



Religion Curriculum Diocese of St. Augustine

“The whole concern of doctrine and its teaching must be directed to the love that never ends. Whether something is proposed for belief, for hope or for action, the love of our Lord must always be made accessible, so that anyone can see that all the works of perfect Christian virtues spring from love and have no other objective than to arrive at love.” (Catechism of the Catholic Church, Prologue #25)

Welcome to the revised Religion Curriculum for the Diocese of St. Augustine. *The Catechism of the Catholic Church*, the Sacred Scriptures, and the *Directory for Catechesis* (2020) were used as foundational documents for this revised curriculum. It is our hope that the revised curriculum and the accompanying resources will help those who work to catechize school-aged children in the Diocese of St. Augustine.

The Religion Curriculum finds its foundation in the three major themes of the new *Directory*: Encounter, Accompaniment, and Mission. Further, it develops the main goal of catechesis found in # 77 of the *Directory*: “Catechesis makes the initial conversion ripen and helps Christians to give a complete meaning to their existence, educating them in a *mentality of faith* in keeping with the Gospel, to the point of gradually coming to feel, think and act like Christ.”

With this goal in mind, the tasks of catechesis around which this curriculum is based are:

- Leading to the knowledge of the faith
- Initiating into the celebration of the mystery
- Forming for life in Christ
- Teaching prayer
- Introduction to community life

The curriculum is based on a spiral approach to learning wherein themes and objectives are presented in a gradually deeper manner from one year to the next, building upon and deepening the presentation of the tenets of the Catholic faith and the meaning that these tenets have for all to live a good Christian life. The objectives are supported with references to the *Catechism* and Scripture and organized within the framework of the tasks of catechesis. We hope that the new curriculum will serve as both a guide and valuable tool for lesson planning.

Implementing it will require more than just a simple knowledge of the Catholic faith. Adequate preparation and formation of catechists will be integral to a successful implementation process. We are planning several offerings in the next few months to assist teachers and catechists in implementing this curriculum.

May God bless you for your commitment to Catholic Education and Formation and in your efforts to proclaim Christ’s *good news* as you serve the mission of the Church.

Yours in Christ,


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