2C.4 Identify the special seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter (CCC 524-526, 1438, 1169)		

## III. Morality

Application & Instructional Focus	Standards	Unit	Notes
<b>K.3A Christian Living</b> Explain Jesus as a model of how to live and love.	K.3A.1 Recognize that God makes people in his image (CCC 355) K.3A.2 Know that God wants all people to care for his creation (CCC 299, 399) K.3A.3 Know that Jesus came to show God’s love to all people (CCC 458) K.3A.4 Know that in the Bible God tells us how to love (CCC 520, 1823; Jn 15:9, 12) K.3A.5 Describe Jesus’ loving actions in stories, songs, and pictures		
<b>K.3B Conscience</b> Describe how to make decisions in the light of Jesus’ moral teachings.	K.3B.1 Know that it is important to say “I’m sorry” when you hurt others (CCC 1443; Lk 15:11-32) K.3B.2 Know that Jesus wants us to forgive those who hurt us (CCC 2840; Lk 6:3; Lk 17:3-4; Lk 23 33-34) K.3B.3 Know that God gives the Holy Spirit to help people make good choices (CCC 729, 1830; Jn 16:13)		

## IV. Prayer

Application & Instructional Focus	Standards	Unit	Notes
<b>K.4A Prayer</b> Describe the role of prayer in spiritual growth.	K.4A.1 Explain the purpose of prayer (CCC 2590) K.4A.2 Describe when, where, and how we pray (CCC 2591, 2680, 2720, 2757) K.4A.3 Describe grace before and after meals as an example of shared family prayer^ K.4A.4 Explain the purpose of and actively pray grade-level prayers ^		

### V. Community Life

Application & Instructional Focus	Standards	Unit	Notes
<b>K.5A</b> Spiritual Growth	K.5A.1 Know that God calls all people to be holy (CCC 2013; Mt 5:48)		
<b>K.5B</b> Relationships and Responsibilities	K.5B.1 Know that Jesus wants us to show love and kindness to all (Col 3:12-17) K.5B.2 Know that God wants all people to care for his creation (CCC 299, 399) K.5B.3 Recognize that God makes people in his image (CCC 355)		
<b>K.5C</b> Marriage and Family Life	K.5C.1 Identify the Holy Family : Jesus; Mary, his mother; and Joseph, her spouse (CCC 532, 1655; Lk 2:39-52) K.5C.2 Know that each family is a gift from God (CCC 2206) K.5C.3 Understand that in a family the members are called to love and care for each other		
<b>K.5D</b> Faith Communities	K.5D.1 Know that at baptism one becomes a member of God’s family, the Church (CCC 1213) K.5D.2 Know that praying together at Mass is an important way that God’s family comes together (CCC 1140-1141)		
<b>K.5E</b> Nature and Mission of the Church	K.5E.1 Understand that God wants all to live in peace and love (CCC 543; Col 3:12-17) K.5E.2 Know that the Church is God’s family on earth (CCC 959) K.1E.3 Describe the role of the parish as a place of community worship (CCC 2179) K.1E.4 Name your school's parish K.1E.5 Name and describe the role of the pastor (CCC 1595) K.1E.6 Name and recognize the patron saint of the school		
<b>K.5F</b> Ecumenism	None at this grade-level		

### VI. Missionary Spirit

Application & Instructional Focus	Standards	Unit	Notes
<b>K.6A</b> Evangelization Evangelize by witness in words and actions.	K.6A.1 Identify a disciple as someone who follows Jesus Christ and learns from him how to live (CCC 1694, 1816; 1 Jn 1:1-4)		
<b>K.6B</b> Vocation Explain how each of us is called to a particular task in helping to reveal the Kingdom of God.	K.6B.1 Know that God loves us and calls each of us to follow Him (CCC 52; Mt 4:18-22; Mt 9:9)		
<b>K.6C</b> Social Action and Transformation Engage in activities that foster the social teachings of the Church.	K.6C.1 Know that God calls the members of the Church to help each other (Mt 25) K.6C.2 Identify ways to show care for God’s creation		

Explain the purpose of and actively pray the following prayers:									
PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Sign of the Cross	Sign of the Cross	Sign of the Cross	Sign of the Cross	Sign of the Cross	Sign of the Cross	Sign of the Cross	Sign of the Cross	Sign of the Cross	Sign of the Cross
Grace (before/after meals)	Grace (before/after meals)	Grace (before/after meals)	Grace (before/after meals)	Grace (before/after meals)	Grace (before/after meals)	Grace (before/after meals)	Grace (before/after meals)	Grace (before/after meals)	Grace (before/after meals)
Guardian Angel	Guardian Angel	Guardian Angel	Guardian Angel	Guardian Angel	Guardian Angel	Guardian Angel	Guardian Angel	Guardian Angel	Guardian Angel
		Lord's Prayer	Lord's Prayer	Lord's Prayer	Lord's Prayer	Lord's Prayer	Lord's Prayer	Lord's Prayer	Lord's Prayer
		Hail Mary	Hail Mary	Hail Mary	Hail Mary	Hail Mary	Hail Mary	Hail Mary	Hail Mary
		Glory Be	Glory Be	Glory Be	Glory Be	Glory Be	Glory Be	Glory Be	Glory Be
			Confiteor	Confiteor	Confiteor	Confiteor	Confiteor	Confiteor	Confiteor
			Act of Contrition	Act of Contrition	Act of Contrition	Act of Contrition	Act of Contrition	Act of Contrition	Act of Contrition
			Prayers of the Faithful	Prayers of the Faithful	Prayers of the Faithful	Prayers of the Faithful	Prayers of the Faithful	Prayers of the Faithful	Prayers of the Faithful
			Stations of the Cross	Stations of the Cross	Stations of the Cross	Stations of the Cross	Stations of the Cross	Stations of the Cross	Stations of the Cross
				Come Holy Spirit	Come Holy Spirit	Come Holy Spirit	Come Holy Spirit	Come Holy Spirit	Come Holy Spirit
				Gloria	Gloria	Gloria	Gloria	Gloria	Gloria
				St. Michael the Archangel	St. Michael the Archangel	St. Michael the Archangel	St. Michael the Archangel	St. Michael the Archangel	St. Michael the Archangel
				Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
					Nicene Creed	Nicene Creed	Nicene Creed	Nicene Creed	Nicene Creed
					Angelus	Angelus	Angelus	Angelus	Angelus
					Magnificat	Magnificat	Magnificat	Magnificat	Magnificat
						Apostle's Creed	Apostle's Creed	Apostle's Creed	Apostle's Creed
						Rosary	Rosary	Rosary	Rosary
							Memorare	Memorare	Memorare
							Lectio Divina	Lectio Divina	Lectio Divina
								Hail, Holy Queen	Hail, Holy Queen
								The Examen	The Examen
								Rite of Eucharistic Exposition and Benediction	Rite of Eucharistic Exposition and Benediction
									Liturgy of the Hours