

## 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
<b>PK.1A</b> <b>The Person of Jesus</b> Know that Jesus invites every person to be in relationship with him.	PK.1A.1 Identify Jesus as son of God and son of Mary (CCC 495) PK.1A.2 Know that Jesus was born long ago, as a baby, and grew to be a man (CCC 422-423) PK.1A.3 Know that Jesus wants to have a special relationship with each of us (CCC 52; Jn 5:15)		
<b>PK.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.	PK.1B.1 Recognize the Bible as a holy and special book where we learn about how God created all that is (CCC 103-104, 289) PK.1B.2 Demonstrate respect and reverence for the Bible PK.1B.3 Identify some key biblical figures that show God’s love , e.g., Noah, the Good Shepherd, Mary and Joseph		
<b>PK.1C</b> <b>Creed</b> Explain and pray the Creed as an expression of our faith.	PK.1C.1 Know that God made the world and created everything good (CCC 279-280, 295, 299; Gn 1:1-31) PK.1C.2 Recognize that God made and loves each person (CCC 220-221) PK.1C.3 Understand that God cares for all people and all creation (CCC 303-305) PK.1C.4 Identify angels as God’s messengers (CCC 329)		
<b>PK.1D</b> <b>Church History</b> Describe Church structure and history.	PK.1D.2 Identify saints as special friends of Jesus who show us how live a life of holiness (CCC 2683)		

### II. Liturgy and Sacraments

Application & Instructional Focus	Standards	Unit	Notes
<b>PK.2A</b> <b>Sacraments</b> Explain the purpose of the sacraments and the centrality of the Eucharist.	PK.2A.1 Explain that we become part of God’s family through Baptism (CCC 1277)		
<b>PK.2B</b> <b>Liturgy</b> Engage in the liturgical life of the Church	PK.2B.1 Explain that we go to Mass to pray together, learn about Jesus, and grow closer to Him		
<b>PK.2C</b> <b>Liturgical Year</b> Engage in the liturgical life of the Church	None at this grade-level		

### III. Morality

Application & Instructional Focus	Standards	Unit	Notes
<b>PK.3A</b> <b>Christian Living</b> Explain Jesus as a model of how to live and love.	PK.3A.1 Recognize that God made every person special (CCC 355) PK.3A.2 Understand that Jesus wants everyone to love and care for each other (CCC 1878, 1970) PK.3A.3 Identify visual representations of Jesus’ loving actions (CCC 2447)		
<b>PK.3B</b> <b>Conscience</b> Describe how to make decisions in the light of Jesus’ moral teachings.	PK.3B.1 Understand that we can hurt other people by our choices (CCC 1872) PK.3B.2 Know that God helps us to make good choices (CCC 1813) PK.3B.3 Identify that rules help us make good choices (CCC 1961-1962, 1965)		

### IV. Prayer

Application & Instructional Focus	Standards	Unit	Notes
<b>PK.4A</b> <b>Prayer</b> Use a variety of prayer forms as tools for inspiration and guidance.	PK.4A.1 Explain the purpose of prayer (CCC 2590) PK.4A.2 Describe when, where, and how we pray (CCC 2591, 2680, 2720, 2757) PK.4A.3 Describe grace before and after meals as an example of shared family prayer^ PK.4A.4 Explain the purpose of and actively pray grade-level prayers ^		

### V. Community Life

Application & Instructional Focus	Standards	Unit	Notes
<b>PK.5A</b> <b>Spiritual Growth</b> Demonstrate ways in which we grow spiritually.	PK.5A.1 Know that to be holy means to belong to God (CCC 2013; Mt 5:48)		
<b>PK.5B</b> <b>Relationships and Responsibilities</b> Know that Jesus shows us how to grow love.	PK.5B.1 Know that one must show love to one’s family and friends (Col 3:12-17)		
<b>PK.5C</b> <b>Marriage and Family Life</b> Describe families as the Church of home	PK.5C.1 Identify the Holy Family: Jesus; Mary; and Joseph (CCC 1655; Lk 2:39-52) PK.5C.2 Recognize that one’s family is a special gift from God (CCC 2206)		
<b>PK.5D</b> <b>Faith Communities</b> Describe how Church is both personal and communal.	PK.5D.1 Know that God’s family is called the Church (CCC 751) PK.5D.2 Know baptism is the way to become a member of God’s family (CCC 1213) PK.5D.3 Name the parish priest		
<b>PK.5E</b> <b>Nature and Mission of the Church</b>	None at this grade-level		
<b>PK.5F</b> <b>Ecumenism</b>	None at this grade level		

**VI. Missionary Spirit**

Application & Instructional Focus	Standards	Unit	Notes
<p><b>PK.6A</b> <b>Evangelization</b> Evangelize by witness in words and actions.</p>	<p>None at this grade-level</p>		
<p><b>PK.6B</b> <b>Vocation</b> Explain how each of us is called to a particular task in helping to reveal the Kingdom of God.</p>	<p>PK.6B.1 Know that God gives special gifts to each person, so they may serve him and others (CCC 52; Mt 4:18-22; Mt 9:9)</p>		
<p><b>PK.6C</b> <b>Social Action and Transformation</b> Engage in activities that foster the social teachings of the Church.</p>	<p>PK.6C.1 Recognize that Jesus wants us to help each other (Mt 25)</p>		

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