

Religious Education Standards

# General Standards for Grade 4

***Draft*** – Summer 2017

August 1, 2017

Dear Catechist,

Three years ago, Bishop Folda requested that a committee be formed to evaluate and update standards for our Catholic schools and parish Religious Education programs. The result of this committee's work are standards for Kindergarten through eighth grade. At this time, the standards are drafts and will be a working document in the 2017-2018 school year.

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 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.

Finally, because the standards are a working document this year, I would like your feedback on how well they work in the classroom. Please send feedback to me, Mary Hanbury, 5201 Bishops Blvd, Suite A, Fargo, ND 58104 or email [mary.hanbury@fargodiocese.org](mailto:mary.hanbury@fargodiocese.org).

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	Teacher Notes
Who is God?	<p><b>PF 4.1 God is love and creator of all</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Know God is all loving, all powerful, all knowing, and all present</li> <li>b. Know God is faithful</li> <li>c. Know God, from the beginning, loved us and desired us to be with Him in heaven (God's plan)</li> <li>d. Begin to understand God has revealed himself to us throughout history and fully in the person of Jesus Christ (Divine Revelation)</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 221,279, John 3:16 CCC 214-221 CCC 207</p> <p>CCC 51-55,385</p>		
Who is the Holy Trinity?	<p><b>PF 4.2 God is the Holy Trinity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Know God is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; three persons in one God</li> <li>b. Know that perfect love exist between the persons of the Holy Trinity</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 232-237</p> <p>CCC 253-255</p>		
Who is Jesus?  How does Jesus teach us?	<p><b>PF 4.3 Jesus came to save us from our sins and show us the path to holiness</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Understand Jesus is both fully human and fully divine</li> <li>b. Identify miracles that Jesus performed</li> <li>c. Identify parables that Jesus taught</li> <li>d. Understand Jesus is our model to live a holy life</li> <li>e. Begin to understand the Paschal Mystery as the suffering, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus</li> <li>f. Know Jesus is still present among us, specifically in God's Word, in the Church, in the person of the priest, and in the Sacraments</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 457-460</p> <p>CCC 464, 470</p> <p>CCC 1067</p> <p>CCC 548-49</p> <p>CCC 662</p>		

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Who is the Holy Spirit?	<p><b>PF 4.4 We believe in the Holy Spirit and His mission</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Know whenever God sends his Son, he always sends his Spirit: their mission is inseparable</li> <li>b. Know that through the Holy Spirit, Mary conceived Jesus (the Incarnation)</li> <li>c. Know that at the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles and Mary on Pentecost</li> <li>d. Know the mission of the Holy Spirit is to guide and protect the Church from error</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 683-686</p> <p>CCC 689-690</p> <p>CCC 722</p> <p>CCC 726</p> <p>CCC 737-741</p>		
Who is Mary?	<p><b>PF 4.5 Mary is the Mother of God</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Begin to understand the Immaculate Conception of Mary</li> <li>b. Know the story of the Annunciation</li> <li>c. Understand Mary as our Mother</li> <li>d. Understand Mary prays for us (intercessor)</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 495</p> <p>CCC 490-493</p> <p>CCC 487</p> <p>CCC 2675</p>		
Who are the apostles?	<p><b>PF 4.6 The Apostles were chosen by Jesus to continue his ministry</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Know the apostles are those who Jesus chose and sent to spread the Gospel message</li> <li>b. Begin to understand it is also our mission to spread the Gospel message (Evangelize)</li> <li>c. Know that St. Peter was the first pope</li> <li>d. Understand the bishops are the successors of the apostles</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 858-860</p> <p>CCC 551</p> <p>CCC 905</p> <p>CCC 552</p> <p>CCC 861-862</p>		

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How does sacred scripture teach us?	<p><b>PF 4.7 Sacred Scripture is the inspired Word of God</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Understand God inspired human authors to communicate His Word</li> <li>b. Begin to understand the basic structure and contents of the Bible and how to use it</li> <li>c. Begin to identify basic elements in the Salvation Story starting with creation to the Resurrection of Jesus.</li> <li>d. Begin to identify God's covenants in scripture, Examples: Noah (Gen 9:1-3), Abraham (Gen 17:1-9); Moses (Ex 19:1-8)</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 101-105</p> <p>CCC 120</p> <p>CCC 51-67</p>		
What is our understanding of Church?	<p><b>PF 4.8 The Church was instituted by Jesus and has many different features</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Begin to recognize the four marks of the Church               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. One</li> <li>2. Holy</li> <li>3. Apostolic</li> <li>4. Catholic</li> </ul> </li> <li>b. Know that we receive sacraments through the Church</li> <li>c. Begin to understand the teaching office of the Church is the Magisterium</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 763-766</p> <p>CCC 811</p> <p>CCC 866-870</p> <p>CCC 890, 2033</p>		
What is the Communion of Saints?	<p><b>PF 4.9 The Communion of Saints include: those in Heaven, those in Purgatory, and the baptized on earth</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Know we have a special bond with the saints in heaven</li> <li>b. Know the souls in Purgatory will get to heaven</li> <li>c. Know the baptized on earth are on their journey to heaven</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 946-962</p> <p>CCC 957</p> <p>CCC 1030</p> <p>CCC 1023</p>		

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How do the sacraments affect our life with Christ?	<p><b>S 4.1 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. Begin to understand all sacraments are an encounter with Christ</li> <li>b. Recognize the sacraments are divided into three groups               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sacraments of Initiation – Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist</li> <li>2. Sacraments of Healing – Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick</li> <li>3. Sacraments of Service – Matrimony and Holy Orders</li> </ul> </li> <li>c. Know the minister of each sacrament               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Baptism – Priest or Deacon</li> <li>2. Confirmation – Bishop</li> <li>3. Holy Eucharist – Priest</li> <li>4. Reconciliation – Priest</li> <li>5. Anointing of the Sick – Priest</li> <li>6. Marriage – Bride and Groom</li> <li>7. Holy Orders – Bishop</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>CCC 1113-1119</p> <p>CCC 1210-1211</p> <p>CCC 1212</p> <p>CCC 1420-1421</p> <p>CCC 1533-1535</p> <p>CCC 1256</p> <p>CCC 1312</p> <p>CCC 1348</p> <p>CCC 1461-1462</p> <p>CCC 1516</p> <p>CCC 1623</p> <p>CCC 1575-1576</p>		
How are we healed in the sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick?	<p><b>S 4.2 God, through His mercy and forgiveness, heals us in the sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Understand sacramental graces are received through the sacraments of healing. (e.g. forgiveness, strength, acceptance, peace)</li> <li>b. Know the four essential elements of the sacrament of Reconciliation:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Contrition</li> <li>2. Confession</li> <li>3. Absolution</li> <li>4. Satisfaction (Penance)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>CCC 1421</p> <p>CCC 1420-1421</p> <p>CCC 1451-1460</p>		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. Understand how the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes guide us in our examination of conscience</li> <li>d. Understand that sin offends God and affects a person's relationship with God, others, and self</li> <li>e. Understand the benefit of frequent reception of the sacrament of Reconciliation</li> <li>f. Begin to connect Christ's miracles of healing with the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick</li> <li>g. Begin to understand the grace of the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick (e.g. strengthen, peace, courage, to sometimes physically heal, and to unite us with Jesus' suffering)</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 1454</p> <p>CCC 1849</p> <p>CCC 1458</p> <p>CCC 1503-1510</p> <p>CCC 1520-1523</p> <p>CCC 1520</p>		
<p>How is the life of Christ celebrated throughout the year?</p>	<p><b>S 4.3 We celebrate the events in the Life of Christ during the various liturgical seasons</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Know the liturgical seasons celebrated throughout the year as the mysteries of the Lord's birth, life, death and resurrection</li> <li>b. Know the order of the liturgical year: Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Ordinary Time</li> <li>c. Understand the significance of Sunday as the Lord's Day</li> <li>d. Know Holy Days are specific days in which the Church celebrates the birth, life and death of Jesus Christ, or Mary, his mother or the saints.</li> <li>e. Know Holy Days of Obligation:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. January 1—Mary the Mother of God</li> <li>2. August 15 – The Assumption of Mary</li> <li>3. November 1 – All Saints Day</li> <li>4. December 8 – The Immaculate Conception</li> <li>5. December 25 – Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord</li> <li>6. 40 days after Easter Sunday – Ascension (currently transferred to the following Sunday)</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	<p>CCC 1163-1172</p>		

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How are we made in the image and likeness of God?	<p><b>ML 4.1 We are created in the image and likeness of God</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Understand that God created us in his own image with a body, soul, intellect and free will</li> <li>b. Understand we are created male and female</li> <li>c. Understand that we are created out of love and for love</li> <li>d. Understand that we were made for friendship with God and others</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 362-369 CCC 1730</p> <p>CCC 369, 372 CCC 355, 361</p>		
What does it mean to live a moral life?	<p><b>ML 4.2 A moral life is living in right relationship with God and others</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Understand that God has placed a desire for happiness in our hearts</li> <li>b. Know that the Beatitudes respond to the desire for happiness</li> <li>c. Identify the Beatitudes               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven</li> <li>2. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted</li> <li>3. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth</li> <li>4. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied</li> <li>5. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy</li> <li>6. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God</li> <li>7. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God</li> <li>8. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>CCC 1691-1695</p> <p>CCC 1718</p> <p>CCC 1716 Mt 5:3-11</p>		



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	<p>9. Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven</p>			
<p>What is free will?</p>	<p><b>ML 4.3 Our gift of free will allows us to choose the good and avoid evil</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Understand free will is a gift from God which allows us to first choose him (know, love, and serve him)</li> <li>b. Understand the more we choose to do good the more free we become</li> <li>c. Understand when we choose to sin we deprive ourselves of what is truly good</li> <li>d. Recognize one may not do evil (sin) so that good may result from it</li> <li>e. Know a mortal sin breaks our relationship with God</li> <li>f. Know the difference between a mortal and venial sin                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. There are three conditions for a sin to be mortal:                                     <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> </ul>	<p>CCC 1730-1732                      YOUCAT 286-295                      CCC 1733                      CCC 1739                      CCC 1755                      CCC 1854-1859                      CCC 1863</p>		
<p>What is our conscience?</p>	<p><b>ML 4.4 Our conscience is a natural gift given by God to help us to distinguish right from wrong</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Begin to understand a well formed conscience is guided by the teaching of the Church which helps us to think and act as Jesus</li> <li>b. Begin to understand the formation of conscience is a life-long responsibility</li> <li>c. Begin to understand how our well-formed conscience helps us to make a good (moral) decision</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 1776                      CCC 1784-1785                      YOUCAT 316                      CCC 1778,1786</p>		

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<p>How do the 10 Commandments help us live a moral life?</p>	<p><b>ML 4.5 The 10 Commandments are God’s law revealed to his people</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Know that the first three commandments help us to love God                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Know the first commandment: <i>I am the Lord your God: you shall not have strange gods before me</i> This is to worship only God. Idolatry means substituting someone or something in the place of God</li> <li>2. Know the second commandment: <i>You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.</i> This means that God’s name is sacred and holy and must not be misused or taken lightly</li> <li>3. Know that the third commandment: <i>Remember to keep holy the Lord’s Day.</i> This teaches us to love and honor God by participating in Mass on Sunday and refrain from unnecessary work because this is the day of the Lord’s resurrection</li> </ul> </li> <li>b. Know that the last seven commandments help us to love our others (neighbors) as ourselves                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Know the fourth commandment: <i>Honor your father and your mother.</i> This means to respect and take care of your mother and father</li> <li>2. Know from the fifth commandment: <i>You shall not kill.</i> This means that human life is sacred and we have a respect for all human life</li> <li>3. Know the sixth commandment: <i>You shall not commit adultery.</i> Husbands and wives should be faithful to each other</li> <li>4. Know the seventh commandment: <i>You shall not steal.</i> This is theft but also can be envy and greed</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>CCC 62, 2056                      Table before CCC 2052                      Mt. 22:36-39                      CCC 2084</p> <p>CCC 2142</p> <p>CCC 2168</p> <p>CCC 2196                      CCC 2197</p> <p>CCC 2258</p> <p>CCC 2336</p> <p>CCC 2401</p>		

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	5. Know the eighth commandment: <i>You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.</i> This means to always tell the truth and avoid lying 6. Know the ninth commandment: <i>You shall not covet your neighbor's spouse.</i> This is a sin against a pure heart when one desires another person's spouse or someone who is not your spouse 7. Know the tenth commandment: <i>You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.</i> This is envy for another person's goods	CCC 2464  CCC 2514  CCC 2534		
How can the saints teach us to live a moral life?	<b>ML 4.6 The saints are our role models for our journey to heaven</b>  a. Know that saints are holy but it does not mean that their entire life was holy b. Begin to understand through God's grace hardened sinners can become saints c. Understand the lives of the saints inspire us to grow and live a holy life	CCC 2683, 828, 957		
How can our work be purposeful?	<b>ML 4.7 Social teaching of the Church: we participate in God's plan by using our gifts and talents to work</b>  a. Understand all work, when done under God's plan, has dignity b. Understand our work should help sustain God's creation c. Understand workers should be treated fairly and with respect by their employer	CCC 2427  CCC 2434		

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<p>How can I protect myself?</p> <p>How do I respect the dignity of others?</p>	<p><b>ML 4.8 Safe environment: God desires us to be safe and treat others with respect</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. Recognize how words and actions can violate our dignity and the dignity of others</li> <li>c. Know God is with us always, even when we are hurt, afraid, or confused</li> <li>d. Begin to understand we can place ourselves in unsafe situations without realizing it. For example, the internet</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>	<p>Circle of Grace Grade 4</p>		

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How does the Church teach us to pray?	<p><b>P 4.1 The two main ways God speaks to us are through the Word of God and the Liturgy of the Church</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Understand through the liturgy God speaks to us through the prayers of the Mass</li> <li>b. Begin to understand how to pray with the scriptures               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Begin to understand how to prayerfully reflect (meditate) on God through scriptural images</li> <li>2. Begin to understand stillness in the presence of God (contemplation)</li> </ul> </li> <li>c. Begin to understand Lectio Divina is an ancient method to pray with the scriptures:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Begin with Introductory prayer recognizing the loving presence of the Trinity</li> <li>2. Reading: Slowly read through the passage</li> <li>3. Mediation: What does God’s Word say to me</li> <li>4. Praying: What do I say to God in response to his Word</li> <li>5. Contemplation: What is God asking of me</li> <li>6. Concluding prayer: praise and thank God</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>CCC 2653</p> <p>CCC 2655</p> <p>CCC 2705-2719</p> <p>CCC 2708</p>		

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What are the different ways we pray?	<p><b>P 4.2 There are different forms (types) of prayer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Begin to know blessing is our response to God’s gift. He blessed us, we bless him</li> <li>b. Begin to know to praise God is to recognize how awesome God is and to sing about his greatness</li> <li>c. Begin to know that to intercede in prayer is to ask God to help others</li> <li>d. Begin to know that to petition in prayer is to first ask for forgiveness and then ask for his help</li> <li>e. Recognize everything is a gift from God and to learn to tell God ‘thank you’</li> </ul>	<p>CCC 2625 CCC 2626</p> <p>CCC 2639</p> <p>CCC2634</p> <p>CCC 2629, 2631 CCC 2637</p>		Have students lead prayer.
Why is it important to memorize certain prayers?	<p><b>P 4.3 Memorized prayers sow in our hearts the seeds of relationships (God, Church, neighbor)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Know Jesus taught us to relate to his Father as our Father through the Lord’s Prayer</li> <li>b. Know that 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> <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. Apostles’ Creed</li> </ul> </li> <li>c. Be familiar with how to pray the following devotions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. The Rosary</b></li> <li><b>2. Divine Mercy Chaplet</b></li> <li><b>3. Stations of the Cross</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>CCC 2688</p> <p>CCC 2759- 2772 CCC 2688</p>		