



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 4

	<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>				
4.01.01	Name God as <u>Trinity</u>: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.	SS: Discuss the roles of a mom or dad in a family.....He is dad, husband, job title.....three roles but the same person.	176-178	27	51-53, 62
4.01.02	<i>State that although God is named Father, Son and Holy Spirit, God is neither male nor female.</i>		239, 370		52
4.01.03	<i>Distinguish the roles of the <u>Holy Trinity</u>: the Father as Creator, the Son as Redeemer and the Holy Spirit as Sanctifier.</i>	Music: Make up a song about the Holy Trinity and the roles of each person. Use a familiar melody.	150-152		
4.01.04	Identify Christian faith as <u>Trinitarian</u>.		234, 249		37
4.01.05	State the meaning and sources of <u>revelation</u>: <u>Apostolic Tradition</u> and <u>Sacred Scripture</u>, as entrusted to the teaching office of the Church.	Art: Draw two pillars and label Scripture and Tradition. Then put revelation as a stone across the top of the pillars. Our	85, 90, 95, 100	15-17	23-26

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		faith is supported by both.			
4.01.06	Articulate that God is faithful to his promises.	Think of a promise God made in the OT. OR – 10 Commandments – be faithful.	210, 212	40	
4.01.07	<i>Explain that God is described by many names.</i>	Computer: Research some of the names used for God.	206-213	40	
4.01.08	Describe Holy Spirit as proceeding from both the Father and Son as perfect love and <u>wisdom</u>.		264, 295		
4.01.09	<i>Describe God as loving and forgiving.</i>	Drama: Make up a skit about friends forgiving each other for something.	268, 270	50	

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Key Element I Knowledge of the Faith Grade 4

	<i>Key Element I: Knowledge of the Faith</i>	<i>Connections</i>	<i>CCC</i>	<i>Compendium</i>	<i>USCCA</i>
4.01.10	Show understanding that God expects us to love and forgive each other. (See for example, Mt 6:14-16, Mt 18:21-22, Mk 11:25 and Lk 6:37)	ELA: Write a paragraph about why it is hard to forgive others.			
4.01.11	Describe what it means to be <u>holy</u> .	ELA: create a poem or prayer about being holy.	823-827, 2012-2016	165, 428	See <i>Holiness</i> , 514
4.01.12	Show understanding that God gives us the freedom to choose good over evil.	Define free will. (conscience)	1730-1733, 1744	363	
4.01.13	Describe meaning of <u>faith</u> in my life.	SS: Timeline your faith journey so far.	153-165, 179 180	27, 28	
	Standard 2				
	SCRIPTURE: Read, comprehend and articulate salvation history as conveyed in God's revelation through Sacred Scripture.				
	<u>Indicators</u>				
4.02.01	List the first five books of the Old Testament: <u>Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy</u> .	ELA: Create a sentence using the first letter of each book so they will be easier to remember.	120	20, 21	See <i>Covenant</i> , 508
4.02.02	Describe the meaning of <u>covenant</u> in the story of Abraham.		59, 72	8	
4.02.03	Describe meaning of <u>patriarch</u> .	SS: Discuss what makes a good leader.	59, 61, See <i>Patriarch</i> , p. 892	8	464
4.02.04	Exhibit understanding of how God's	Read the genealogy at the	60, 63, 64	8	

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	promise was passed on to the descendants of Abraham.	beginning of Matthew's Gospel.			
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Key Element I Knowledge of the Faith Grade 4

	<i>Key Element I: Knowledge of the Faith</i>	<i>Connections</i>	<i>CCC</i>	<i>Compendium</i>	<i>USCCA</i>
4.02.05	Name the three patriarchs of Israel : Abraham , Isaac and Jacob .		59-61	38	
4.02.06	Identify the son of Jacob: Joseph .	Art: Draw a colored coat like the one Jacob gave his favored son.			
4.02.07	Identify Moses as a great leader who heard God's command to save the descendants of Jacob/Israel.	Compare the qualities of a good leader vs. a bad leader.	72, 2574, 2577	8	
4.02.08	Identify Moses as a great prophet who received God's covenantal promise and the law.	ELA: Create an acrostic poem about Moses.	72, 2593	537	
4.02.09	Identify the meaning and significance of the Ark of the Covenant .	Computer: research the Ark of the Covenant.	2130, 2578		
4.02.10	Describe the journey of the Israelites in the desert and God's leading them with care and love as their Redeemer .	SS: Draw the map with the route the Israelites followed in the desert.	2577		



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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)

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Key Element II Liturgy and Sacraments Grade 4

	<i>Key Element II: Liturgy and Sacraments</i>	<i>Connections</i>	<i>CCC</i>	<i>Compendium</i>	<i>USCCA</i>
	<i>Standard 3</i>				
	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>				
4.03.01	<i>Describe each of the essential components of the Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation.</i>	Drama: Do a skit showing someone going to confession. Review the components.	1440-1449, 1480-1484	302	234-245
4.03.02	Identify and name sacramental signs.	Computer: Mind map sacramentals.	1146-1148 1189	237-238	169, 293-303
4.03.03	Demonstrate understanding that the Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life.	ELA: Write a paragraph about their Holy Communion and bring in a picture.	1324-1327, 1407	274	215-228
	<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.				

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	<u>Indicators</u>				
4.04.01	Apply the concept of the Sabbath in the Old Testament to Sunday for Christians.	ELA: Why do you suppose Christians celebrate on a Sunday?	2174-2176, 2190	452	363-370

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Key Element II Liturgy and Sacraments Grade 4

	<i>Key Element II: Liturgy and Sacraments</i>	<i>Connections</i>	<i>CCC</i>	<i>Compendium</i>	<i>USCCA</i>
4.04.02	Identify the holy days of the church calendar and deduce that these are days of required attendance at Mass.	Illustrate each Holy day of Obligation so meaning is clear.	2177	452-454	334-335
4.04.03	<i>Demonstrate how the life of Jesus is remembered in the <u>liturgical year</u>.</i>	Draw a church season circle....color all pieces and explain what is celebrated.	1168-1173, 1194-1195	242	172-178
4.04.04	Relate the Jewish feast of <u>Passover</u> with Jesus' last meal with his disciples.	ELA: Create a Venn Diagram comparing Passover details with Holy Thursday.	1333-1334	276	215-217
4.04.05	<i>Associate <u>ordinary time</u> with the teachings and public life of Jesus.</i>	Computer: Create a schedule of your regular, ordinary day. Relate to church season.			See <i>Ordinary Time</i> , 522
4.04.06	Identifies and describes the days of the <u>Triduum</u> and their meaning.	ELA: Brainstorm words you know that have “tri” in them.	1168	241	173, See <i>Triduum</i> , 530
4.04.07	<i>Identifies the parts of the Rite of <u>Reconciliation</u> and participates in a reconciliation service.</i>	Art: Illustrate the parts of the rite of reconciliation and label.	1450-1460	302, 303	237-241
4.04.08	Understand how to create and participates in the writing of prayers of intercession for Mass.	Participate in a circle prayer experience of special intentions....prep for how to create for Mass.			467-468



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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)

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Key Element III Morality Grade 4

	<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>				
4.05.01	Identify that it is the Holy Spirit and the Church that help us to choose what is right.	SS: Discuss the Dutch tradition of tolerance that they practiced when they came to the New World.	1742	363	129
4.05.02	Define the theological virtues of faith, hope, and love.	Art: Using an anchor, a cross, and a heart, make one symbol for these 3 virtues.	1812-1813, 1840-1841	384-385	342-343
4.05.03	<i>Compare and contrast faith, hope, and love.</i>		1814-1829	386-388	342-343
4.05.04	<i>Recall that loving others as Christ does will make us truly happy, even if it is sometimes hard to love.</i>		2074, 2082	441	323-335
4.05.05	Identify that God gives us gifts of freedom and conscience.	Drama: Make up a skit showing how the “devil” and the “angel” (conscience) affect our decisions.	1730-1733, 1743-1744, 1776-1780, 1795-1797	363, 372	310-311
4.05.06	<i>Identify the demonstration of faith, hope and love in Scripture (Old and New Testaments).</i>		162,176-184, 218-221	28, 42	37-43
4.05.07	Memorize and recite the Ten Commandments	Sci: How do you suppose Moses got the 10 Commandments on the	See <i>The Ten Commandments</i> ,	See pp.127-129	530

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		tablets?	pp.496-497		
4.05.08	<i>Understand that the Ten Commandments teach us how to love God and others.</i>	ELA: Why do you suppose there are only three commandments for God, and seven for others?	2067	436	327-328

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Key Element III Morality Grade 4

	<i>Key Element III: Morality</i>	<i>Connections</i>	<i>CCC</i>	<i>Compendium</i>	<i>USCCA</i>
4.05.09	Name the Beatitudes and their origin. (Mt 5:3-12)	Music: Learn the song “We are the Light of the World”	427, 1716-1719	See <i>The Beatitudes</i> , p.192	308
4.05.10	Understand that sin is choosing to turn away from God, which harms our relationship with God, ourselves and others.	Sci: Drop a pebble in a wide container of water and watch the ripple effects. How is sin like that?	1849-1851, 1854-1864	392	312-313
	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>				
4.06.01	<i>Give examples of how the Beatitudes show us to trust God, forgive, and have mercy for others.</i>	Media: Show a video about the Beatitudes.	1720-1724	358-362	308
4.06.02	Identify the most important social teaching of the Church: dignity of the human person.	Art: Make creative banners using the words of the Golden Rule.	1699-1715	358	310, 319
4.06.03	<i>Acknowledge and affirm the dignity of the human person and community and how the dignity of the human person leads us to defend the common good.</i>	Computer: Look at the beginning of the Bill of Rights and the Constitution and search for the term “common	1905-1917, 1912	407-410	325-327

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		good”. Use context clues to help define the term.			
4.06.04	<i>Give examples of how speaking up for ourselves or others when we are being harmed, or seeking help from parents or other adults when we need help, is a practical way to defend the <u>common good</u>.</i>	Health: Recall the discussion on “Stranger Danger” and speaking up for ourselves or others.	1879, 1905-1910	409-410	420-425

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Key Element III Morality Grade 4

	<i>Key Element III: Morality</i>	<i>Connections</i>	<i>CCC</i>	<i>Compendium</i>	<i>USCCA</i>
4.06.05	Illustrate a basic understanding of Church.		2030-2031	429	111-122
4.06.06	<i>Understand that the Church is a light to the world.</i>		782	154	116-117
4.06.07	<i>Understand that the Church is called to be a community.</i>		781-791	153-156	116-123
4.06.08	<i>Understand that as members of the Church, we learn from others and teach others the way to the reign of God.</i>		823-829	165, 429	138-139
4.06.09	<i>Understand that participation in our family and parish communities gives us support for living the Christian way of life.</i>		2207-2231	457-460	375-382
4.06.10	Recall that the sacraments, especially Reconciliation and the Holy Eucharist, help us to love and forgive others.	Discuss the kinds of blessings/grace that come from these two sacraments.	1382-1389, 1391-1396, 1468-1470	287, 307	235-243, 218-229
4.06.11	<i>Understand that Mary and the saints offer us examples of good Christian lives.</i>	Reading: Research a saint and be prepared to be that saint in front of the class. Share your life in brief form.	946-959, 963-970	194-197	173
4.06.12	Recognize the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy	SS: Find pictures and titles of newspaper articles that have to do with the works of Mercy. Make a collage of it.	2447	520	See, <i>Corporal</i> , 509, See <i>Spiritual</i> , 529
4.06.13	Understand that differences in personalities, races, and nationalities are good for the whole of the human family	Art: Draw a pattern that just repeats itself; then draw a pattern that changes form constantly. Color.	1934-1938, 1946-1947	411-413	336-337
4.06.14	Recognize that the teaching of the Church gives us principles in Catholic Social	Math: Create some word problems that help us think	2419-2425	511	325-327

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	Teaching that apply to our own lives and how we live with others in our nation and the world	about our global family.			
4.06.15	<i>Understand that God wants us to resist envy and greed.</i>	Sci: Discuss and illustrate resistance.	2534-2540, 2551, 2554	531	315-317, 455-456

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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)

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Key Element IV Prayer Grade 4

	<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>				
4.07.01	Indicate that Christians forgive those who hurt them and pray for everyone, the living and the dead.	ELA: Discuss forgiveness and write an essay about when you forgave someone, or when you were forgiven.	1021-1032 1051-1054, 2838-2845, 2862	208-211, 594	161, 235-237, 467, 488-489
4.07.02	Pray the Rosary as a special prayer that helps us imitate the lives of Jesus and Mary.	ELA: Make a chart with Mary and Jesus column heads. Put the mysteries under the proper heading. Indicate the ones that apply to both.	971	198	298-300
4.07.03	<i>Describe the Rosary as a way we come to understand Jesus through the eyes and "school" of Mary.</i>		971	198	298-300
4.07.04	Recognize that the mysteries of the Rosary are meditations on different events in the lives of Christ and his Blessed Mother.	SS: Put the mysteries of the Rosary in a timeline order.	971, 2708	See <i>The Rosary</i> , p.189, 198	298-299
4.07.05	<i>Recognize prayer as an important part of leading a moral life.</i>	ART: Create a WWJD piece of art and discuss how prayer can help get us there.	2030-2031, 2047	429	See #2 <i>How prayer is connected to Christian life,</i>

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Key Element IV Prayer Grade 4

	<i>Key Element IV: Prayer</i>	<i>Connections</i>	<i>CCC</i>	<i>Compendium</i>	<i>USCCA</i>
4.07.06	Identify prayer as blessing, adoration, contrition, petition, intercession, thanksgiving and praise	SS: Using these key words of prayer.....talk about when we use these in our interactions with family and friends.	2626-2649	550-556	467-468
4.07.07	Identify the Nicene Creed as the statement of beliefs we pray at Mass.	Math: Using the Nicene Creed....count how many beliefs are mentioned in it.	See <i>Nicene Creed</i> , p. 50, 195	See <i>Nicene Creed</i> , p. 16	46-47, See <i>Nicene Creed</i> , 521
4.07.08	<i>Write and recite a prayer of blessing and thanksgiving.</i>	ELA: Do an acrostic poem using Blessing.	2626-2627, 2637-2638	551, 555	See <i>Grace After Meals</i> , 536
4.07.09	Explain the difference between meditative prayer (as a vehicle to think about the mysteries of our salvation in Christ) and contemplative prayer (as being with God like being with our best friend and simply enjoying his presence).	Field Trip: Walk over to church and practice talking to Jesus in ones heart.....	2705-2708, 2709-2719, 2723-2724	570, 571	473-474



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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)

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Key Element V Education for Living in the Christian Community Grade 4

	<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>				
4.08.01	Identify the Catholic Church as the assembly of God's people.	SS: Give examples of assemblies in our country.....	751-752, 777, 804	147	113
4.08.02	Identify the Church as the People of God.	Computer: Word web pictures and words about being the People of God.	753-757, 781, 802-804	148, 153-154	116-117
4.08.03	Examine the followers of Jesus who make up the church (apostles, saints, us).		871-873	178	116-121
4.08.04	Name the Pope as head of the Catholic Church.	SS: Show pictures of the Pope and Vatican City.	881-882, 936-937	182	See <i>Pope</i> , 523
4.08.05	Recognize that the Church is hierarchical (i.e., that there is a divinely given order of ministry and leadership in the church - the threefold order of Bishop, Priest and Deacon,	Discuss the levels of leadership in the Church and with chromebooks look up what each looks like and does.	874-879, 880-882, 935	179-180	127-129, 264-267

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	with each having a special role).				
4.08.06	Identify part of the <i>Nicene Creed</i> that describes the church as <i>holy</i> and <i>catholic</i> .	Learn the four marks of the Church from the Nicene Creed.	823-829, 830-831, 867-868	See <i>Nicene Creed</i> , p. 16, 165-166	See <i>Nicene Creed</i> , 45-47

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Key Element V Education for Living in the Christian Community Grade 4

	<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 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>				
4.09.01	Explain that Jesus founded the Catholic Church that we might all be one so that the world may believe that the Father sent him. (Jn 17:20-23)	Music: Learn the song: They'll Know We are Christians by Our Love.	813-822, 866, 870	161-164	22, 114, 118-121
4.09.02	<i>State that the Catholic Church is a community of Jesus' followers.</i>		787-791	156	116-117
4.09.03	<i>Understand that Catholics are called to work and pray for unity in the Church because Jesus also prayed "that they all may be one". (John 17:21-22)</i>		813-822, 866, 870	161-164	22, 114, 118-121
4.09.04	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.	SS: Discuss tolerance, as shown by the Dutch settlers as they came to the New World.	816-817	162	127-129
4.09.05	Name some Eastern Catholic Christian Churches (For example: Maronite, Byzantine Ukrainian, etc.) that do share the fullness of	ELA: Using a Venn diagram, compare /contrast the Eastern Catholic and Western	193-194	35	129-131

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	all that Jesus taught us and accept the role of the Pope as the successor of St. Peter.	Catholic Church.			
4.09.06	<i>Understand that other Christians share a common baptism and belief in Jesus even though they do not share the fullness of all that Jesus taught us (for example, regarding whether there are seven sacraments or the role of the Pope as successor of Peter in the Church).</i>		817-819, 871-873	163	127-129, 136.193
4.09.07	Understand that there are many Christians who are baptized and have a common belief in God but do not share the same understanding of the role of the Pope as the successor of St. Peter.	Discuss the four essential elements that makes a church Catholic.	880-882, 936-937	182	127-129

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Key Element V Education for Living in the Christian Community Grade 4

	<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 10				
	CATHOLIC PRINCIPLES AND RELATIONSHIPS: Apply Catholic principles to interpersonal relations.				
	<u>Indicators</u>				
4.10.01	<i>Recognize that love of self and others is key to a relationship with God.</i>	ELA: What did Jesus mean when He said: “Whatever you do to the least of my people, you do to me?” Write about it.	1965-1972, 1983-1985 2055	420, 435	See <i>Meditation</i> , 321
4.10.02	<i>Identify a sense of personal goodness and self-worth as being responsible and loving.</i>	Music: Google songs about self-worth.	364, 1700	69, 358-362	66-68, 71
4.10.03	Define human sexuality as a gift from God in which we share in God's creation.	Health: What makes you special, as a boy or a girl?	2331-2336, 2392-2393	487	441-445
4.10.04	Describe the nature of a relationship with God, ourselves, and others.		2336-2359	488-494	404-416
4.10.05	Understand that participation in family and parish communities gives us support for living the Christian way of life.	ELA: Make a list and then write about the service projects that we have done. Which one meant the most to you, and why?	2230-2040, 2047-2051	429-430,	See <i>Meditation</i> , 211, 119- 121, 375-380
4.10.06	<i>Explain that God cares deeply about how we treat others.</i>	Reading/ELA: Read	1965-1972,	405-410	43, 211, 391,

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		“Waiting for a Friend” and “My Special Sister”, and write an essay comparing how the main characters were treated.	1983-1985		401
4.10.07	Understand that authority is necessary for human community.	SS: What rules in society help us to get along and keep us safe?	85, 1897-1904	109, 187, 405-407	325-327
4.10.08	<i>Explain that the differences in personalities, races, and nationalities are good for the whole of the human family.</i>	ELA: Write about this: “Variety is the spice of life”.	814, 1928-- 1948	161, 411-414	325-327

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Key Element V Education for Living in the Christian Community Grade 4

	<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 11				452
	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>				
4.11.01	State the meaning of Christian discipleship.	Science: Create a domino line-ups and practice letting them flow as the first one is tapped. How is that like Jesus and the disciples?	618, 849-851, 1814-1816, 2544-2547, 2556	123, 172, 386, 532	181-199, See <i>Disciple</i> , p 509-510
4.11.02	<i>Define vocation as a call to serve in the Church.</i>	ELA: Create an acrostic poem using vocation.	See <i>Vocation</i> , 903, 915-916, 1537-1546	192-193, 322-324, 337-338	375-376, 452,
4.11.03	Articulate how vocations are ways to holiness in life.		1533-1535, 1694	321-324, 346	279, 375, 452
4.11.04	Identify vocations in the Church: marriage, priesthood, religious life, and single life.	ELA: Create questions to ask about these vocations. Interview someone of these vocations and return to class ready to share your findings.	944-945, 1601-1605, 1546-1553	192-193, 337-338, 321-324	139, 265-267, 279, See <i>Vocation</i> , 531

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4.11.05	<i>Compare and contrast a variety of Christian vocations as a response to the baptismal call.</i>		1601-1605, 1546-1553	192-193, 337- 350, 322-336	279, 375, 452
4.11.06	Understand that through baptism, Jesus calls us to live a life of service, welcoming, and helping others, especially those in need.	Continue to affirm our service projects.	1265-1271	263	195-197, 308-309
4.11.07	Recognize that Jesus is the example of Christian life and love.	ELA: Write a note to Jesus explaining how he is a good role model for how to live your life.	1823-182, 1971-1974	420-421	91-93, 307- 309



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)

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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)

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Key Element VI Evangelization and Apostolic Life Grade 4

	<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>				
4.12.01	Define human sexuality as a gift from God in which we share in God's creation.	Read the story of the creation of man and woman in Genesis.	2360-2361, 2397-2398	495	405-407
4.12.02	Identify a sense of personal goodness and self-worth as being responsible and loving.	SS: Discuss what “bullying” does to one’s sense of self-worth.			
4.12.03	Recognize that love of self and others is key to a relationship with God.		1965-1974, 1983-1986	420-421	307-309
4.12.04	Describe examples of how the Church cares for those in need and works to build a better world.	Guest Speaker: Invite someone from the St. Vincent De Paul Society to talk about what they do.	2419-2425, 2458-2459	509-512	387-402, 420-425
4.12.05	Understand that participation in family and parish communities gives us support for living the Christian way of life.		1655-1658, 1666	350	376-381
4.12.06	Recognize one's responsibility for stewardship as care for all of God's creation.	Science: Brainstorm ways to be a good steward of God’s creation.	2407-, 2450-2451, 2534-2540, 2544-	506, 531-533	424, 426, 451-452

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Key Element VI Evangelization and Apostolic Life Grade 4

	<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>				
4.13.01	Identify the Jews as the descendants of Abraham who received the first covenant from God.	Drama: Create a skit about God calling Abraham; include the covenant God made with him.	59-64, 72, 839-840	8, 169	12-15, 130-131
4.13.02	Show understanding that Christians receive the blessings of the covenant God made with the Jews.	Science: Build a bridge out of toothpicks. Talk about the covenant as the bridge between the Jews and Christians.	816, 870	162	170, See <i>Meditation</i> , 321
4.13.03	Distinguish the Old Testament from New Testament.	SS: Make a timeline of the Old Testament and New Testament general events.	121-123, 124-127, 139	21-22	See <i>Books of Bible</i> , xiv, 24, 104-106
4.13.04	Identify the first five books of the Old Testament as the Jewish Torah.	Smartboard: Show pictures of the Jewish Torah.....Hebrew language, how they store it.			
4.13.05	Identify Jesus within the Jewish tradition.		422-424	79	79-80
4.13.06	Recognize the psalms as the prayers of	Art: Calligraphy Psalm 23.	2579,	540	465-466

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	Jewish and Christian people.		2585-2589, 2596-2597		
4.13.07	State the importance of respecting the religious beliefs of others.	SS: Discuss the virtue of tolerance.	830-831, 849-845, 868	166, 169-170	129-130

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Key Element VI Evangelization and Apostolic Life Grade 4

	<i>Key Element VI: Evangelization and Apostolic Life</i>	<i>Connections</i>	<i>CCC</i>	<i>Compendium</i>	<i>USCCA</i>
4.13.08	Identify Islam as a religion based on the Jewish and Christian belief in one God.	SS: Discuss polytheism and monotheism.	841-845	170	131
4.13.09	Recognize Muslims as those who <u>reverence</u> God and who adhere to the religion of Islam.	SS: Find some pictures of a mosque and some Muslims. Discuss the good in their religion.	841-845	170	131
4.13.10	Explain the importance of religious liberty in our society	SS: Have students define what they think religious liberty means.....clarify, and relate that to the Pilgrim’s voyage here looking for religious freedom.	1907, 2105-2109, 2137, 2211	408, 444, 458	41-43, 280-281, 316, 420, 501
	Standard 14	-			
	MISSIONARY VOCATION: Demonstrate an appreciation for Catholic missionary and evangelization efforts through our parish community, its culture, worship, sacramental life, and service.		849-856	172-173	117-118
	<u>Indicators</u>				
4.14.01	Realize that Jesus calls all who follow him to “Go and make disciples.” (Mt 28)	Music: Sing a song about being disciples of Jesus. Example: “Go in Peace” or	849-856	172-173	134-137

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		“The Calling”.			
4.14.02	<i>Give an example of how you would evangelize.</i>	Computer: Mind map “how I would evangelize”.	782-786	154-155	117-118, 137
4.14.03	<i>Realize that Jesus gave us the Catholic Church to support and guide the way to true freedom and happiness.</i>		758-776, 778-780	149-152	115
4.14.04	Describe what disciples of Jesus do to imitate Him.		2443-2449, 2462-2463	520	452-455, See <i>Disciple</i> , 509-510
4.14.05	Explain Jesus as the Prince of Peace. (Is 9:6; Lk 2:13-14)		2304-2305	481	332-333, 435

Forming Disciples

Key Element VI Evangelization and Apostolic Life Grade 4

	<i>Key Element VI: Evangelization and Apostolic Life</i>	<i>Connections</i>	<i>CCC</i>	<i>Compendium</i>	<i>USCCA</i>
4.14.06	<i>Discuss the responsibilities of Catholics to discover ways to financially support missionary work.</i>	Reading: Read a story about a missionary.	2041-2046, 2048	431-433	334-335, 452
4.14.07	State the ways people care for God's creation.	ELA: Create a list of the ways people care for Creation.	2407, 2450-2451, 2534-2540, 2544-2547	506, 531-533	424, 426, 451-452
4.14.08	<i>Understand world hunger, world peace, human rights, and sacredness of life.</i>	Computer: Word map SOCIAL JUSTICE.			
4.14.09	Define evangelization as proclaiming Christ and his Gospel by word and the testimony of life, in fulfillment of his command to go make disciples.	ELA: Write a paragraph about.... "Can others learn about Jesus by the way we act?"	425-429, 849-851, 904-907, 942	80, 172, 190	134-137, 502, See <i>Evangelization</i> , 512