



Diocese of Buffalo

Department of Lifelong Faith Formation

A member of the Division for Evangelization and Catechesis

Key Element I: Knowledge of the Faith

What We Believe

“Sacred Scripture has a preeminent position in catechesis because Sacred Scripture “presents God’s own Word in unalterable form” and “makes the voice of the Holy Spirit resound again and again in the words of the prophets and apostles.” The Catechism of the Catholic Church is intended to complement Sacred Scripture. Together with Sacred Tradition, Sacred Scripture constitutes the supreme rule of faith.” (NDC no. 24)

Key Element I: Knowledge of the Faith

Promoting knowledge of the faith

First and foremost every Catholic educational institution is a place to encounter the living God who in Jesus Christ reveals his transforming love and truth (cf. Spe Salvi, no. 4). This relationship elicits a desire to grow in the knowledge and understanding of Christ and his teaching. In this way those who meet him are drawn by the very power of the Gospel to lead a new life characterized by all that is beautiful, good, and true; a life of Christian witness nurtured and strengthened within the community of our Lord's disciples, the Church. (Address of Pope Benedict XVI to Catholic Educators of the United States, Thursday 17 April 2008, The Catholic University of America)

Catechesis must, therefore, lead to "the gradual grasping of the whole truth about the divine plan" by introducing the disciples of Jesus to a knowledge of Tradition and of Scripture, which is "the sublime science of Christ." By deepening knowledge of the faith, catechesis nourishes not only the life of faith but equips it to explain itself to the world. The meaning of the Creed, which is a compendium of Scripture and of the faith of the Church, is the realization of this task. (GDC no. 85)

The initial proclamation of the Gospel introduces the hearers to Christ for the first time and invites conversion to him. By the action of the Holy Spirit, such an encounter engenders in the hearers a desire to know about Christ, his life, and the content of his message. Catechesis responds to this desire by giving the believers a knowledge of the content of God's self-revelation which is found in Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition, and by introducing them to the meaning of the Creed. Creeds and doctrinal formulas that state the Church's belief are expressions of the Church's living tradition, which from the time of the apostles has developed "in the Church with the help of the Holy Spirit." (NDC no. 20.1)

Forming Disciples

Key Element I Knowledge of the Faith Grade 3

	<i>Key Element I: Knowledge of the Faith</i>	<i>Connections</i>	<i>CCC</i>	<i>Compendium</i>	<i>USCCA</i>
	Standard 1				
	CREED: Understand, believe and proclaim the Triune and redeeming God as revealed in creation and human experience, in Apostolic Tradition and Sacred Scripture, and as entrusted to the teaching office of the Church.				
	<u>Indicators</u>				
3.01.01	Identify the Holy Trinity in the Apostles' Creed .	Reading: Using the prayer find the Father, Son and Holy Spirit reference.	176-178	27, see <i>Apostles Creed</i> ,16	46
3.01.02	State understanding of the meaning when we say, "I believe in one God ."	Math: Talk about the multiples of three...refer back to the Trinity.	200-202, 222-227	37, 43	61-63
3.01.03	<i>Demonstrate understanding that God the Father loves us as a good and loving parent.</i>	Look at Commandment Four.	218-221	42	52
3.01.04	Exhibit how God wants our love as a response to his love.		218-221	42	52
3.01.05	Identify Jesus Christ as Savior and Redeemer .	ELA: Define savior and redeemer and write a sentence with those words in it.	1, 1026	1	84-85, 486
3.01.06	Identify that God's Holy Spirit lives in me and inspires me to do what is good.	Talk about the Golden Rule and how God inspires us to make the right choices.	1266	145-146	102
3.01.07	Exhibit understanding that we experience	SS: Why is it hard to say "I'm	1422-1426	296-297, 303	234-237

Forming Disciples

	God's forgiveness when we are sorry for our sins .	sorry”.			
3.01.08	Recognize God as Judge who asks us to account for how well we obey his commands.	Reading: What does it mean to be fair in our world?	675-682	134-135	161
3.01.09	State the meaning of Jesus' Resurrection .	Sci: Discuss the difference between perennial and annual plants.	651-655, 658	131	See <i>Resurrection</i> , 5 25
3.01.10	<i>Exhibit understanding that we are meant for</i> heaven .	Art: Draw a picture of what you think heaven will be like.	1024	209	3-4, 485

Forming Disciples

Key Element I Knowledge of the Faith Grade 3

	<i>Key Element I: Knowledge of the Faith</i>	<i>Connections</i>	<i>CCC</i>	<i>Compendium</i>	<i>USCCA</i>
	Standard 2				
	SCRIPTURE: Read, comprehend and articulate salvation history as conveyed in God's revelation through Sacred Scripture.				
	<u>Indicators</u>				
3.02.01	Identify the Bible as a collection of sacred books that reveals God's Word to us.	ELA: (Copy the table of contents from our Bible) Use it to show the collection of books.	59, 64	18	24
3.02.02	State that the Holy Spirit <u>inspired</u> people to write the Bible.	Has anyone ever inspired you to make or do something? Discuss.	105-108, 1137	18	31-32
3.02.03	Name the Old Testament and New Testament as the two major sections of the Bible.	SS: Show a timeline of OT happenings and NT happenings.	121-127	21-22	24
3.02.04	Identify first book of the Old Testament as the Book of Genesis.	Reading: Read aloud the creation story in Genesis.	120	7-8	See <i>Old Testament</i> , p. 522
3.02.05	State that the Old Testament books tell us about God as Creator and Protector.		337-344	62	12
3.02.06	<i>Compare and contrast the choices of <u>Cain</u> and <u>Abel</u>-the sons of Adam and Eve.(Gn 4)</i>	Art:Read the story of Cain and Abel and illustrate the way each offered God their sacrifice.....choices that	401		

Forming Disciples

		followed.			
3.02.07	<i>Identify the story of Noah and God's promise to Noah. (Gn 6-11)</i>	Sci: Discuss how rainbows appear in the sky.	58, 71	7	14, 18
3.02.08	<i>Identify the Tower of Babel in the Book of Genesis as a story about the beginning of cultures and languages. (Gn 11:1-9)</i>	SS: How do you think we got so many cultures and languages? Discuss.	57		
3.02.09	Identify Abraham as the father of our faith in God. (Gn 12ff)	Art: Show an artist depiction of Abraham.	145-147	26	39

Forming Disciples

Key Element I Knowledge of the Faith Grade 3

	<i>Key Element I: Knowledge of the Faith</i>	<i>Connections</i>	<i>CCC</i>	<i>Compendium</i>	<i>USCCA</i>
3.02.10	State that the New Testament is about the life and teachings of Jesus Christ and the early church.		124-127, 139	22	26
3.02.11	<i>Identify Jesus as teacher and healer in the Gospels.</i>	SS: What are some characteristics of a good leader locally and nationally?	124, 126-127	22	251, 307-309
3.02.12	<i>State meaning of <u>Kingdom of God/Kingdom of Heaven</u> in the Gospels.</i>		541-546, 567, See <i>Kingdom of God(of Heaven)</i> p.885	107-109	See <i>Kingdom of God</i> , 517
3.02.13	Identify the <u>Our Father</u> (the Lord's Prayer) as the prayer of Jesus in the Gospels.	Drama: learn hand gestures for the elements of the Our Father.	2759, See <i>Lord's Prayer</i> , p.886	544, 569	483-484

Forming Disciples



Diocese of Buffalo

Department of Lifelong Faith Formation

A member of the Division for Evangelization and Catechesis

Key Element II: Liturgy and Sacraments

How We Celebrate

“Faith and worship are as closely related to one another as they were in the early Church: faith gathers the community for worship, and worship renews the faith of the community... In her Liturgy, the Church celebrates what she professes and lives above all the Paschal Mystery, by which Christ accomplished the work of our salvation.” (NDC no. 32)

Key Element II: Liturgy and Sacraments

Promoting knowledge of the meaning of the Liturgy and Sacraments

In the Church's Liturgy, in her prayer, in the living community of believers, we experience the love of God, we perceive his presence and we thus learn to recognize that presence in our daily lives. He has loved us first and he continues to do so; we too, then, can respond with love. God does not demand of us a feeling which we ourselves are incapable of producing. He loves us, he makes us see and experience his love, and since he has "loved us first", love can also blossom as a response within us. (Pope Benedict XVI, Deus Caritas Est, no. 17)

Since Christ is present in the sacraments, the believer comes to know Christ in the liturgical celebrations of the Church and is drawn into communion with him. Christ's saving action in the Paschal Mystery is celebrated in the sacraments, especially the Eucharist, where the closest communion with Jesus on earth is possible as Catholics are able to receive his living Flesh and his Precious Blood in Holy Communion. Catechesis should promote "an active, conscious genuine participation in the liturgy of the Church, not merely by explaining the meaning of the ceremonies, but also by forming the minds of the faithful for prayer, for thanksgiving, for repentance, for praying with confidence, for a community spirit, and for understanding correctly the meaning of the creeds." (NDC no. 2)

Christ is always present in his Church, especially in 'liturgical celebrations'. Communion with Jesus Christ leads to the celebration of his salvific presence in the sacraments, especially in the Eucharist. The Church ardently desires that all the Christian faithful be brought to that full, conscious and active participation which is required by the very nature of the liturgy. (GDC no. 85)

Forming Disciples

Key Element II Liturgy and Sacraments Grade 3

	<i>Key Element II: Liturgy and Sacraments</i>	<i>Connections</i>	<i>CCC</i>	<i>Compendium</i>	<i>USCCA</i>
	Standard 3				
	SACRAMENTS: Understand and participate in the sacraments of the Church as effective signs of God's grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church.				
	<u>Indicators</u>				
3.03.01	Describe the sacraments as gifts Jesus gave us to meet him and to grow in our love and likeness of him.	Discuss the connectedness of the Sacraments third graders have received... grace and gift.	1113-1131	224	168-170
3.03.02	<i>Describe how Sacraments of Initiation help Christians to live a life centered on Jesus.</i>	Poster: use poster to reinforce the categories of the Sacraments.	1212, 1275	251	183-187, 190-191
3.03.03	<i>Identify the Sacrament of the Eucharist as the means Christ has chosen to remain in our midst physically.</i>	Discuss how the Eucharist is truly Jesus.	1390-1392	280	223-224
3.03.04	Describe examples of <u>adoration</u> of Jesus in the <u>Blessed Sacrament</u> outside of Mass.	Field Trip: go to Prayer Garden for silent reflection and then to the Church for quiet time with Jesus.	1378-1381, 1418	286	224-227
3.03.05	Identify and describe the <u>Sacraments of Healing</u> as <u>Penance/Reconciliation</u> and <u>Anointing of the Sick</u>.	Use Poster for teaching.	1491-1495, 1527-1531	295, 302, 318	237-241, 253-258

Forming Disciples

3.03.06	Identify and describe the Sacraments at the Service of Communion as Holy Orders and Matrimony .	Use poster for teaching.	1533-1536, 1659-1660	321, 322, 338	262-274, 279-285, 290
3.03.07	Define sacramental and give examples such as <i>rosaries, crucifixes, medals of saints</i> .	Bring in some examples of sacramentals.	1667, 1674	351, 353	295-302

Forming Disciples

Key Element II Liturgy and Sacraments Grade 3

	<i>Key Element II: Liturgy and Sacraments</i>	<i>Connections</i>	<i>CCC</i>	<i>Compendium</i>	<i>USCCA</i>
	<i>Standard 4</i>				
	LITURGY: Understand and celebrate the liturgical rites of the Church as expressed in the Church Year and epitomized in the Eucharist as the source and summit of Christian life.				
	<u>Indicators</u>				
3.04.01	Define <u>liturgy</u> as the celebration of the work of Christ to accomplish our salvation through his life, death, and resurrection so that the assembly gives praise and thanks to God the Father in Jesus and through the Holy Spirit.	Write Prayers of the Faithful to begin to learn what liturgy is.	1066-1070	218	170-172
3.04.02	Identify symbols of the Eucharist as the consecrated bread and wine.	What is carried up in the Presentation of the Gifts?	1373-1375, 1413	282	177-178, 216-217
3.04.03	<i>Describe the roles of the priest, <u>deacon, lector, ministers of Holy Communion</u> and <u>acolytes</u> at Mass.</i>	Who do you see helping out with Mass other than the priest?			266-267, 273
3.04.04	Explain the major seasons of the liturgical (church) year: <u>Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Ordinary Time, Triduum (3 days in honor of the Paschal Mystery).</u>	Draw a Church year Circle and color in the seasonal colors; discuss what we celebrate in each.	1163-1168, 1173	241	173

Forming Disciples

3.04.05	<i>Identify and describe the major parts of the Mass: Introductory Rites, Liturgy of the Word, Liturgy of the Eucharist, and Closing Rite.</i>	Field Trip: Go over to church and sketch the podium (Word) and the altar (Table for Meal). Then discuss parts of the Mass.	1348-1355	277	218-220
3.04.06	<i>Identify major tenets of faith found in the Creed.</i>	Art: Make a collage of the main tenets in the Creed.	See <i>The Credo</i> , p. 49	See the <i>Apostles Creed</i> , p.16	504, 532



Diocese of Buffalo
Department of Lifelong Faith Formation
A member of the Division for Evangelization and Catechesis

Key Element III:
Morality
How We Live

“Christ is the norm of morality. ‘ Christian morality consists in following Jesus Christ, in abandoning oneself to him, in letting oneself be transformed by his grace and renewed by his mercy, gifts which come to us in the living communion of his Church.’ (NDC no. 42)

Key Element III: Morality

Promoting moral formation in Jesus Christ

Only if we live in the right way, with one another and for one another, can freedom develop...If we live in opposition to the love and against the truth – in opposition to God – then we destroy one another and destroy the world. (Pope Benedict XVI, homily, December 8, 2005, marking the 40th Anniversary of the closure of the Second Vatican Council)

Jesus' moral teaching is an integral part of his message. Catechesis must transmit both the content of Christ's moral teachings as well as their implications for Christian living. Moral Catechesis aims to conform the believer to Christ – to bring about personal transformation and conversion. It should encourage the faithful to give witness – both in their private lives and in the public arena – to Christ's teaching in everyday life. Such testimony demonstrates the social consequences of the demands of the Gospel. (NDC no. 3)

Conversion to Jesus Christ implies walking in his footsteps. Catechesis must, therefore, transmit to the disciples the attitudes of the Master himself. The disciples thus undertake a journey of interior transformation, in which, by participating in the paschal mystery of the Lord, "they pass from the old man to the new man who has been made perfect in Christ." (GDC no. 85)

Truly, matters in the world are in a bad state: but if you and I begin in earnest to reform ourselves, a really good beginning will have been made. (St. Peter of Alcantara)

Turn now to consider how these words of our Lord imply a test for yourselves also. Ask yourself whether you belong to his flock, whether you know him, whether the light of his truth shines in your minds. I assure you that it is not by faith that you will come to know him, but by love; not by mere conviction, but by action. (Pope St. Gregory the Great)

Forming Disciples

Key Element III Morality Grade 3

	<i>Key Element III: Morality</i>	<i>Connections</i>	<i>CCC</i>	<i>Compendium</i>	<i>USCCA</i>
	Standard 5				
	Conscience: Develop a moral conscience informed by church teachings.				
	<u>Indicators</u>				
3.05.01	Define <u>Morality</u> as referring to the goodness or evil of human acts.	Computer: Do a word web on conscience.	407-409, 1732, 1749- 1750; cf. 407	367	See <i>Morality</i> , 520
3.05.02	<i>Define <u>obedience</u> and state its relationship to the <u>Ten Commandments</u>.</i>	ELA: Write some personal goals for the school year.	2064-2068	438	See <i>Obedience of Faith</i> , 521
3.05.03	<i>Explain obedience as an act of love.</i>	How is obeying our parents/teachers like an act of Love?	2214-2216	459	377-378
3.05.04	Explain that Jesus sums up the commandments for us in his <u>law of love</u>.	ELA: Create an acrostic poem about LOVE.	2055	435	3078-309
	Standard 6				
	Christian Living: Understand and live the moral teachings of the Church through a life of discipleship in Jesus Christ expressed in love for God, conversion, positive self-image, personal integrity, social justice, the dignity of the human person and love of neighbor.				
	<u>Indicators</u>				

Forming Disciples

3.06.01	Exhibit understanding that God created us as naturally good and destined for union with him.	ELA: Does everyone have some goodness in them? Write what you think.	356	66	3-8
3.06.02	<i>Give examples of the ways in which we might use our free will to love, honor, and obey God freely or choose not to follow God (sin).</i>	Drama: Create skits about good choices.	1730-1733	363	310-311

Forming Disciples

Key Element III Morality Grade 3

	<i>Key Element III: Morality</i>	<i>Connections</i>	<i>CCC</i>	<i>Compendium</i>	<i>USCCA</i>
3.06.03	Illustrate that loving our neighbor as ourselves also includes speaking up for ourselves or others when we are being harmed (for example by disrespectful touching) and seeking help from parents or other adults when we need help.	SS: Discuss why we should never be afraid to tell an adult if someone is hurting us in any way.	1879, 2265	401, 467, 474	419-425
3.06.04	Demonstrate understanding that the Two Great Commandments encompass the IDecalogue.	Love God and love others sum up the Commandments.	2055-2057	435-436	308-309
3.06.05	<i>Explain how one would imitate Jesus' example of how to love.</i>		1717	360-362	451-452
3.06.06	Compare and contrast responsible and irresponsible stewardship of God's creation.	Drama: Create skits about the right and wrong way to stewardship.	2415-2418	503	449-456
3.06.07	State the meaning of justice.	ELA: Find other words for Justice.	1807, 1836	381	See <i>Justice</i> , 517
3.06.08	Define what virtues are and how virtues are acquired.	SS: Who teaches us our values and how to live a good life?	1803, 1833	377	315-317
3.06.09	<i>Give examples of virtues in relationship to the Christian life.</i>	Reading: Read a couple fables from Aesop's Fables and discuss the lessons.	1804, 1810-1834, 1839	378	323-325
3.06.10	<i>State how we live virtue in family life.</i>	ELA: Write a diary piece...on Saturday, how did you live a virtue in your family?	2223-2228	459-460	284
3.06.11	<i>Acknowledge and affirm the dignity of the human person and community.</i>	Use "Star of the Week" to highlight each child's	1699-1715	358	325-327

Forming Disciples

		uniqueness.			
3.06.12	<i>Participate in activities that show we care about people, especially those who are unable to help themselves, as a means of recognizing their human dignity.</i>	Discuss our many service projects and the difference they make.	1738, 1877-1889	401-404	330-337
3.06.13	State that <u>Catholic Social Teaching</u> gives us basic ideas or principles that help us know how to live and treat each other and all creation in our personal lives and in the groups to which we belong.	Computer: Web map CST examples.	2419-2425, 2458-2459	511	420-425
3.06.14	Explain that whatever we do for people in need, we do for Jesus.	Art: Make a banner with the quote, “Whatever you do for the least of my people, you do for Me.”	354-361	66-68	325-327
3.06.15	<i>Understand that we share in Jesus' mission to bring a message of love, justice, and hope to the poor and victims of injustice.</i>		1878, 1897	401	325-333



Diocese of Buffalo

Department of Lifelong Faith Formation

A member of the Division for Evangelization and Catechesis

Key Element IV: *Prayer*

How We Pray

“God tirelessly calls each person to that mysterious encounter known as prayer” (CCC no. 1075). His initiative comes first; the human response to his initiative is itself prompted by the grace of the Holy Spirit... In prayer, the Holy Spirit not only reveals the identity of the Triune God to human persons but also reveals the identity of human persons to themselves. (NDC no. 34)

Key Element IV: Prayer

Teaching the disciple how to pray with Christ

The issue is the primacy of God... If a man's heart is not good, then nothing else can turn out good either. (Pope Benedict XVI, Jesus of Nazareth, New York: Doubleday, 2007, 33-34)

Catechesis teaches the Christian how to pray with Christ. Conversion to Christ and communion with him lead the faithful to adopt his disposition of prayer and reflection. (NDC no. 20:4)

Communion with Jesus Christ leads the disciples to assume the attitude of prayer and contemplation which the Master himself had. To learn to pray with Jesus is to pray with the same sentiments with which he turned to the Father: adoration, praise, thanksgiving, filial confidence, supplication and awe for his glory. (GDC no. 85)

Forming Disciples

Key Element IV Prayer Grade 3

	<i>Key Element IV: Prayer</i>	<i>Connections</i>	<i>CCC</i>	<i>Compendium</i>	<i>USCCA</i>
	<i>Standard 7</i>				
	PRAYER: Know and participate in the Catholic tradition of prayer and acknowledge prayer as the primary way we deepen our knowledge of God in the community.				
	<u>Indicators</u>				
3.07.01	Observe that God hears and answers our prayers.	Art: Draw a door with a person knocking and discuss how that is like prayer.	2615-2616	545	469, 575
3.07.02	Explain that listening to God's word in Scripture is a privileged way God speaks to us today.	Reading: Listen to the Word of God at Mass and see what word is for you.	2652-2662	558	464, 469
3.07.03	<i>Show the difference between spontaneous prayer and liturgical prayer.</i>		1066-1075, 2629-2633,	218-219, 553- 554	477
3.07.04	Explain the Apostles' Creed as a prayer.	ELA: Make a list of the things we believe in the Apostles Creed.	2558	534	298
3.07.05	<i>Describe prayer as talking to and listening to God.</i>	SS: Developing friendships....we have to listen to them and share with them.	2558-2565, 2590	534	467
3.07.06	Identify prayer as blessing, adoration, contrition, petition, intercession, thanksgiving and praise.	ELA: Write an example of each of these kinds of prayer.	2626-2649	550-556	467-468

Forming Disciples

3.07.07	<i>Write a prayer for the faithful departed.</i>	Discuss why we pray for those who have died.	958, 1032, 1479	See <i>Eternal Rest</i> , p. 181	161, See <i>Prayer for Souls in Purgatory</i> , 537
3.07.08	Differentiate between private and public prayer.	ELA: Using a T Chart to compare and contrast examples of prayer. List them under the categories of private or public or those that can be both.	1066-1070, 2705-2719	218, 570-571	37, 493-301
3.07.09	<i>Discuss various ways that families and people can pray together.</i>	Show examples of ways families can pray together.	2697-2699	567-568	472



Diocese of Buffalo

Department of Lifelong Faith Formation

A member of the Division for Evangelization and Catechesis

*Key Element V:
Education for Living in the
Christian Community*

How We Live in the Community, the Church

“We were created as social beings who find fulfillment only in love – for God and for our neighbor. If we are truly to gaze upon him who is the source of our joy, we need to do so as members of the people of God (cf. Spe Salvi no. 14). If this seems counter-cultural, that is simply further evidence of the urgent need for a renewed evangelization of culture.” (Benedict XVI – 16 April 2008 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception)”

Key Element V: Education for Living in the Christian Community

Preparing Christians to live in community and to participate actively in the life and mission of the Church

*Nor has the Lord been absent from subsequent Church history: he encounters us ever anew, in the men and women who reflect his presence, in his word, in the sacraments, and especially in the Eucharist. In the Church's Liturgy, in her prayer, in the living community of believers, we experience the love of God, we perceive his presence and we thus learn to recognize that presence in our daily lives. He has loved us first and he continues to do so; we too, then, can respond with love. God does not demand of us a feeling which we ourselves are incapable of producing. He loves us, he makes us see and experience his love, and since he has "loved us first" love can also blossom as a response within us. (Pope Benedict XVI, *Deus Caritas Est*, no. 17)*

Catechesis prepares the Christian to live in community and to participate actively in the life and mission of the Church. (NDC, no. 5)

Christian community life is not realized spontaneously. It is necessary to educate it carefully. In this apprenticeship, the teaching of Christ on community life, recounted in the Gospel of St Matthew, calls for attitudes which it is for catechesis to inculcate: the spirit of simplicity and humility ("unless you turn and become like little children..." Mt 18:3); solicitude for the least among the brethren ("but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin..." Mt 18:6); particular care for those who are alienated ("Go and search of the one that went astray..." Mt 18:12); fraternal correction ("Go and tell him his fault..." Mt 18:15); common prayer ("if two of you agree on earth to ask about anything..." Mt 18:19); mutual forgiveness ("but seventy times seven..." Mt 18:22). Fraternal love embraces all these attitudes ("love one another; even as I have loved you..." Jn 13:34). (GDC, no. 86A)

In developing this community sense, catechesis takes special note of the ecumenical dimension and encourages fraternal attitudes toward members of other Christian churches and ecclesial communities. Thus catechesis in pursuing this objective should give a clear exposition of all the Church's doctrine and avoid formulations or expressions that might give rise to error. It also implies "a suitable knowledge of other confessions", with which there are shared elements of faith: "the written word of God, the life of grace, faith, hope and charity, and the other interior gifts of the Holy Spirit". Catechesis will possess an ecumenical dimension in the measure in which it arouses and nourishes "a true desire for unity", not easy irenicism, but perfect unity, when the Lord himself wills it and by those means by which he wishes that it should be brought about. (GDC, no. 86B)

Forming Disciples

Key Element V Education for Living in the Christian Community Grade 3

	<i>Key Element V: Education for Living in the Christian Community</i>	<i>Connections</i>	<i>CCC</i>	<i>Compendium</i>	<i>USCCA</i>
	Standard 8				
	CATHOLIC CHURCH: Understand and appreciate the mystery of the Church, the Body of Christ, the community of believers, as expressed in the Church's origin, mission of evangelization, hierarchical structure, marks, charisms, members and the communion of saints.				
	<u>Indicators</u>				
3.08.01	Identify members of the Catholic Church as <u>Christians</u> .	What word do you see in the word Christian?	787-791, 805-806	156	129-131
3.08.02	Identify that our church community includes the <u>Pope, bishops, clergy, religious and lay people</u> .	Computer: Find pictures of our church leaders....Pope, Bishops, Priests, Religious and Lay...make a collage and label.	871-945	177-193	115-123, 126-139
3.08.03	State that Jesus Christ established the Church and is its head and that we are the <u>Body of Christ</u> .	Gym: Discuss what the job of a captain of a team is. Relate to Jesus and we the Body.	787-791, 805-806	156	122
3.08.04	Identify the apostles of Jesus as the ones who led the early church communities.	Research the names of the 12 apostles.	857-865, 869	174-176	23-31
3.08.05	Identify that Jesus chose Peter as the leader of his Apostles to lead, teach and guide the Church and spread the <u>Gospel</u> .	Sci: What is a solid rock verses a limestone or soap stone.	551-553, 567	109	132-133

Forming Disciples

3.08.06	<i>State meaning of <u>Communion of Saints</u>.</i>		946-962	194-195	46, 160-161
3.08.07	Name the <u>Pope</u> as the <u>visible head</u> of the Church on earth and the successor of Peter.	SS: Create a family tree. Then create a leadership tree of the Catholic church.	880-882, 936-937	182	See <i>Pope</i> , 523
3.08.08	Identify the <u>bishops</u> as successors to the Apostles.	Same.	857, 869	174	265-266
3.08.09	<i>Identify the birthday of the church as the feast of <u>Pentecost</u>.</i>	Reading: Read the story of what happened on Pentecost in the Act of the Apostles.	758-766, 778	149	112-113, 115

Forming Disciples

Key Element V Education for Living in the Christian Community Grade 3

	<i>Key Element V: Education for Living in the Christian Community</i>	<i>Connections</i>	<i>CCC</i>	<i>Compendium</i>	<i>USCCA</i>
3.08.10	<i>Explain that the Church continues the work of Christ on earth with the help of the Holy Spirit.</i>		852-856	173	114-116
3.08.11	<i>Demonstrate how the church continues Jesus' ministries of community, work, worship, and service.</i>	Discuss the significance of the Mitten Tree project during Advent.	897-913, 940-943	188-191	134-135
3.08.12	Discuss the responsibility of Catholics to financially support church ministries.	What is the purpose of the collection basket used on Sundays?	2042-2043	432	335
3.08.13	Recognize the faith community as a way of coming to know God.	Music: Discuss how song lyrics follow the themes of what we celebrate.	2030-2040, 2047, 2049-2051	429-430	112-121
	Standard 9				
	ECUMENISM: Understand and participate in the call of the Church to be a sign of unity in the world through knowledge of and collaboration with other Catholic (Eastern), Orthodox, and Christian churches.				
	<u>Indicators</u>				
3.09.01	<i>Name some other Christian communities or denominations (for example: Baptist, Methodist, Episcopalian) that are in your neighborhood or near your parish church or school.</i>	SS: Talk about church signs you see in your neighborhoods that are not Catholic, but, places of	816-822, 866, 870	163-164	127-129

Forming Disciples

		worship.			
3.09.02	Show awareness that we respect all faiths because God loves all people.		830-831, 868	166	129-131
3.09.03	Know when in the year Christians share prayer for unity (Week of Prayer for Christian Unity - January 18-25 every year).	Mark this week in ones planner so it will be a reminder.			

Forming Disciples

Key Element V Education for Living in the Christian Community Grade 3

	<i>Key Element V: Education for Living in the Christian Community</i>	<i>Connections</i>	<i>CCC</i>	<i>Compendium</i>	<i>USCCA</i>
3.09.04	State that our respect for other Christians and faiths does not mean we deny that the fullness of the faith Christ taught is found in the Catholic Church.	Discuss what makes the Catholic Church special....founded by Jesus.	816-822, 866. 870	162-164	127-129
3.09.05	<i>State that the Catholic Church works for the unity of all people to live in peace and justice.</i>		1928-1948	411-414	128
	Standard 10	-			
	CATHOLIC PRINCIPLES AND RELATIONSHIPS: Apply Catholic principles to interpersonal relations.				
	<u>Indicators</u>				
3.10.01	Realize that modesty shows respect for our own bodies and the bodies of others.	Health: How can we take care of our bodies?	2521-2527, 2533	530	441-446
3.10.02	Recognize that all life is a gift of God which must be respected.	Sci: Create a collage of pictures showing respect for different forms of life.	2258-2262, 2318-2320	466	389-401
3.10.03	<i>Recognize Jesus as the model of a how to treat others.</i>	Introduce WWJD.	561-562	101	79-87
3.10.04	<i>Understand that through the parables, Jesus taught us to love ourselves and one another.</i>	Reading: Read a couple parables.....The Lost Son, The Good Samaritan.	546	107	79-80
3.10.05	Memorize "love your neighbor as yourself and love God with all of your mind, heart,	Art: Make a banner using this quote.	1971-1974	420	309

Forming Disciples

	and strength" (law of love).				
3.10.06	Compare the law of love to the Ten Commandments.	Review the 10 Commandments....love God, love others.	2052-2074	434-441	309, 325
3.10.07	<i>Use the law of love to judge the decisions of people in the Bible stories, films, TV programs, stories, and songs.</i>	Health: Pick a tv program, movie or song and share what values are reflected in this form of medium.	1971-1974	420	309
3.10.08	<i>Judge their own actions toward others as following or not following the law of love.</i>		1971-1974	420	309

Forming Disciples

Key Element V Education for Living in the Christian Community Grade 3

	<i>Key Element V: Education for Living in the Christian Community</i>	<i>Connections</i>	<i>CCC</i>	<i>Compendium</i>	<i>USCCA</i>
	<i>Standard 11</i>				
	VOCATION: Understand and undertake discipleship in Christ responding in faith by participating in the mission of the Church through living a specific call in the life of the Church.				
	<u>Indicators</u>				
3.11.01	Show understanding that Jesus called people to be his disciples.	SS: Discuss how the pioneers and colonists learned certain skills from master-mentors.	561-562, 618, 1816	80, 123, 172, 532	195-197, 451-452
3.11.02	<i>Exhibit understanding that student desires to follow Jesus.</i>		1814-1816, 1842	386	450-455
3.11.03	Describe vocation as a calling to serve others and examine a variety of Christian vocations as a response to the baptismal call.	SS: In our parish, what are some of the roles people have to make it all run smoothly.	3, 863-864, 897-900, 914-916	1, 188, 192	134-135, 267, 279, 452
3.11.04	List marriage, priesthood, religious life, and single life as special vocations in the Church.	Art: Create a poster of each of these lifestyle vocations.	914-916, 1536-1546, 1601-1605	192-193, 322-324, 7-338	134-135, 279-285, 265-271
3.11.05	Understand that Holy Orders is a sacrament of special service and commitment to the Church.	Guest Speaker: Create questions for an interview with the pastor.	1546-1553	322-336	265-271
3.11.06	Show understanding that parents have a vocation to serve God and the Church by	Discuss what makes a good parent.	2221-2231, 2252-2253	460-462	283-285, 375-379

Forming Disciples

	helping their children to grow close to God.				
3.11.07	Articulate that all people are called to holiness by living their lives close to God.		2012-2016, 2028-2029	428	113, 138-139, 195-197
3.11.08	<i>Examine a variety of Christian vocations as a response to the baptismal call.</i>		897-900, 940	188	329, 452



Diocese of Buffalo

Department of Lifelong Faith Formation

A member of the Division for Evangelization and Catechesis

Key Element VI: Evangelization and Apostolic Life

*How we, as Individuals and Community, Live
in Service to the World*

*“Only if we are aware of our calling, as individuals and as a community, to be part of God’s family as his sons and daughters, will we be able to generate a new vision and muster new energy in the service of a truly integral humanism. The greatest service to development, then, is a Christian humanism that enkindles charity and takes its lead from truth, accepting both as a lasting gift from God.”
(Benedict XVI, Caritas in Veritate, no. 78)*

Key Element VI: Evangelization and Apostolic Life

Promoting a missionary spirit and vocation that prepares disciples to be present as Christians in society

"[S]alvation has always been considered a "social" reality. Indeed, the Letter to the Hebrews speaks of a "city" (cf. 11:10, 16; 12:22; 13:14) and therefore of communal salvation. Consistently with this view, sin is understood by the Fathers as the destruction of the unity of the human race, as fragmentation and division. Babel, the place where languages were confused, the place of separation, is seen to be an expression of what sin fundamentally is. Hence "redemption" appears as the reestablishment of unity, in which we come together once more in a union that begins to take shape in the world community of believers. (Pope Benedict XVI, Spe Salvi no.14)

Evangelization means bringing the Good News of Jesus into human situations and seeking to transform individuals and society by the divine power of the Gospel itself (Go and Make Disciples no.15). When Baptized, you have received the Spirit of Christ Jesus, which brings salvation and hope; your lives are a witness of faith. As sharers through Baptism in the priestly mission of Jesus, we are called to live our faith fully, share our faith freely and transform the world through the power of the Gospel. We have a story of faith to share.

Catechesis promotes a missionary spirit that prepares the faithful to be present as Christians in society. The 'world' thus becomes the place and the means for the lay faithful to fulfill their Christian vocation. Catechesis seeks to help the disciples of Christ to be present in society precisely as believing Christians who are able and willing to bear witness to their faith in words and deeds. In fostering this spirit of evangelization, catechesis nourishes the evangelical attitudes of Jesus Christ in the faithful: to be poor in spirit, to be compassionate, to be meek, to bear the cry of injustice, to be merciful, to be pure of heart, to make peace, and to accept rejection and persecution. Catechesis recognizes that other religious traditions reflect the "seeds of the Word" that can constitute a true "preparation for the Gospel." It encourages adherents of the world's religions to share what they hold in common, never minimizing the real differences between and among them. "Dialogue is not in opposition to the mission ad gentes." (NDC no. 20:6)

Forming Disciples

Catechesis is also open to the missionary dimension. This seeks to equip the disciples of Jesus to be present as Christians in society through their professional, cultural and social lives. It also prepares them to lend their cooperation to the different ecclesial services, according to their proper vocation. (GDC no. 86A)

In educating for this missionary sense, catechesis is also necessary for interreligious dialogue, if it renders the faithful capable of meaningful communication with men and women of other religions. Catechesis shows that the link between the Church and non-Christian religions is, in the first place, the common origin and end of the human race, as well as the "many seeds of the word which God has sown in these religions". Catechesis too helps to reconcile and, at the same time, to distinguish between "the proclamation of Christ" and "inter-religious dialogue". These two elements, while closely connected, must not be confused or identified. Indeed, "dialogue does not dispense from evangelization." (GDC no. 86B)

Forming Disciples

Key Element VI Evangelization and Apostolic Life Grade 3

	<i>Key Element VI: Evangelization and Apostolic Life</i>	<i>Connections</i>	<i>CCC</i>	<i>Compendium</i>	<i>USCCA</i>
	Standard 12				
	CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING: Know, critique, and apply social justice and stewardship principles to societal situations in a way that acknowledges and affirms the dignity of the human person and community.				
	<u>Indicators</u>				
3.12.01	Explain how we show acts of love and kindness to others and to all God's creation.	ELA: Write an acrostic poem about kindness.	783-786	155	419-425
3.12.02	<i>Understand that God wants us to resist envy and greed</i>	Reading: Read the story of Cain and Abel in Genesis and discuss jealousy and greed.	2534-2540, 2551-2554	531	453-455
3.12.03	State that the Beatitudes show us how to trust God, to forgive, and to have mercy for others.	Drama: Create skits in small groups about the Beatitude themes.	1716-1717	360	308-309
3.12.04	State that we show our love for God when we help those in need.	Learn the song: “The Cry of the Poor”.	2443-2449, 2462-2463	520	419-425
3.12.05	Understand that caring for others means considering their needs.		2214-2231, 2251	459-460	376-380
3.12.06	<i>Realize that the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy are ways of showing our love for Jesus who cares for the poor.</i>	Discuss which works of Mercy third graders can do.	2443-2449, 2462-2463, See <i>Works of Mercy</i> , p. 904	520	See <i>Corporal Works of Mercy</i> , 508, See <i>Spiritual Works of</i>

Forming Disciples

					<i>Mercy, 529</i>
--	--	--	--	--	-------------------

Forming Disciples

Key Element VI Evangelization and Apostolic Life Grade 3

	<i>Key Element VI: Evangelization and Apostolic Life</i>	<i>Connections</i>	<i>CCC</i>	<i>Compendium</i>	<i>USCCA</i>
	Standard 13				
	INTER-RELIGIOUS DIALOGUE: Understand and participate in the call of the Church to be a sign of unity in the world through knowledge of and collaboration with Jews, Muslims, and all faith traditions.				
	<u>Indicators</u>				
3.13.01	Identify Judaism as Jesus' faith.	SS: Using a map show students where the Religion of Judaism began.	839-840	169	79-80, 98
3.13.02	Understand that we respect people of all faiths because God loves all people.	ELA: Write a little paragraph about “different” being ok.	841-845	170	129-131
3.13.03	<i>State that the Catholic Church works for the unity of all people to live in peace and justice.</i>		2302-2317, 2327-2330	480-486	332-333, 449-455
3.13.04	Recall that Catholics are called to protect and promote the freedom of all people to practice their faith.	SS: Discuss our right to freedom of Religion.	1738, 1747	365	310-311
	Standard 14				
	MISSIONARY VOCATION: Demonstrate an appreciation for Catholic missionary and evangelization efforts through our parish community, its culture, worship, sacramental life,				

Forming Disciples

	and service.				
	<u>Indicators</u>				
3.14.01	<i>Illustrate how you would share the story of your faith with others who may ask you about it.</i>	ELA: List some things you believe.	846-856	172-173	135-137

Forming Disciples

Key Element VI Evangelization and Apostolic Life Grade 3

	<i>Key Element VI: Evangelization and Apostolic Life</i>	<i>Connections</i>	<i>CCC</i>	<i>Compendium</i>	<i>USCCA</i>
3.14.02	Report the meaning of the word evangelization: to proclaim Christ and his Gospel by word and the testimony of life, in fulfillment of his command to go make disciples.		425-429, 849-856, 904-913	80, 172-173, 189-191	134-137, 502, See <i>Evangelization</i> , 512
3.14.03	Recognize that Jesus gave us the Catholic Church to live in a community of believers with him.	SS: Discuss how the church is like a family.	758-769, 778	149-150	114
3.14.04	Identify what Jesus asked His disciples to do for others.		1716-1729	359-362	307-309
3.14.05	<i>Give examples of the missionary work and zeal of St. Peter and St. Paul. (Acts of the Apostles)</i>	Reading: Read a Saint story about Peter and Paul.			
3.14.06	Realize that every Catholic is called to have a missionary spirit by engaging in age appropriate service and works of mercy (for example: fundraisers for missionary groups such as The Holy Childhood Association, Catholic Relief Services, etc.)	Name the service projects we accomplish at our school.	783-786	155	134-135, 452
3.14.07	<i>Identify missionary orders (e.g., Medical Missionaries, Priests and Sisters of the African Missions, The White Fathers, etc.).</i>	Guest Speaker: Invite a missionary in to talk about their experiences.			
3.14.08	Understand that we need to bear witness to our Catholic faith in our community and society.		783-786	155	136
3.14.09	<i>State names of our president and world leaders and pray that they are inspired by God to make wise decisions in favor of justice, peace, and equality.</i>	Create a prayer for our world leaders.			

Forming Disciples

