

Religious Education Standards  
**General Standards for Grade 3**

August 22, 2018



Diocese of Fargo



## DIOCESE OF FARGO

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August 22, 2018

Dear Catechist,

In 2013, Bishop Folda requested that a committee be formed to evaluate and publish updated standards for our Catholic schools and parish Religious Education programs. The result of the committee's work are standards for Kindergarten through eighth grade.

There are two formats of the standards for each grade:

1. **General Standards:** This is a "master list" of all the aspects of the Faith which should be covered in each specific grade. Each grade is divided into the four pillars of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*: Profession of Faith, Sacraments, Moral Life and Prayer.
2. **Standards Corresponding to Textbook:** This document shows where the General Standards are covered in the textbook. It lists each chapter of the textbook. This document will be more useful for teaching.

The standards were also used as part of the selection process of the textbook series that was recommended to Bishop Folda.

The committee also suggested that the standards be a working tool for catechists, that is, not only insuring that the essential elements of the Faith are presented, but also as a way for catechists to share ideas with one another. The web page [www.fargodiocese.org/curriculum](http://www.fargodiocese.org/curriculum) has been created for this purpose. At the bottom of the page is the form "Submit an Activity or Idea". I encourage you to submit something to share with other catechists. Perhaps you have a great craft that works well with a lesson or some other activity that engages the children while helping to solidify what they just learned. I will use your ideas to build the sections in the standards entitled "Mission and Community" and "Teacher Notes". I will create links in these areas so that catechists will be able to see activities that others have submitted.

My hope is that these documents will be a great resource for you.

Peace in Christ,

Mary Hanbury  
Director of Catechesis

Essential Questions	Standards and Basic Understandings	Resources	Mission & Community Life	Teaching Notes
<p>Who is God?</p> <p>Why did God create the universe?</p>	<p><b>PF 3.1 God is love and Creator of all</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Recognize God created everything out of nothing</li> <li>b. Recognize the world is good and God created it out of love</li> <li>c. Know that God created man and woman</li> <li>d. Understand we are to take care of God’s creation</li> <li>e. Recognize that God created each person to be unique with a body and soul</li> <li>f. Know that you are created to live with God forever</li> <li>g. Recognize God created angels as purely spiritual beings and assigned each of us a guardian angel</li> <li>h. Recognize God created angels as messengers and helpers</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 221, 279 John 3:16 CCC 299-303</p> <p>CCC 355-361</p> <p>CCC 293, 294 CCC 330, 336</p> <p>YOUCAT 54-55</p>		
<p>Who is God?</p>	<p><b>PF 3.2 God is the Holy Trinity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Know the Trinity is three persons in one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit</li> <li>b. Know God the Father is the first person of the Trinity</li> <li>c. Know Jesus is the Son of God, the second person of the Trinity</li> <li>d. Know the Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity</li> <li>e. Know there is perfect love between the persons of the Trinity</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 232-237</p> <p>CCC 253-255</p>		
<p>Who is Jesus?</p>	<p><b>PF 3.3 Jesus is the Son of God</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Know Jesus is both God and man</li> <li>b. Know Jesus teaches us how to love and take care of one another</li> <li>c. Know that Jesus suffered, died and rose from the dead for the salvation of all people</li> <li>d. Understand Jesus is with us always</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 443-444</p> <p>CCC 464</p> <p>CCC 571</p> <p>CCC 662</p>		

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Who is the Holy Spirit?	<p><b>PF 3.4 The Holy Spirit is our Advocate</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Know the Holy Spirit helps us (Advocate)</li> <li>b. Know the Holy Spirit guides the Church</li> <li>c. Know the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles on Pentecost</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 692</p> <p>CCC 737-738</p> <p>CCC 731</p>		
What is the Church?	<p><b>PF 3.5 The Church is the family of God</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Know we become members of the Church through baptism</li> <li>b. Recognize we belong to God’s family: the Church</li> <li>c. Begin to understand the four marks of the Church: One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 790-791</p> <p>CCC 752</p> <p>CCC 804</p>		
Who is the Holy Family?	<p><b>PF 3.6 The Holy Family is the model for all families</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Know the members of the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, foster-father of Jesus</li> <li>b. Know Mary is the mother of Jesus and our mother too</li> <li>c. Begin to understand that Mary had perfect faith and was free from Original Sin</li> <li>d. Understand Joseph had total trust in God and was obedient to God’s will</li> <li>e. Recognize that Jesus obeyed Mary and Joseph</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 531-533</p> <p>CCC 502-507, 511</p> <p>CCC 437</p> <p>CCC 532</p>		
What is the bible?	<p><b>PF 3.7 The bible is God’s written word</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Know the bible is the inspired Word of God (sacred scripture)</li> <li>b. Know the bible consists of the Old Testament and the New Testament</li> <li>c. Know the four Gospels in the bible tell us about Jesus’ life and teaching</li> <li>d. Begin to understand Gospel means “Good News”</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 120</p> <p>CCC 105-108</p> <p>CCC 125</p>		

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What happens when we die?	<b>PF 3.8 God desires eternal life in heaven for each of us</b>  a. Know we believe there is life after death in heaven or hell b. Begin to understand after death we will be judged by our thoughts, words and deeds c. Begin to understand Jesus told us he would come again at the end of time	CCC 1  CCC 1020-1032		

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What is a sacrament?	<p><b>S 3.1 Jesus instituted the seven sacraments so that we could receive sanctifying grace, a share in God’s divine life</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Know a sacrament is an outward sign, instituted by Jesus Christ, given to the Church, to give grace</li> <li>b. Know the seven sacraments can be grouped:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sacraments of Initiation                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Baptism</li> <li>b. Confirmation</li> <li>c. Eucharist</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Sacraments of Healing                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Reconciliation/Penance</li> <li>b. Anointing of the Sick</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Sacraments of Service/Mission                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Marriage</li> <li>b. Holy Orders</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>c. Be introduced to the form and matter for the sacraments: baptism (water and words), confirmation (anointing by bishop, laying on of hands with the words and anointing with Chrism oil), and Eucharist (bread, wine, and words) reconciliation (confessing of sins and absolution),</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 1113-1119, 1210</p> <p>CCC 824, 1266</p> <p>CCC 1212</p> <p>CCC 1420-1421</p> <p>CCC 1533-1535</p> <p>CCC 1284, 1320, 1412, 1491</p>		
What is confirmation?	<p><b>S 3.2 Confirmation strengthens the gifts of the Holy Spirit received at Baptism</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Know confirmation increases and deepens the graces received in baptism</li> <li>2. Know the form of confirmation are the words “Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit”</li> <li>3. Know the matter of confirmation: “laying on of hands” by the bishop and anointing with Sacred Chrism on the forehead</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 1303</p> <p>CCC 1316</p> <p>CCC 1320</p> <p>CCC 1297</p>		

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How do we show that we are living the gifts of the Holy Spirit?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Know the Sacred Chrism oil is consecrated by the bishop at the Chrism Mass during Holy Week each year and is distributed to all the parishes in the diocese</li> <li>5. Know the bishop is the ordinary minister of confirmation, but priests may also confirm with permission from the bishop</li> <li>6. Know confirmation imprints an indelible spiritual mark on one’s soul and remains forever</li> <li>7. Know confirmation can only be received once</li> <li>8. Know the gifts of the Holy Spirit:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Wisdom</li> <li>b. Understanding</li> <li>c. Council</li> <li>d. Knowledge</li> <li>e. Piety</li> <li>f. Fear of the Lord</li> <li>g. Fortitude</li> </ul> </li> <li>9. Understand the role and importance of your confirmation sponsor</li> </ul>	CCC 1312 CCC 1302-1305        CCC 1311		
What is the importance of the Eucharist?	<b>S 3.3 The Holy Eucharist completes the sacraments of initiation, full membership in the Church</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Begin to understand the Eucharist is the source and summit of our life in Christ</li> <li>b. Know Jesus instituted the Eucharist at the Last Supper</li> <li>c. Know even though the bread (host) and wine look like ordinary bread and wine after the consecration, it is truly Jesus’ Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity</li> <li>d. Know at Mass, during the consecration, the bread/wine become the Body and Blood of Jesus (Transubstantiation)</li> <li>e. Begin to understand the Mass is the memorial of Jesus Christ’s Passover, His life, death, and resurrection</li> </ul>	CCC 1322 CCC1324 CCC1323 CCC 1333 CCC 1340		

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What must I do to receive the Eucharist worthily?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>f. Begin to understand that the word “Eucharist” means “Thanksgiving”</li> <li>g. Know what is necessary to receive the Eucharist               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Be a baptized Catholic</li> <li>2. Be free from mortal sin</li> <li>3. Fast one hour before receiving the Eucharist</li> </ul> </li> <li>h. Know how to properly receive the Eucharist on the tongue and in the hand</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 1328</p> <p>CCC 1385-1388</p>		
How is Jesus present at the Mass?	<p><b>S 3.4 We come to know Jesus through the Mass</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Know we worship God at Mass</li> <li>b. Know the order of the Mass: Introductory Rites, Liturgy of the Word, Liturgy of the Eucharist, Communion Rite, Concluding Rites</li> <li>c. Recognize Jesus Christ is present in the Mass; in the Word, in the priest (representing Jesus the Head) in the people (The Body of Christ) and most of all in the Eucharist</li> <li>d. Be introduced to the signs and symbols of the liturgy: sacred vessels, the book of the Gospels, ambo, incense, crucifix, celebrant’s chair, water of baptism, chrism oil, altar, candles, vestments, bells, music, etc.</li> <li>e. Know the Sanctuary light/lamp tells us that Jesus, in the Eucharist, is present in the Tabernacle</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 1323</p> <p>CCC 1345</p> <p>CCC 1346-1355</p> <p>CCC 1349, 1410, 1416</p> <p>CCC 1181-1186</p>		



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How do we celebrate the special events during the liturgical year?	<p><b>S 3.5 We celebrate the Seasons of the Church (The Liturgical Year)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Recognize there is a liturgical year in which we celebrate the life of Jesus, Mary, and the saints</li> <li>b. Recognize the liturgical colors: Advent (violet/rose); Christmas (white); Ordinary Time (green); Lent (violet/rose); Easter (white); Holy Spirit, Passion, and Martyrs (red); Feasts of Mary and other Saints (white)</li> <li>c. Know the Church's new year begins the first Sunday of Advent and reaches its high point at Easter and ends on the Feast of Christ the King</li> <li>d. Know during Advent and Lent we prepare our hearts through acts of penance</li> <li>e. Know Holy Thursday we celebrate the Last Supper</li> <li>f. Know Good Friday celebrates the Passion of our Lord</li> <li>g. Know Holy Saturday recalls Jesus in the tomb</li> <li>h. Know we celebrate the Easter Vigil on Saturday night</li> <li>i. Know we celebrate Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday</li> <li>j. Know Pentecost celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit to the apostles and birth of the Church</li> </ul>	CCC 1163-1172		

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<p>How does the Holy Spirit help us to live a moral life?</p>	<p><b>ML 3.1 The Holy Spirit helps us to love and follow Jesus</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Know that the Holy Spirit strengthens, guides, and helps us</li> <li>b. Begin to understand we receive the theological virtues of faith, hope, and charity (love) at baptism</li> <li>c. Begin to recognize that the fruits of the Holy Spirit come from exercising the gifts of the Holy Spirit: the fruits are charity [love], joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, and chastity</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 741, 1742</p> <p>CCC 683-684 YOUCAT 120 CCC 1812-1832</p> <p>YOUCAT 310-311</p> <p>Isaiah 11:2</p>		
<p>Why did God give us the Ten Commandments?</p>	<p><b>ML 3.2 God gave us the Ten Commandments so that we know how to live a good and holy life</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Know the 1<sup>st</sup> Commandment: to love the Lord your God with all your heart</li> <li>b. Know the 2<sup>nd</sup> Commandment: not to take the Lord’s name is vain</li> <li>c. Know the 3<sup>rd</sup> Commandment: to the keep holy the Sabbath</li> <li>d. Know the 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment: to honor your father and mother</li> <li>e. Know the 5<sup>th</sup> Commandment: do not kill</li> <li>f. Know the 6<sup>th</sup> Commandment: do not commit adultery</li> <li>g. Know the 7<sup>th</sup> Commandment: do not steal</li> <li>h. Know the 8<sup>th</sup> Commandment: do not bear false witness (lie)</li> <li>i. Know the 9<sup>th</sup> Commandment: do not covet your neighbor’s wife</li> <li>j. Know the 10<sup>th</sup> Commandment: do not covet your neighbor’s goods</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 62, 2056</p> <p>Table before CCC 2052</p> <p>Mt 22:36-39</p> <p>CCC 2083-2557</p>		

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<p>How can I resist temptation to sin?</p>	<p><b>ML 3.3 Know sin is an offense against God and others</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Know the difference between mortal and venial sin                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mortal sin is deadly and we break our relationship with God; there are three conditions:                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the act is sinful, is grave matter and</li> <li>b) you know it is wrong and</li> <li>c) you freely choose to do it</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Venial sin weakens our relationship with God</li> </ul> </li> <li>b. Recognize we can sin through our thoughts, words, actions, and things we have failed to do</li> <li>c. Understand temptation is an attraction toward committing a sin</li> <li>d. Begin to understand we can resist temptation with God’s grace (prayer, frequent confession, read Scripture, use of sacramentals, pray to your guardian angel, live the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit, etc.)</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 538</p> <p>CCC 1849 CCC 1854-1859</p> <p>CCC 1863 CCC 1865-1869</p> <p>CCC 2340</p>		
<p>What are ways we can imitate Jesus?</p>	<p><b>ML 3.4 Jesus is our model and guide</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Know we can imitate Jesus by loving others, serving those in need, praying, forgiving, and sharing God’s plan of love</li> <li>b. Understand we can know Jesus more personally by reading the Gospels</li> <li>c. Recognize the Corporal Works of Mercy: feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, shelter the homeless, clothe the naked, visit the sick and imprisoned, and bury the dead</li> <li>d. Begin to understand the Spiritual Works of Mercy: instruct the ignorant, admonish the sinner, counsel the doubtful, comfort the sorrowful, bear wrongs patiently, forgive all injuries, pray for the living and the dead</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 1693</p> <p>CCC 125</p> <p>CCC 2447</p>	<p>Perform a corporal work of mercy</p> <p>Perform a spiritual work of mercy</p>	

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How do we share God’s love with others?	<p><b>ML 3.5 We show our love for God by sharing what we have with others</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Begin to recognize the needs of others by respecting all human life (Catholic social teaching)</li> <li>b. Know all human life is a gift from God</li> <li>c. Know that people are more important than things</li> <li>d. Begin to understand we can help others by praying for them</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 1889</p> <p>CCC 1929-1933</p> <p>CCC 343</p> <p>CCC 2634-2636</p>		
Why do we have patron saints?	<p><b>ML 3.6 Our patron saints protect and guide us</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Know the lives of saints model love of God and concern for others</li> <li>b. Begin to understand patron saints are saints with whom we have a special relationship because of a common experience or interest</li> <li>c. Know that Mary is the perfect model saint, she always did God’s will</li> <li>d. Know stories about the saints</li> <li>e. Know we are called to be saints</li> <li>f. The Church designates saints as patrons of persons, places, or things</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 828, 957</p> <p>CCC 2683</p> <p>CCC 148, 2617</p>		
How can we work for peace in our homes and communities?	<p><b>ML 3.7 Social teaching of the Church: God created us as sacred and social beings to live and participate in families and communities in harmony with him</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Begin to understand how we are called by God to work together to make peace in our families and communities</li> <li>b. Begin to understand how small acts of kindness can make a big difference in the lives of others and create peace</li> <li>c. Begin to understand how people can work together to make a positive change in the community so that we all live in harmony with God</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 1879</p> <p>CCC 1882, 1886</p> <p>CCC 1888</p>		

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<p>What can I do to be safe?</p>	<p><b>ML 3.8 Safe environment: God desires us to be safe</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Know God calls us to a loving relationship with himself and others</li> <li>b. Know the Holy Spirit helps us to be aware of feeling safe or unsafe</li> <li>c. Begin to understand God is with us always, even when we are hurt, afraid, or confused</li> <li>d. Recognize ways the boundaries in our personal space may be threatened or violated</li> <li>e. Understand God wants us to take care of ourselves and get help from a trusted adult when we feel unsafe or have been hurt</li> </ul>			

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<p>What is prayer?</p> <p>Who initiates prayer?</p>	<p><b>P 3.1 God, who loved us first, places on our heart the desire to have a relationship with him</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Know prayer is the lifting up of our mind and heart to God</li> <li>b. Know Jesus taught us to pray to the Father</li> <li>c. Know we need to respond, through prayer, to God's invitation to be in relationship with him</li> <li>d. Know that asking Mary, the saints, and angels to pray for us leads us to God</li> <li>e. Recognize the beauty of creation can inspire people to a relationship with God, the Creator</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 2565, 299</p> <p>CCC 2559 CCC 2567</p> <p>CCC 2670-2672</p> <p>CCC 2673, 2679 CCC 2683-2684</p> <p>CCC 293-294</p>		
<p>How do we pray?</p>	<p><b>P 3.2 Jesus, through his Church, teaches us to pray in many ways</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Begin to understand how to pray with the Psalms</li> <li>b. Begin to develop a habit of personal prayer through silent reflection, listening, spontaneous prayer, prayer with scripture, song, art, sacramentals, and gestures</li> <li>c. Begin to know the following types of prayer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Blessing and Adoration</li> <li>2. Praise</li> <li>3. Petition</li> <li>4. Intercession</li> <li>5. Thanksgiving</li> </ul> </li> <li>d. Begin to understand how to pray the Rosary and reflect on the mysteries</li> <li>e. Know we can visit and adore Jesus in the form of the Blessed Sacrament (Adoration)</li> <li>f. Know the following prayers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sign of Cross</li> <li>2. Our Father</li> <li>3. Hail Mary</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>CCC 2607-2614</p> <p>CCC 2585-2589 CCC 2663 CCC 2700-04 YOUCAT 491 CCC 2626-2643</p> <p>CCC 2678</p> <p>CCC 1378-79</p>		

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Why do we memorize prayers?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Angel of God</li> <li>5. Grace before Meals</li> <li>6. Glory Be</li> <li>7. St. Michael the Archangel</li> <li>8. Act of Contrition</li> <li>9. <b>Apostles' Creed</b></li> <li>g. Understand memorizing prayers is a rich tradition in the Church. It helps us:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Participate as a family during Church services</li> <li>2. Join others in prayer</li> <li>3. Affirm what we believe</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	CCC 2688		
What is the Mass?	<p><b>P 3.3 Jesus gives us the gift of himself at the sacrifice of the Mass</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Begin to know the Mass celebrates the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus</li> <li>b. Know how to fully participate in the Mass (prayers, song, attention, posture)</li> <li>c. Begin to know the Mass (responses):               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "Amen"</li> <li>2. Responses to Greeting ("And with your spirit")</li> <li>3. Penitential Rite ("I confess to almighty God"... , "Lord have Mercy, Christ have Mercy"...)</li> <li>4. <b>Gloria (Glory to God in the highest"...) </b></li> <li>5. Responses to the Readings ("Thanks be to God")</li> <li>6. "Alleluia"</li> <li>7. Response to the introduction of the Gospel ("Glory to you O Lord")</li> <li>8. Response to the Gospel ("Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ")</li> <li>9. Response to Intercessions ("Lord hear our prayer")</li> <li>10. "Holy, Holy, Holy"</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p>CCC 2655</p> <p>CCC 1345-1355</p>		

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	<p>11. <b>Memorial Acclamation</b> (“Save us Savior...”, “We proclaim your Death, O Lord...”, “When we eat this Bread and drink this cup”)</p> <p>12. The Great Amen</p> <p>13. Response to the Sign of Peace (to the priest, “And with your Spirit” and to others, “Peace be with you”)</p> <p>14. <b>“Lamb of God”</b></p> <p>15. Final Blessing and Dismissal (“Thanks be to God”)</p>			