



DIOCESE OF FARGO

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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

2nd GRADE – Alive in Christ

- Begin 2nd 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 standards in the chapters on the moral life and Reconciliation may also be covered in the specific sacramental preparation books used by your parish

The Church Year – Feasts and Seasons

Essential Questions	Standards and Basic Understandings	Resources	Mission & Community Life	Teaching Notes
How do we celebrate the special events during the liturgical year?	<p>S 2.5 We celebrate the Seasons of the Church</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. Recognize the liturgical colors: Advent (violet/rose), Christmas (white), Ordinary Time (green), Lent (violet/rose), Easter (white), Good Friday, Pentecost and Martyrs (red) c. Know Christmas celebrates the birth of Jesus and Easter celebrates Jesus rising from the dead (resurrection) d. Begin to understand Advent prepares us for Christmas and Lent prepares us for Easter e. Be introduced to the Feast of Pentecost (descent of the Holy Spirit and the Birth of the Church) 	CCC 1163-1171		

CHAPTER 1

God's Gifts

Essential Questions	Standards and Basic Understandings	Resources	Mission & Community Life	Teaching Notes
Who is God?	<p>PF 2.1 God loves us and is Creator of all</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Recognize God created everything out of nothing b. Begin to recognize God is all-loving, all-knowing, all powerful and all present c. Begin to understand we are made in His image and likeness <p><u>Covered some in chapter 9</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> d. <i>Begin to understand God is merciful and gracious</i> <p><u>Not covered in text:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> e. <i>Know God created us with a body and soul</i> f. <i>Recognize God created angels as messengers and helpers</i> g. <i>Know God assigned a guardian angel to each of us</i> 	<p>CCC 221,279, John 3:16 CCC 268-274</p> <p>CCC 210 CCC 365 CCC 362-367</p> <p>CCC 330, 336, YOUCAT 54-55</p>		
Who is Jesus?	<p>PF 2.3 Jesus is the Son of God</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Know that Jesus is both God and man 	CCC 443-444		
Who is Mary?	<p>PF 2.5 Mary is the Mother of God</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Know Mary is the Mother of Jesus b. Understand that Mary is our mother too and she loves us 	CCC 487, 495, 509, 963		

CHAPTERS 2 & 3

God's Promise & The Word of God

Essential Questions	Standards and Basic Understandings	Resources	Mission & Community Life	Teaching Notes
Who is Jesus?	<p>PF 2.3 Jesus is the Son of God</p> <p>a. Know God sent his only Son (Jesus) to earth to save all people from their sin (salvation)</p>	<p>CCC 443-444</p> <p>CCC 802</p>		
How does the Bible help us learn about God's plan for us?	<p>PF 2.6 The Bible tells us the story of God's plan for us</p> <p>a. Begin to understand the story of how sin entered the world: disobedience of our first parents, Adam and Eve</p> <p>b. Begin to understand because of their sin, we are all born in the state of original sin</p> <p>c. Know when we sin, we are disobedient</p> <p>d. Begin to understand the bible tell us the story of God's plan in the Old testament and the New testament</p>	<p>CCC 385-421</p> <p>CCC 430, 458, 615, 1020</p>		

Chapter 4 – God the Father (Trusting in God and prayer to God)

Chapter 5 – God the Son (Jesus has a family and begins his work)

CHAPTER 6

God the Holy Spirit

Essential Questions	Standards and Basic Understandings	Resources	Mission & Community Life	Teaching Notes
Who is God?	<p>PF 2.2 God is the Holy Trinity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Know there is only one God b. Know that we believe in the Holy Trinity: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit Know the Blessed Trinity is in us through Baptism 	<p>CCC 232-237</p> <p>CCC 249-260, 265</p>		
Who is the Holy Spirit?	<p>PF 2.4 The Holy Spirit is our helper</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Know the Holy Spirit helps us love others, make good choices, pray, and comforts us when we are afraid (<i>This is covered more in chapter 8</i>) b. Know we can ask for help and can trust the Holy Spirit will always help us 	<p>CCC 243</p> <p>CCC 2634</p>		

CHAPTER 7

God's Commandments

Essential Questions	Standards and Basic Understandings	Resources	Mission & Community Life	Teaching Notes
<p>Why did God give us the Ten Commandments?</p> <p>How do the commandments help me love God and others?</p>	<p>ML 2.4 God gave us the Ten Commandments so that we know how to live a good and holy life</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Begin to know the Ten Commandments b. Know how to use the Ten Commandments for your examination of conscience c. Recognize the first three commandments are about our relationship with God <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 1st Commandment: love the Lord your God with all your Heart 2. 2nd Commandment- do not take the name of the Lord your God in vain 3. 3rd Commandment- keep holy the Sabbath d. Recognize the last seven commandments are about our relationship with others <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 4th Commandment- honor your father and mother 2. 5th Commandment- do not kill 3. 6th Commandment- do not commit adultery 4. 7th Commandment- do not steal 5. 8th Commandment- do not lie (bear false witness) 6. 9th Commandment- do not covet your neighbor's wife 7. 10th Commandment- do not covet your neighbor's goods 	<p>CCC 62, 2056 Table before CCC 2052</p> <p>Mt. 22:36-39</p> <p>CCC 1454</p> <p>CCC 2067</p> <p>CCC 2083-2557</p>		

CHAPTER 8

Choose to do Good

Essential Questions	Standards and Basic Understandings	Resources	Mission & Community Life	Teaching Notes
<p>How do I make good choices?</p> <p>How do we properly form our conscience?</p>	<p>ML 2.3 God has told us what is right and what is wrong in order to live a moral life</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Begin to understand sin is choosing to do what you know is wrong b. Know the difference between mortal sin and venial sin <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mortal sin is deadly and we break our relationship with God; there are three conditions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) the act is sinful; is grave matter and b) you know it is wrong and c) you freely choose to do it 2. Venial sin weakens our relationship with God c. Know the Holy Spirit helps us avoid temptation and helps us make good choices d. Recognize the difference between accidents and purposeful sin e. Begin to understand that God gave us the ability to think and choose the good through our free will f. Begin to understand the conscience is properly formed by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reading the Word of God 2. Knowing the teaching of the Church 3. Following the positive examples of others 4. Being a good example to others <p>Not covered in text:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> g. <i>Understand sin can be words, deeds, or thoughts</i> 	<p>CCC 1696-1698</p> <p>CCC 1849-1863</p> <p>CCC 1858</p> <p>CCC 397-398 CCC 1742</p> <p>CCC1750</p> <p>YOUCAT 297 CCC 1785</p>		

- **Chapter 9 – God’s Mercy** (Jesus teaches forgiveness)

CHAPTER 10 The Sacraments

Essential Questions	Standards and Basic Understandings	Resources	Mission & Community Life	Teaching Notes
<p>How does God give us his love through the Church?</p>	<p>S 2.1 The sacraments are signs of God’s love for us</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Know the seven sacraments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Baptism 2. Penance/Reconciliation 3. Confirmation 4. Eucharist 5. Anointing of the Sick 6. Marriage 7. Holy Orders b. Begin to understand that sacraments are special signs that Jesus gave his Church c. Understand we receive God’s grace (life) in the sacraments d. Understand through Baptism we join God’s family and receive forgiveness e. Understand we receive God’s forgiveness in the sacrament of Reconciliation f. Begin to understand we receive the Holy Spirit in Baptism and in Confirmation g. Begin to understand we receive Jesus’ Body and Blood in the sacrament of the Eucharist 	<p>CCC 1210</p> <p>CCC 1262-1263</p> <p>CCC 1422</p> <p>CCC 1213, 1285</p> <p>CCC 1384</p>		

CHAPTER 11 Seek Forgiveness

Essential Questions	Standards and Basic Understandings	Resources	Mission & Community Life	Teaching Notes
<p>How is Reconciliation a way to receive God's forgiveness?</p>	<p>S 2.2 Reconciliation repairs our relationship with God and others</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Begin to understand through an examination of conscience we come to know our sins b. Begin to understand contrition means to be sorry for our sins c. Begin to understand God forgives sin through the priest d. Know there are four parts necessary in confession: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contrition 2. Confession 3. Satisfaction (penance) 4. Absolution <p><u>Not covered in text:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> e. <i>Know the grace we receive in this sacrament helps us to form good habits</i> 	<p>CCC 1427-1429 CCC 1451- 1456 CCC1468</p> <p>CCC 1448, 1451-1460, 1491,1494</p>		

CHAPTER 12

The Church Year

Essential Questions	Standards and Basic Understandings	Resources	Mission & Community Life	Teaching Notes
How do we celebrate the special events during the liturgical year?	<p>S 2.5 We celebrate the Seasons of the Church</p> <ol 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. Recognize the liturgical colors: Advent (violet/rose), Christmas (white), Ordinary Time (green), Lent (violet/rose), Easter (white), Good Friday, Pentecost and Martyrs (red) c. Know Christmas celebrates the birth of Jesus and Easter celebrates Jesus rising from the dead (resurrection) d. Begin to understand Advent prepares us for Christmas and Lent prepares us for Easter e. Be introduced to the Feast of Pentecost (descent of the Holy Spirit and the Birth of the Church) 	CCC 1163-1171		

- **Chapter 13 – Welcome in the Kingdom (The Kingdom of God)**

CHAPTER 14

Share the Good News

Essential Questions	Standards and Basic Understandings	Resources	Mission & Community Life	Teaching Notes
Why did God create us?	<p>ML 2.2 We are made for relationship (communion) with God and others</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Understand Jesus is the model for living in relationship with God the Father and others b. Begin to understand God has a plan for our lives c. Begin to understand you can tell others about God’s love for us 	CCC 299 CCC 1693-1694 CCC 50-53 CCC 74		

CHAPTER 15

Ways to Pray

Essential Questions	Standards and Basic Understandings	Resources	Mission & Community Life	Teaching Notes
What is prayer?	<p>P 2.1 Prayer is listening and talking with God</p> <p>a. Begin to understand prayer is our response to God</p> <p><u>Not directly covered in text:</u></p> <p>b. <i>Begin to understand God speaks first to us in prayer (initiates) through the longing in our hearts</i></p> <p>c. <i>Understand God hears all our prayers</i></p> <p>d. <i>Understand God answers our prayers but not always the way we want</i></p>	<p>CCC 2558-2561</p> <p>CCC 2566-2567</p> <p>CCC 2615</p> <p>CCC 2610</p>		
How do we pray?	<p>P2.3 Jesus, through his Church, teaches us to pray in many ways</p> <p>a. Begin to understand we can use special tools or signs (sacramentals) in prayer (rosary, scapular, holy water, etc.)</p> <p>b. Begin to understand the four types for prayer:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To praise God 2. To thank God 3. To say, "I'm Sorry." 4. To ask God for help <p>c. Know the following prayers: (back of book)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sign of Cross 2. Our Father 3. Hail Mary 4. Angel of God 5. Grace before Meals <p><u>Not covered in text</u></p> <p>d. <i>Know how to pray spontaneously with words, music, gesture, reflection, and silence</i></p> <p>e. <i>Understand how to pray with Word of God from Scripture (Meditation)</i></p> <p>f. <i>Understand how to reflect in prayer by listening and thinking about the prayer, song, etc.</i></p>	<p>CCC 2607-2614</p> <p>CCC 1669-1670</p> <p>CCC 2626-2643</p> <p>CCC 2700-2708</p>		

CHAPTER 15 Continued

Essential Questions	Standards and Basic Understandings	Resources	Mission & Community Life	Teaching Notes
Why do we pray?	<p><u>Not covered in text:</u></p> <p>P2.2 God loves us and wants to form a relationship with us</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. <i>Know prayer is essential for growing as a child of God in the family of God</i> b. <i>Know there is a desire in our hearts for God</i> c. <i>Know prayer helps us to know what God wants for us</i> d. <i>Know prayer strengthens us so that we become holy</i> 	<p>CCC 2565</p> <p>CCC 2558</p> <p>CCC 27</p> <p>CCC 2600</p>		

Chapters 16,17,18
Gather to Worship-Listen to God’s Word-Remembering Jesus’ Sacrifice

Essential Questions	Standards and Basic Understandings	Resources	Mission & Community Life	Teaching Notes
What is the Mass?	<p>Not covered directly in text:</p> <p>P2.4 Mass is the highest form of prayer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>a. Know everyone should go to Mass every weekend and participate by praying and singing</i> <i>b. Understand the church building is a special place to pray during the Mass and outside of Mass</i> <i>c. Know Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist and kept in the tabernacle</i> d. Know the selected communal prayers and responses of the Mass: (for example) (*also covered back of book) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Amen 2. Responses to Greeting (“And with your spirit”) 3. Penitential Rite- Confiteor (“I confess to almighty God...) 4. Response to the Readings (“Thanks be to God”) 5. Alleluia 6. Response to the introduction to the Gospel (“Glory to you O Lord”) 7. Response to the Gospel (“Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ”) 8. Response to Intercessions (“Lord hear our prayer”) 9. Holy, Holy, Holy 10. The Great Amen 11. Response to the Sign of Peace (To the priest, “And with your Spirit” and to others, “Peace be with you”) 12. Final Blessing and Dismissal (“Thanks be to God”) 	<p>CCC 2655-2659</p> <p>CCC 1181</p> <p>CCC 1183</p> <p>CCC 1346-1355</p>		

Essential Questions	Standards and Basic Understandings	Resources	Mission & Community Life	Teaching Notes
	a. Know basic gestures: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sign of the Cross 2. Folding hands in prayer 3. Genuflecting 4. Bowing 5. Striking the breast during the Confiteor. 			
How does Jesus feed us at Mass?	S 2.3 Jesus feeds his family at Mass through the Eucharist <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Begin to understand at Mass, the priest has the power to change bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ 	CCC 1384 CCC 1410		
How does Mass help us to know Jesus? What are other items we find in the church to help us worship?	S 2.4 We come to know Jesus through the Mass <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Understand the priest represents Jesus at the Mass and leads the worship b. Know there are two main parts of the Mass: Liturgy of the Word and Liturgy of the Eucharist c. Recognize we begin Mass by asking God to forgive our venial sins (Penitential Rite) d. Know we learn about Jesus in the readings (Liturgy of the Word) e. Begin to understand we receive Jesus in Holy Communion (Liturgy of the Eucharist) f. Begin to understand at the end of Mass we are sent out to share the love of God we received with others (“Go forth the Mass has ended”) g. Know the church building is the House of God <u>Found in the back of book:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> h. Recognize these liturgical items in the church: altar, candles, tabernacle, baptismal font, confessional, crucifix, sanctuary light and holy water font 	CCC 1323 CCC 1142 CCC 1346-1355 CCC 1382,1384 CCC 1408 CCC 1332 CCC 1181		
Who is Jesus?	PF 2.3 Jesus is the son of God <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Know Jesus suffered, died and rose on Easter Sunday (Resurrection) so we could be with him in heaven forever 	CCC 464-478 CCC 639-646		

