



DIOCESE OF FARGO

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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 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.

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

Peace in Christ,

Mary Hanbury
Director of Catechesis

1st GRADE – Alive in Christ

- Begin 1st grade with the Opening Lesson - an Introduction to the year
- The church year feasts and seasons can be found in the beginning of the text. These can be done throughout the year when that season occurs

The Church Year – Feasts and Seasons

Essential Questions	Standards and Basic Understandings	Resources	Mission & Community Life	Teaching Notes
What are the special times we celebrate during the year?	<p>S 1.5 We celebrate the Seasons of the Church (The Liturgical Year)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Recognize there is a liturgical year in which we celebrate the life of Jesus, Mary, and the saints b. Begin to know the colors associated with each liturgical seasons: Advent (violet), Christmas (white), Ordinary Time (green), Lent (violet), and Easter (white) c. Be introduced to the significance of Christmas and Easter d. Begin to understand Advent prepares us for Christmas and Lent prepares us for Easter 	CCC 1163-1173		

CHAPTERS 1 & 2

Created by God & God's Gifts for Us

Essential Questions	Standards and Basic Understandings	Resources	Mission & Community Life	Teaching Notes
Who is God?	<p>PF 1.1 God loves us and is Creator of all</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Recognize the world is good and God created it out of love b. Know that God created the first man and woman (Adam and Eve) c. Understand God wants all people to care about creation <p><u>Not covered in text:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> d. <i>Know God created angels as messengers and helpers and that he gave each of us a guardian angel</i> 	<p>CCC 221,279, John 3:16 CCC 293-294 CCC 315</p> <p>CCC 355-361, YOUCAT 54-55 CCC 328-330 CCC 336</p>		

CHAPTER 3

Made to Care

Essential Questions	Standards and Basic Understandings	Resources	Mission & Community Life	Teaching Notes
<p>How are we like God?</p> <p>How do we keep ourselves healthy and happy?</p>	<p>ML 1.1 We are created in the image and likeness of God</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Recognize that you are created to be a unique member of God's family b. Understand God loves you (unconditional love) c. Begin to understand you are created to know, love, and serve God and others d. Recognize God wants us to care for ourselves (establish good habits) 	<p>CCC 355-358 CCC 1700</p> <p>CCC 1803</p>		

CHAPTER 4 The Holy Trinity

Essential Questions	Standards and Basic Understandings	Resources	Mission & Community Life	Teaching Notes
Who is God?	<p>PF 1.2 God is the Holy Trinity</p> <p>a. Begin to understand that we believe in the Holy Trinity: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit</p> <p><u>Not completely covered in text:</u></p> <p>b. <u>Begin to understand there is only one God; Who always was and always will be</u></p>	<p>CCC 232-237</p> <p>CCC 249-260</p>		

CHAPTER 5 The Holy Family

Essential Questions	Standards and Basic Understandings	Resources	Mission & Community Life	Teaching Notes
Who is Jesus?	<p>PF 1.3 Jesus is the son of God</p> <p>a. Begin to understand that Jesus is both God and man</p> <p>b. Know Jesus teaches us to love and take care of one another</p>	<p>CCC 464-478</p>		
Who is the Holy Family?	<p>PF 1.4 Jesus grew up in a family</p> <p>a. Know the members of the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, foster-father of Jesus</p> <p>b. Know Mary is the mother of Jesus and our mother too</p> <p>c. Recognize Jesus obeyed Mary and Joseph</p> <p>d. Understand Jesus is our role model</p>	<p>CCC 525</p> <p>CCC 495</p> <p>CCC 531-534</p> <p>CCC 520-521</p>		

CHAPTER 9

Jesus Teaches Us to Pray

Essential Questions	Standards and Basic Understandings	Resources	Mission & Community Life	Teaching Notes
Why do we pray?	<p>P1.1 God loves us and wants to form a relationship with us</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Begin to understand Jesus told us to pray and in the Gospel stories taught us to pray b. Begin to understand prayer helps us in our daily lives 	<p>CCC 2565</p> <p>CCC 2607-2615</p> <p>CCC 2598</p>	Pray for communities: parish, neighborhood & school	
What is prayer?	<p>P1.2 Prayer is listening and talking with God</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Recognize prayer helps us develop our personal relationship with God (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) b. Recognize God wants us to pray c. Know prayer is talking with God and listening to him <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Quiet times of prayer help us to know, love, and hear God 2. Prayer is asking good things from God, thanking God, and praising God 	<p>CCC 2590</p> <p>CCC 2558-2561</p> <p>CCC 2567</p> <p>CCC 2602</p> <p>CCC 2610</p>		
How do we pray?	<p>P1.3 There are many ways to pray</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Know there are different ways to pray: memorized prayers, spontaneous prayer, gesture, song, reflection, and silence b. Know prayers with words can be said aloud or silently c. Know memorization of prayers is an important part of our prayer life d. Know the following prayers: <i>(see back of book)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sign of Cross 2. Our Father 3. Hail Mary 4. Angel of God 5. Grace before Meals 6. Glory Be 7. St. Michael the Archangel 	<p>CCC 2699</p> <p>CCC 2765-2766</p> <p>CCC 2688</p>		

Essential Questions	Standards and Basic Understandings	Resources	Mission & Community Life	Teaching Notes
	<p><u>Not directly covered in chapter:</u></p> <p><i>e. Begin to know how to pray spontaneously: I love you God, Thank you God, Help me God, etc.</i></p> <p><i>f. Begin to know how to pray with stories from the Bible (Lectio Divina)</i></p> <p><i>g. Begin to understand how to reflect in prayer by listening and thinking about the prayer, song, etc.</i></p> <p><i>h. Know basic gestures: Sign of the Cross, folding hands in prayer, genuflecting, and bowing</i></p>	<p>CCC 2708</p> <p>CCC 2723</p>		

CHAPTER 10

Responding to God

Essential Questions	Standards and Basic Understandings	Resources	Mission & Community Life	Teaching Notes
Who is God's Family?	<p>PF 1.6 The Church is God's family</p> <p>a. Begin to understand Baptism makes us part of God's family; the Church</p> <p>b. Begin to understand we work together to build up the Church family</p>	<p>CCC 759-60</p> <p>CCC 765</p>		

- **Chapter 11 – The Church’s Guide** (The Holy Spirit guide us)

CHAPTER 12 Friends of God

Essential Questions	Standards and Basic Understandings	Resources	Mission & Community Life	Teaching Notes
Who are the saints?	<p>PF 1.5 Angels and saints are in heaven</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Begin to understand how the saints loved Jesus b. Begin to understand how the saints become special friends of Jesus <p><u>Not covered in text:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. <i>Know the saints want to be our friends</i> 	CCC 956,1173, 828		

CHAPTER 13 Disciples Serve

Essential Questions	Standards and Basic Understandings	Resources	Mission & Community Life	Teaching Notes
<p>How does God show He loves us?</p> <p>How do we treat people in God’s family?</p>	<p>ML 1.2 We are made for relationship with God and others</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Begin to understand God sent his son, Jesus, to show us his love and how to live b. Begin to understand how our own behavior affects others in good ways and bad ways 	<p>CCC 299</p> <p>CCC 422-429</p> <p>CCC 1877</p>		

CHAPTER 14 & 15

Making Choices & Showing Sorrow

Essential Questions	Standards and Basic Understandings	Resources	Mission & Community Life	Teaching Notes
<p>How do we live and follow God?</p>	<p>ML 1.3 God gave us the Ten Commandments so we know how to live a good and holy life</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> d. Begin to understand how sin hurts our relationship with God e. Know we need to forgive others and/or ask for forgiveness from God and others f. Begin to recognize God has rules for us to follow called the Ten Commandments g. Know Jesus said the greatest commandments are fulfilled by loving God and neighbor h. Be introduced to the Ten Commandments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 1st Commandment- love God more than anything 2. 2nd Commandment- keep God's name holy 3. 3rd Commandment- keep holy the Sabbath (we go to Church on Saturday evening or Sunday) 4. 4th Commandment- obey parents 5. 5th Commandment- do not hurt others 6. 6th Commandment- be faithful in love and marriage 7. 7th Commandment- do not steal 8. 8th Commandment- do not lie 9. 9th Commandment- think good thoughts, be pure of heart 10. 10th Commandment- do not be jealous of others 	<p>CCC 62, 2056 CCC 1849-1851</p> <p>CCC 2052 Mt 19:16-19 CCC 62, 2056 Table before CCC 2052</p> <p>Mt. 22:36-39</p>		

CHAPTER 16

Jesus the Savior

Essential Questions	Standards and Basic Understandings	Resources	Mission & Community Life	Teaching Notes
Who is Jesus?	<p>PF 1.3 Jesus is the son of God</p> <p>a. Begin to understand that Jesus suffered, died and rose from the dead so that all people could go to heaven</p>	<p>CCC 464-478</p> <p>CCC 612, 629, 638</p>		

CHAPTER 17

Holy Signs

Essential Questions	Standards and Basic Understandings	Resources	Mission & Community Life	Teaching Notes
How does God give us his love through the Church?	<p>S 1.1 The sacraments are signs of God's love for us</p> <p>a. Begin to understand that we receive God's life (grace) in the sacraments</p> <p>b. Be introduced to the seven sacraments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Baptism 2. Penance/Reconciliation 3. Confirmation 4. Eucharist 5. Anointing of the sick 6. Marriage 7. Holy Orders 	<p>CCC 1114-21</p> <p>CCC 1210</p> <p>YOUCAT 172</p> <p>CCC 1213</p>		

CHAPTER 18

We are Welcomed

Essential Questions	Standards and Basic Understandings	Resources	Mission & Community Life	Teaching Notes
<p>Why are we Baptized?</p> <p>What is necessary for Baptism?</p>	<p>S 1.2 We become members of God’s family through Baptism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Begin to understand that through Baptism we receive grace and the forgiveness of original sin b. Begin to understand each Baptized person belongs to God’s family, the Church c. Know that Jesus tells us to baptize with the words: “I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit” d. Know that Baptism is the first sacrament you receive and is required in order to receive the other sacraments e. Be introduced to the symbols of Baptism: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. water 2. holy oils 3. white garment 4. candle f. Recognize godparents play an important role in helping you to know God 	<p>CCC 1271</p> <p>CCC 1213</p> <p>CCC 1265-67 CCC 1279-80</p> <p>CCC 1213</p> <p>CCC 1311</p>		

CHAPTER 19

We Give Thanks

Essential Questions	Standards and Basic Understandings	Resources	Mission & Community Life	Teaching Notes
How does Jesus feed us at Mass?	<p>S 1.3 Jesus feeds His family at Mass through the Eucharist</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Begin to understand that the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ at Mass b. Begin to understand that we receive Jesus in the Eucharist (Holy Communion) 	CCC 1384-1406		
<p>How does Mass help us to become more like Jesus?</p> <p>What are other items we find in the church to help us worship?</p>	<p>S 1.4 At Mass we come to know Jesus</p> <p><u>Covered in back of text more fully</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Begin to know there are two main parts of the Mass: Liturgy of the Word and Liturgy of the Eucharist <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Word of God from the Bible (Liturgy of the Word) 2. Changing the bread and wine into Body and Blood of Jesus (Liturgy of the Eucharist) b. Be introduced to these liturgical items in the church: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Altar 2. Tabernacle (covered in back of book) 3. Sanctuary lamp 4. Crucifix 5. Baptismal font (covered in chapter 18) 6. Holy water font (covered in chapter 18) <p><u>Not covered in text:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>c. Know the church building is the House of God</i> 	<p>CCC 1088</p> <p>CCC 1346</p> <p>CCC 756</p>		

- g. **Chapter 20 – Forever with God** (Living with saints in heaven)
- h. **Chapter 21 – God’s Kingdom** (love and peace)