

Lesson Plan, Grade 7 - Chapter 12

Catechist Background

Doctrinal Content

- God created us with free will. He helps us learn to use it to choose that which is good. (CCC, 302, 1730)
- We receive new life in the gift of salvation that Jesus, the Mediator, offers us in Baptism. (CCC, 771, 1257)
- The Church is catholic—for all people at all times and in all places, and, through the actions of her members, people come to know God and share in his life. (CCC, 831)
- Purgatory is the process of purification we experience after death, before we enter complete communion with the Holy Trinity. (CCC, 1030, 1031)
- Prayer is an important means of communion with God. Having a deep prayer life is an important part of the call to live a life of love and truth. (CCC, 3, 2559)

Catechist Background

“When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled ... there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind ... there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were filled with the holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.”—Acts 2:1, 3-4

Reflect In what ways does the Holy Spirit strengthen you to evangelize and help God build his Kingdom?

The Nicene Creed that we proclaim every Sunday states that ours is “one, holy, catholic and apostolic” Church. The word “catholic” is spelled with a small “c.” The Creed is using that word in its broader sense, meaning that the Church is universal. Our mission from Jesus is one of reaching out to the ends of the Earth. It is a daunting mission, and one that must be embraced anew by every generation of believers.

The Creed acknowledges the Church as one and holy. The Church is one in that she professes one Lord, one faith, one Baptism, and one Body in Christ. Holiness is central to the life of the Church because Jesus, acting with the Holy Spirit and sent by the Father, gave his life to make her holy—unique and pure; set apart for God and his purposes. The lives of the Saints and of the Blessed Mother are the holiness to which we are called, for the sake of the unity of the Body of Christ.

Finally, the Creed states that the Church is apostolic. This means the Church is founded on the Apostles. We inherit our identity from the twelve Apostles. Their authority is passed on to the Pope and bishops of the Church. The role of the bishop is the same as it was two thousand years ago: to faithfully guard the truth of the Gospel and to make

it known in every generation by leading, governing, and providing for the sacramental life of the Church. Those who work in catechesis are privileged to share in that ministry.

Reflect How do you see your catechetical ministry as a sharing in the Church's role of handing on the faith?

Catechist's Prayer

Lord Jesus, when I drift from you I fail. Help me always remember that you are the source of all that is good in my ministry and that apart from you, I can accomplish nothing. Amen.

Sharing the Message

How Seventh-Graders Understand Chapter Topics

Seventh graders may not have the sense that they could hand on their faith to others. They are still learning what Catholics believe, and may lack the confidence to feel they could spread the faith in any systematic way. They need to see how what they say and do in everyday life sends a message to others about who they are and what they believe.

Teaching Tip

Lead a discussion about the nature of missionary work in the world today. What is the difference between being a missionary and proselytizing (persuading a person to conversion)? When is it important to connect our acts of service with preaching, and when should we just let the service itself be the preaching? (Hint: You might share the statement attributed to Saint Francis of Assisi: "Proclaim the Gospel always, and if necessary use words.")

Sharing the Message with Seventh-Graders

Younger adolescents may need help seeing the connection between their local world (their main reality) and the global reality.

- Young people are often torn between cynicism and idealism. Providing healthy, practical avenues for them to serve in response to local needs can help nurture the virtue of hope.
- Help seventh graders see that they must build and maintain a personal relationship with God, nourished by prayer, in order to answer his call to bring God's love and truth to others.

Chapter Connections

Tasks of Catechesis

Helping children grow in a faith that is "known, celebrated, lived, and expressed in

prayer” (NDC, 20). This chapter focuses on the following tasks of catechesis:

- Teaching to Pray
- Missionary Initiation

NCEA IFG: ACRE Edition

Prayer

- Objective: To recognize and learn how to engage in Catholic forms of personal and communal prayer and ways of deepening one’s spiritual life

Missionary Spirit

- Objective: To recognize the centrality of evangelization as the Church’s mission and identity embodied in vocation and service; to be aware of how cultures are transformed by the Gospel

Catholic Faith Literacy

catholic, mission, missionary, Our Father

Catholic Social Teaching

To integrate Catholic Social Teaching into your lesson, choose one of the following features: Call to Family, Community, and Participation, pages 336–337; or Option for the Poor and Vulnerable, pages 340–341.

- Start the Live step of the process by talking about Saint Lorenzo Ruiz on page 204. Then move directly to the Catholic Social Teaching feature.
- Or, to expand the lesson, complete page 204, then move to the Catholic Social Teaching feature.
- Return to Chapter 12 for the prayer on page 205.

Music Option

- Use the following song to enhance catechetical learning or for prayer.
 - "Make Me a Channel," Live, Page 205

Catechist Instruction, Grade 7 – Chapter 12

Invite Page 195

Objective

- Reflect on God's personal invitation through Scripture

♥ Let Us Pray

Invite the young people to gather in the prayer space and make the Sign of the Cross. Pray the leader lines. Select a few volunteers to read aloud the Psalm verse. Prompt the response from the remainder of the group.

Have the youth move out of the prayer space and back to their seats.

Say: Let's listen to the Scripture reading and recall that God sent the Holy Spirit to the Apostles at Pentecost so that they could proclaim the Good News to the ends of the Earth!

† Scripture

Guide the youth through the process of Scripture reflection.

Invite the young people to be still, close their eyes, and focus on their breathing.

Encourage them to open their minds and hearts to what God is saying to them.

- Proclaim the Scripture and have the youth sit in silence.
- *Ask:* What did you hear God say to you today?
- Allow volunteers to share.

► You may play instrumental music to begin the reflection.

Remember, this is a spiritual discipline that takes practice. The young people will grow in their capacity to sit in silence. Throughout the year, build to four minutes.

Have you ever thought...

Say: We are all called to continue this mission and invite others to know and love Jesus. The Holy Spirit continues to help guide us on our faith journey.

- Invite the young people to respond to the questions.

Discover (1) Pages 198-199

Objectives

- Explain that God helps us learn to use our free will to choose what is good
- Recognize that Jesus is the Mediator who brings us to salvation
- Express that faith and Baptism are necessary for salvation

Teaching Activity: Faith and Baptism

Young People will watch a video clip from the film *E.T.* to help illustrate how our faith and Baptism are necessary for our salvation.

Before the Lesson

Materials Needed

✦ Go to aliveinchrist.osv.com and watch the *E.T.* video clip and download the Catholic Faith Words page
white construction paper, scissors, tape

Preparation

- Post the Catholic Faith Words pages on the board for reference during the activity.
- Draw the image of a broken bridge on the board or chart paper. Leave space in between the two broken sides of the bridge.
- Cut out the shape of a cross from white construction paper.
- Cue up the video for *E.T.*
E.T. Clip YouTube Link: <http://youtu.be/a-9990dlfvo>

Activity Directions

Say: Several sessions ago we learned that God created each of us for a life of total relationship in him. That became impossible because of Original Sin. We used the image of a broken bridge. In fact, you *were* the bridge.

Point to picture of broken bridge you have drawn on board or chart paper. Place the large paper cross in between the empty space to connect the bridge. Down the vertical beam of the cross, write the word *Mediator*.

Say: Jesus—who is true God and true man brings us closer to God the Father, through his words and saving actions, especially his Death and Resurrection. So how do we come to union with Jesus? How do we become a child of God and a member of the Church? ***Through our Baptism***

Point out the definitions of the words *Baptism* and *free will* that are posted on the wall. Ask two volunteers to read the definitions aloud.

Say: Baptism is not a guarantee that we will live forever in union with God in Heaven. God gave you the gift of free will so that you can choose to accept his love and grow in relationship with him. To grow in relationship with anyone you must freely choose to make the other person a priority in your life. Are you familiar with the movie *E.T.*? It's the story of an extraterrestrial who accidentally gets left behind on planet Earth. He is trying to get home and in the meantime makes friends with a young boy named Elliott

and his siblings. In this scene scientists have captured E.T. who is dying because he has run out of time to be on this planet.

After viewing the clip, invite a group discussion about how E.T. and Elliot were connected.

Ask: How did Elliott and E.T. become so close that they seemingly shared the same heart? ***They spent lots of time together. They learned to communicate with each other, they looked out for each***

Say: Faith is like that. It is a “yes” to God through Jesus that requires daily choices—choices to pray, to celebrate the Sacraments, to read the Bible, and to love and serve others. Faith and the Church are both necessary for salvation.

Ask: What about people who are not baptized? Can they live forever in union with God?

Say: We trust in the mercy of God shown to us by the death of his Son to save all children who have not been baptized. As Catholics, we also confess that all people who live in right relationship with God, even if they do not know Christ, can be saved. We know how God works through Baptism and we believe that all virtuous people would have desired Baptism if they had known it was necessary.

Discover (2) Pages 200-201

Objectives

- Describe how the Church is catholic, or universal
- Identify the process of purification we must go through before we can enter Heaven

Discuss, as a group, ways that the Church helps people have a close relationship with God.

Communion with God

Tell the young people to look for the answer to the opening question as they silently read the first three paragraphs.

The Church’s Treasury

Invite the youth to review this section and highlight any information that is completely new to them.

- *Ask:* How confident do you feel in your understanding of the new material?
- If the youth need further clarification, spend more time on the material to help them understand the concepts presented in this section.

Missionary Church

Read aloud this section.

- Divide the youth into small groups. Assign one of the questions at the end of the section to each of the groups.
- Have the young people brainstorm responses.
- Invite each small group to share their answers with the larger group.

† Scripture

Proclaim the Scripture. *Ask:* What does this Scripture passage mean to you?

- You may want to allow the young people to journal their response.

Work with Words

Point out the Catholic Faith Words box on page 200.

- Have two volunteers read aloud the definitions.
- Be sure to emphasize the difference between “Catholic” and “catholic.”

Activity

Discuss the first two prompts of the activity as a group.

- Have the youth work independently or with a partner to answer the question.

Quick Review

The Church continues through the presence of the Holy Spirit to help her members know and understand more deeply the person of Jesus and his message. Because the Church is catholic, she is also a missionary Church, always seeking to spread God’s Word.

Discover (3) Pages 202-203

Objectives

Discuss prayer as a means of communion with God

- Explore the relationship between a deep prayer life and the call to live a life of love and truth

Point out the question at the top of the page. Discuss the question as a group.

The Church Prays

Divide the youth into six small groups.

- Assign each group one of the paragraphs in this section.
- Ask each group to summarize their paragraph and share their information with the group.
- Be ready to supplement any material that the group left out of their summary.

Invite the youth to write responses to the two questions at the end of this section.

Go to the Source

You may wish to send the young people directly to Matthew 6:9–13 to read and reflect on the words of the Lord’s Prayer.

† Scripture Background

The Lord’s Prayer

Jesus taught his disciples to pray in Matthew 6:9–13 and in Luke 11:1–4. A comparison of the two versions shows that neither one is exactly the prayer we pray today. The formula we know as the Lord’s Prayer grew from the early liturgical prayer of the Church and continues to this day at every Eucharistic Liturgy. At our liturgy, we also pray the doxology, “For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours ...” as an additional line of praise during worship. Protestant Christians usually add the doxology immediately after the Lord’s Prayer no matter when it is prayed.

The Church’s Forms of Prayer

Have the youth select a partner to work with. Tell them to read the instructions next to the chart first, then read over the kinds of prayers.

- Instruct the pairs to write examples of each kind of prayer on the lines provided.
- Invite volunteers to share some of their examples.

Activity

Have the youth remain with their partners for this activity.

- Allow them to discuss the questions with their partner.
- Afterwards, invite volunteers to share some of their responses with the group.

In Summary

Move the young people’s attention to the summary bullets at the bottom of the page.

- Ask them to read over the summary content.
- Make sure that they don’t have any further questions on these topics before moving on.

Extend the Lesson

Use **Activity Master 12: Prayer in My Life** to extend the lesson; it is not included in the timed estimate for this section of the Lesson Plan.

Live Pages 204-205

Objectives

- Explore ways the Church can use social media to share the Good News
- Explore the faith life of Saint Lorenzo Ruiz
- Offer a Prayer for Peace

Our Catholic Life

Have the youth silently read the Our Catholic Life section.

- Ask: How would you present the Church's message through social media?
- Brainstorm as a group possible answers to the question.

People of Faith

Explain to the youth that Saint Lorenzo Ruiz held fast to his faith, even in the face of persecution, torture, and death.

- Read aloud the People of Faith paragraph.
- Review with the group the additional content in the People of Faith Background box.
- Invite the youth to journal about ways they can strengthen their faith life and better serve the Church.

Here are some additional details about Saint Lorenzo Ruiz to assist you in presenting this section:

- Saint Lorenzo was involved in the Church throughout his life. When he was younger, he served as both an altar boy and a clerk-sacristan in his parish.
- As an adult, Saint Lorenzo was a member of the Confraternity of the Rosary. At the cost of his life, he held onto his love for the Church and for his faith.

Activity

Ask a volunteer to read aloud the activity instructions.

- Allow the youth to work with a group to research important work that the Church is doing.
- Have them write down their text messages.
- Ask each pair to share their favorite text with the group.

A Prayer for Peace

♥Select volunteers to take the parts of the Leader in this prayer. • Choose seven people to each read one section.

- Have the leaders stand up near the prayer table.
- Direct the first leader to begin. After each section, all will respond
- Follow the order of prayer on the prayer page.

► Conclude by playing the song, or inviting the youth to sing, "Make Me a Channel," downloaded from **aliveinchrist.osv.com**.

Chapter Review

If you are using eAssessments, remind the young people that they will need to be completed by the due date. Feedback is important at this age. For the tool to be used effectively provide feedback to the young people about their work.

Chapter 12 Lesson Plan

Objectives	Process	Materials
Invite, 15 minutes		
Source of Life Page 195	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Psalm 84:5 Pray the opening prayer. Acts 2:1–7 Guide the youth through the process of Scripture reflection. • Discuss Have You Ever Thought questions. 	
Discover, 45 minutes		
That All May Have Life Pages 198–199 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain that God helps us learn to use our free will to choose what is good • Recognize that Jesus is the Mediator who brings us to salvation • Express that faith and Baptism are necessary for salvation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching Activity Young People will watch a video clip to help illustrate how faith and Baptism are necessary for our salvation. 	<i>E.T.</i> Video Clip, Catholic Faith Words <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> construction paper, scissors, tape
Communion with God Pages 200–201 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe how the Church is catholic, or universal • Identify the process of purification we must go through before we can enter Heaven 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain that the Church is an integral part of our relationship with God. • Discuss why the Church is catholic. Read Matthew 28:19–20. • Activity Reflect on ways we are close to God, and think of ways to help others become closer to him. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> pencils or pens <input type="checkbox"/> highlighters
The Church Prays Pages 202–203 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss prayer as a means of communion with God • Explore the relationship between a deep prayer life and the call to live a life of love and truth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss prayer as a way to communicate with God. ★ Write examples of the five forms of prayer. Read Matthew 6:9–13. • Activity Discuss questions on prayer. • Activity Master Prayer in My Life 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> pencils or pens <input type="checkbox"/> Bibles Activity Master 12
Live, 15 minutes		
Our Catholic Life Page 204	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss the question in the Our Catholic Life section. • People of Faith Learn about Saint Lorenzo Ruiz. • Activity Construct text messages about the work of the Church. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> pencils or pens
A Prayer for Peace Page 205	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Select volunteers for the leader parts. • Follow the order of prayer. 	“Make Me a Channel”

CATHOLIC FAITH WORDS

free will; Baptism; eternal life; catholic, as a Mark of the Church

ASSESSMENT

Chapter Review, Page 206

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Name _____

Date _____

Prayer in My Life

Answer the survey below honestly. Spend some quiet time really thinking about your answers and what they say about prayer in your life. Talk with a friend and compare your answers and ideas.

My best times of day for prayer: _____

Things that make it hard for me to pray: _____

My favorite prayers or kinds of prayer: _____

I like to pray alone when: _____

I like to pray with other people when: _____

Some things I often ask God for: _____

I know God answered my prayer when: _____

I am thankful to God for: _____

I most need God's help with: _____

I have heard God tell me in my heart: _____

Name _____

Date _____

Match each description in Column A with the correct term in Column B.

Column A

Column B

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| ___ 1. Purification, on Earth or in Purgatory, frees us from this consequence of sin | a. temporal punishment |
| ___ 2. The Church is universal, for all people in all times | b. Baptism |
| ___ 3. The God-given freedom and ability to make choices | c. catholic |
| ___ 4. Takes away Original Sin and all personal sin | d. free will |

Circle the letter of the choice that best completes each sentence.

5. Along with faith in God, we need to be ___ into new life in Christ and experience the gift of salvation.
a. baptized b. saved c. signed up d. forced
6. The ___ explains that "all salvation comes from Christ the Head through the Church which is his Body."
a. First Vatican Council c. Second Vatican Council
b. parish bulletins d. Liturgy of the Eucharist
7. The ___ builds the Church, brings her to life, and makes her holy.
a. Lord's Prayer b. Eucharist c. Pope d. Holy Spirit
8. The Church's treasury is _____.
a. a collection of money
b. all the holiness and goodness from Jesus, Mary, and the Saints
c. the many people who are members of the Church
d. jewels and works of art

Write a response on the lines below.

9. Provide some examples of the universal nature of the Church.

10. What is eternal life?

Catholic Faith Words

free will the God-given freedom and ability to make choices. God created us with free will so we can have the freedom to choose good.

Catholic Faith Words

Baptism the Sacrament in which a person is immersed in water or has water poured on him or her. Baptism takes away Original Sin and all personal sin, and makes a person a child of God and a member of the Church.