

Session 1: Introduction of Evangelization and Catechesis

Cat 101 – *Catechetical Method and Practice*

General Directory for Catechesis #36 - 91

Date: ____/____/____

Name: _____

1. Based on Matthew 28:18-20, the mission of the Church is:

- a. _____-Centered – Jesus has all authority.
- b. _____ – The mission was given to the Eleven, who share it with the entire faithful.
- c. _____ – Inviting all nations to follow Christ.
- d. _____ – Calling people to Baptism and the rest of the sacramental life of the Church.
- e. _____ – Incorporating followers of Christ in the life of the Trinity.
- f. _____ – Teaching everything Christ has commanded.

2. Evangelization is the process by which the person repents, believes in Jesus, and follows Him. It:

- a. Builds on the _____ of each Christian.
- b. Involves the explicit proclamation of the _____ (called the Kerygma).
- c. Invites a person to an inner _____ to Christ.
- d. Is an action of the entire _____.
- e. Is directed to _____ people.
- f. _____ ends, both in our personal lives and with humanity as a whole.

3. Evangelization invites a person to conversion. Conversion:

- a. Is directed to the _____ of Jesus Christ.
- b. Causes a radical _____ in the life of the person (metanoia), changing our direction to Christ.
- c. Helps the person die to _____ and grow in _____.
- d. Involves our _____ being.

- e. Means becoming a member of Christ's _____, the Church.
- f. Challenges us to _____ Christ's love to all we meet.

4. Definitions:

- a. *Catechesis* - The _____ - _____ or handing down of the Deposit of Faith.
- b. *Deposit of Faith* - The heritage of faith contained in _____ and _____, handed on in the Church from the time of the Apostles.
- c. *Catechist* – A _____ who hands down the Deposit of Faith.
- d. *Catechetics* - The _____ of handing down the Deposit of Faith.
- e. *Catechumenate*:
 - i. The _____ by which an unbaptized person enters into full communion with the Church.
 - ii. The _____ in the catechumenal process that hands on to the catechumen the Deposit of Faith.
- f. *Catechumen* - _____ individual in process of receiving the Deposit of Faith.
- g. *Catechism* - The _____ summary of the Deposit of Faith.

5. Catechesis matures the initial conversion of evangelization, helping the person grow in communion with Christ. This happens through the tasks of:

- a. Promoting the _____ of _____ – Passing on the Creed of the Church.
- b. _____ Education – Instructing Christians to participate more deeply in the liturgical life of the Church.
- c. _____ Formation – Helping the participant live a Christ-like life of freedom from sin and growth in holiness.
- d. Teaching to _____ – Introducing the person to the Church's tradition of prayer, inviting the person to intimate conversation with God.
- e. Education for _____ Life – Teaches the person how to live in the Christian community for the purpose of fellowship and support in the Christian life.
- f. _____ Education – Challenges the person to vocation to transform the world into the Kingdom of God.

Session 2: Structure and Themes of the Catechism

Cat 101 – *Catechetical Method and Practice*

General Directory for Catechesis #91 – 136

Date: ____/____/____

Name: _____

1. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) is the Church's official summary of the Deposit of Faith. It:

- a. Was produced by the _____ of the world.
- b. Was first published in _____, with a second (or typical edition) in _____.
- c. Called for the publication of _____ catechisms.

2. The CCC's purpose is:

- a. To be a _____, or standard for teaching.
- b. To bring _____ to the Church.
- c. To provide an _____ synthesis to the Faith
- d. To express the ' _____ structure' of the Faith.
- e. To explain the noble _____ of the human person, who is called to participate in the life of the _____.

3. The United States Catholic Catechism for Adults (USCCA) is an adaptation of the CCC to the United States. The USCCA:

- a. Was published by the _____ of the United States, with the approval of the Holy See.
- b. Addresses the specific _____ needs of the United States.
- c. Is in both _____ and _____.
- d. Is specifically written for _____.
- e. Is divided by the traditional Four _____:
 - i. Creed – *The Faith Professed*.
 - ii. Sacraments – *The Faith Celebrated*.

- iii. Morality – *The Faith Lived*.
- iv. Prayer – *The Faith Prayed*.

f. Has 36 _____, each which includes:

- i. Story or Lesson of the Faith.
- ii. Teaching.
- iii. Sidebars.
- iv. Relationship of Church teaching to US Culture.
- v. Questions for Discussion.
- vi. Recap of Doctrinal Statements.
- vii. Meditation and Prayers.

g. Works _____ with the CCC (*the Church's official summary of the Deposit of Faith*) and the Compendium of the CCC (*a question and answer synopsis of the essentials of the Deposit of Faith*).

4. The primary key themes of both the CCC and USCCA are:

- a. _____ – the Central Mystery of God in Himself (Father, Son and Holy Spirit).
- b. _____ – The Second Person of the Trinity takes on Human Flesh.
- c. _____ _____ – The Death and Resurrection of Jesus.
- d. _____ – The Body of Christ.
- e. The _____ _____ – Created in God's image and likeness.

5. The secondary themes of the CCC and USCCA are:

- a. God's _____ – In the Sacraments, God freely shares his life with us.
- b. The _____ nature of the Faith – There is an interconnectedness of all the teachings of the Church.
- c. The _____ of the Faith – The Faith 'makes sense'.

Session 3: Proclaiming the Good news in the Diocese of Phoenix
Cat 101 – *Catechetical Method and Practice*
General Directory for Catechesis #109ff

Date: ____/____/____

Name: _____

1. Jesus evangelized through the culture.
 - a. Christ came in a specific _____, to a specific _____, to a specific _____, in a specific _____.
 - b. To _____ the Gospel among people means to proclaim the Gospel to a particular culture and to use the gifts of that culture in the proclamation (Cf. 109).

2. In order to effectively bring about conversion in the life of the hearer, Catechesis must take into account the culture of the recipient and how the Gospel message can transform the culture. To do this, catechists must:
 - a. Identify the _____ and traces of the Gospel message in the culture.
 - b. _____ how the Gospel message can be brought effectively to the people of that culture.
 - c. Present the message of the Gospel in a way that people _____, that speaks their language and to their lives.
 - d. Work with the _____, and see the parish as a place where the Gospel impacts the culture.
 - e. Present the Gospel in relation to the hopes, questions and problems that the _____ and their culture present.
 - f. _____ to the transcendence of the Gospel with regard to culture.
 - g. _____ those seeds of the Gospel which may be present in culture or which may be in complete opposition to the Gospel.

3. In its task of inculturating the faith, catechesis must transmit the Gospel message in its integrity and purity (No. 111). Catechists must:
 - a. Recognize that the message comes first and foremost _____, through the Church.

- b. Pass on the _____ of the Gospel message.
 - c. Present the teaching of the Faith in a complete and authentic way _____
_____ the language, customs, and practices of those to whom the Gospel is presented.
4. The Roman Catholic Diocese of Phoenix was established on December 2, 1969 by Pope Paul VI. The Diocese of Phoenix:
- a. Has 93 parishes and 22 missions, with Mass celebrated in 12 different languages, with 54 parishes celebrating Mass in Spanish.
 - b. Covers 43, 967 square miles.
 - c. Has 706,433 Catholics in the Diocese.
 - d. Is made up of many cultures, including Hispanic, Black Catholic (African and African-American), Polish, Vietnamese, Sri Lankan, Indonesian, Croatian, Brazilian, Korean, Native American, Eritrean, Tongan, Filipino, Japanese, Chinese, Indian, Italian, and Iraqi.
 - e. Has people that speak the languages of Spanish, Japanese, Chinese, Vietnamese, Sinhalese (Sri Lanka), Indonesian, Korean, Croatian, Portuguese, Tonga, Tagalog (Philippines), English, Polish, Italian, Tamil (Eritrea), Native American languages (Pima, Tohono O'Dam).
 - f. Has a diversity of commerce, including farming, technology, telecommunications, tourism, recreation, and other Fortune 1000 companies.
 - g. Has, under Bishop Olmsted, established the following areas of priority for growth: Marriage and Family Life, Life Issues, Vocations, Sacramental Life and Cultural Diversity, with a special focus on Hispanic growth and needs here in the Diocese of Phoenix.

Session 4: Divine Pedagogy & Human Methods
Cat 101 – Catechetical Method and Practice
General Directory for Catechesis #140 - 162

Date: ____/____/____

Name: _____

1. Divine Pedagogy refers to principles by which God has shared His life with us.
 - a. The pedagogy of God refers to His slow, _____, Fatherly guidance, both in the lives of the individual but also with His people as a whole.
 - b. The pedagogy of Christ is seen in His Incarnation and in His entire life, in which He worked through _____ and _____, especially to the poor and sinners.
 - c. The pedagogy of the Church shows us that God's _____ comes to us through His Body, the Church.
 - d. The pedagogy of the Holy Spirit is demonstrated through the _____ work the Holy Spirit in the life of each baptized person.
 - e. Catechesis is called to reflect these principles of Divine Pedagogy in _____ methodologies we use.

2. Human methodologies refer to the ways in which we, as catechists, pass on the Faith to others.
Methodologies:
 - a. Are to be diverse, but _____ the principles of the Gospel.
 - b. Are at the _____ of _____, that is, a relationship with Jesus Christ and all that He has revealed to us through Scripture and Tradition under the authority of the magisterium.
 - c. Are both _____ and _____.
 - Inductive method takes an individual's experience and processes it toward the Truth (Experience – Reason – Truth)
 - Deductive method takes a Truth and reasons it toward the person's experience (Truth – Reason – Experience)
 - The work of catechesis combines both methodologies, and in doing so, models the development of Tradition:

- Experience of Christ
- Reasoning toward Truth
- Discovery of Truth
- Reasoning toward the application of Truth
- Experiencing the Truth, who is Jesus Christ, returns us to the start of the process

This is also the process of conversion... as the person journeys toward life in Christ; “Interpreting and illuminating with the data of faith...” (GDC, 153)

- d. Use human experience as the place where the Faith is _____ on a daily basis.
 - e. Use _____ to further conversion.
 - f. Work with the person of the _____ and the entire Christian _____ in passing on the Faith.
3. For an example of a catechetical method that can be used in a given session, see the handout below on the ‘Ecclesia Method’.

The Ecclesial Method

Msgr. Francis D. Kelly outlines the '**Ecclesial Method**' of catechesis in his book 'The Mystery We Proclaim'.

The ecclesial method uses five stages to develop a catechetical topic, the stages of:

- A. **Preparation.** The first stage of catechesis involves the preparation of the individual to hear and act on the Word of God. **Essential to this stage is the 'calculated disengagement' of the individual, helping them to leave behind the cares of the world and become focused on the task of hearing God's Word.** It is imperative that the study of God's Word have a different 'feel' than the study of any other academic subject. It is primarily an activity of prayer, and needs a quiet openness on the part of the individual in order to be received.

Examples of Preparation include:

- Creating a sense of the sacred in the meeting environment, with a prayer space in the room with: Prayer table with liturgical color cloth, Candle in a container, Large Crucifix, enthroned Bible.
- Gathering through Song/Music.
- Taking time in silence.

- B. **Proclamation.** Proclamation is the announcing of God's Word. This includes both the reading of Scripture and the summary of the corresponding doctrine. **In this process it is essential to begin with the Scriptural Story.** The Scriptures provide the soul for the doctrine, and without this step the doctrine loses its connection with God's plan of salvation. This step should include both a liturgical-style proclamation from the Bible, but also a short summary of the teaching for this session. This short summary should be referred to throughout the entire session.

Examples of Proclamation include:

- Beginning by singing a short antiphon such as "Thy Word is a Lamp unto My Feet" while lighting the candle
- Having a prepared reader proclaim the Scriptures while all follow along
- Briefly announce short summary of the session, connecting the Scripture passage to the Church's catechesis on this subject.

- C. **Explanation.** The stage of Explanation seeks to deepen the individual's understanding of the Word of God, both scripturally and doctrinally. This will be the longest stage in the session. **Explanation will help the individual understand the details of the Scriptural story, the details of Church doctrine, and the connection between the two.** It is essential in this stage that the catechist be familiar with the teaching as outlined in the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

Examples of Explanation include:

- Teaching

- Research Activity

D. **Application.** Essential to the study of the Word of God helping the individual apply it to their personal lives. **In this stage the individual needs to reflect on his/her life, hear the voice of Christ, and begin to appropriate it in daily life.** Without this stage, the Christian doctrine loses its flavor and risks becoming simply another academic subject. This stage should invite the individual to a deeper conversion, which includes repentance for sin and growth in holiness. This stage needs to have testimonies from older Christians, time to study and learn from the lives of the Saints, and time to make formal commitments to strengthen a growing relationship with Christ.

Examples of Application include:

- Small Group discussion
- Saint story
- Making simple, practical resolutions to become more like Christ
- Witnessing in a particular way to the doctrine being taught here

E. **Celebration.** As the process began in prayer in the Preparation stage, so it concludes in prayer in this stage. **This stage should allow the individual to express gratitude to God, to strengthen his/her commitment to the entire Body of Christ, and to outwardly express his/her interior resolutions to imitate Christ.** This stage directly leads to the Eucharist, the 'Source and Summit' of our Faith.

Examples include:

- Modified Liturgy of the Hours with time for intentions.

Sample Outline Based on the Ecclesial Method

Preparation

Greeting

Gathering Song

Proclamation

Scripture Passage

Quiet Reflection on the Passage

Table Discussion: Share one point from the passage that spoke to you

Explanation

Teaching

Application

Table Assignments/Small Group Discussion

Large Group Discussion

Reflection on Life of a Saint

Celebration

Short Liturgy of the Hours/Intentions/Hail Mary

Announcements/Snacks

Catechetical Lesson Plan

According to the Ecclesial Method

Topic of Catechesis: _____ Date: _____

I. Learning Objectives (the participant will...)

Objectives for deeper understanding _____

Objectives for Inviting Learners to a change of heart _____

II. Materials/Resources Needed (textbooks, media/technology, supplies, handouts, etc.):

III. Catechetical Foundations:

A. CHRISTOCENTRICITY: What does this topic have to do with Jesus and the “love that never ends?”

B. SCRIPTURAL DRIVING FORCE: Which foundational scriptures will be used so the teaching relies on God’s Word?

C. PRIMARY CATECHISM SECTIONS: Which texts from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* are central to understanding this topic?

Session 5: Those Responsible for Catechesis
Cat 101 – *Catechetical Method and Practice*
General Directory for Catechesis Part Five, Chapter 1

Date: ____/____/____

Name: _____

1. A catechist is a person charged with the responsibility to pass on the Deposit of Faith to others. This includes:
 - a. The entire Christian _____.
 - b. The _____.
 - c. _____ and _____.
 - d. _____.
 - e. Men and Women _____.
 - f. _____.
 - g. _____, including Parish Catechetical Leaders, Youth Evangelization Leaders, Principals, Campus Ministers, Religion Teachers, and Parish Catechists.

2. According to the National Directory for Catechesis, the qualities of the catechist include:
 - a. Sharing in apostolic work through _____.
 - b. Having an _____ vocational call by the _____.
 - c. Being a _____ Catholic.
 - d. Being appropriately _____.
 - e. Having a _____ relationship with _____.
 - f. _____ Jesus the Teacher and _____ to the truth of the faith.
 - g. Having the ability to _____ a given method to those they serve.

3. The spiritual life of the catechist recognizes the urgent call to holiness. The spiritual life of the catechist is based on:

- a. A love of _____, Christ's _____, the _____ (Pope) and God's Holy _____.
- b. A _____ and _____ of life.
- c. Personal _____ and dedication to _____.
- d. _____.
- e. Active participation in _____, especially the _____.
- f. Devotion to _____ and to the _____.

Quotes from St. John Bosco

Taken from 'The Education Philosophy of St. John Bosco', 1979, Don Bosco Publications.

Give me souls; away with the rest.

Suffer, work, and humble (yourself) in all things whenever it is a question of saving souls.

Set aside some time every day for meditation and spiritual reading.

God sees you.

Do not put off until tomorrow the good you can do today. You may not have a tomorrow.

Let us strive to fare well in this life and in the next.

Be slow to pass judgment.

Do you want your companions to respect you? Always think well of everyone, and be ready to help others. Do this and you will be happy.

Run, jump, have all the fun you want at the right time, but for heaven's sake, do not commit sin!

Serve the Lord joyfully.

Always be cheerful and good, but never bad.

By means of affection, gain the heart of the youth.

Without confidence and love, there can be no true education.

Session 6: The Role of Parents as Primary Educators
Cat 101 – *Catechetical Method and Practice*
General Directory for Catechesis Part 5 Chapter 1 & 3

Date: ____/____/____

Name: _____

1. A family is a man and woman united in marriage, together with children (CCC #2202).
 - a. A _____ and _____ united in marriage.
 - b. Together with _____.
2. The family is a communion of persons, and as such the family is:
 - a. Reflective of God's _____ nature.
 - b. Grounded in the fruitful _____ between male and female.
 - c. Given the foundational directive of _____ as its God-given and natural basis.
3. The family is the domestic church, and as such:
 - a. Is a concrete community of _____.
 - b. Is the first place of the announcement of the _____.
 - c. Is the _____ place where children are educated in the Catholic Faith.

Among the duties of parents toward their children are (CCC #2221-2231):

1. The duty to educate children.
 2. The duty respect, forgive, and show affection to their children.
 3. The duty to discipline and raise them toward virtue.
 4. The duty to initiate children into a sense of solidarity and communal responsibility.
 5. The duty to evangelize their children, educating them in the faith and growth in holiness.
 6. The duty to provide for their physical and spiritual needs.
 7. The right to choose a school for their children. Once they become adults, children have the right to choose their profession and state of life.
- d. Works with the _____ in raising the children in the faith.
 - e. Is the _____ of society.
 - f. Is to be taken into consideration on _____ of pastoral work.

Session 7: Church Law and Children's Sacramental Policies

Cat 101 – *Catechetical Method and Practice*

Date: ____/____/____

Name: _____

1. Law helps inform and guide individuals, communities and societies to avoid that which is harmful and do that which is beneficial. Law:
 - a. Is _____, giving us standards to live up to in our lives.
 - b. Is _____, giving us the minimum levels of ethical behavior.
 - c. Provides social _____, protecting the dignity of the person and the common good.

2. Canon Law is the law of the life of the Church. Canon Law:
 - a. Exists in _____ form in the *Code of Canon Law*.
 - b. Helps us understand our _____ and _____ as faithful followers of Christ in the Church, the Body of Christ.
 - c. Is an expression of our own Catholic theology and seeks, along with Scripture, doctrine, and our life of prayer, to help us to be _____ to what the Church teaches in our daily lives.
 - d. Is a tool of _____ (*communio*), strengthening the bonds of unity in the entire Church.

3. The Sacramental Policies for infants and children are oriented to the evangelization of both the children and the families.
 - a. A Diocesan policy is a statement of law by the local _____.
 - b. The sacramental policies for infants and children also contain "Guidelines", that is, _____ procedures to help us fulfill the mandates of laws and policies.
 - c. All preparation is to be seen as a moment of _____ for children, parents and adults who are involved.
 - d. As the _____ church, the parents are the primary educators, the first to proclaim the Gospel to the child.
 - e. Preparation is to be mystagogical, that is, directed towards a _____ - _____ deepening of faith through the sacramental life of the Church.