

Lesson Plan, Grade 7 - Chapter 19

Catechist Background

Doctrinal Content

- The Catholic family is a domestic Church—a holy community of, love, grace and prayer. Our families help teach us to hear God's call and respond to him in faith and love. (CCC, 1656-1657, 2685)
- Whether married, single, ordained, or consecrated, we are called to share our time, talent, and treasure through our vocation in order to serve the Church. (CCC, 871-873)
- Discernment is the process by which we reflect, discuss, pray, and are ultimately drawn toward our vocation. (CCC, 2226, 2232)
- Whether we choose to be ordained, enter consecrated religious life, or remain a member of the laity we are all called to faith and to continue the mission of Jesus. (CCC 1, 542-543)

Catechist Background

The Lord called Samuel again ... Then Eli understood that the Lord was calling the youth. So he said to Samuel, "Go to sleep, and if you are called, reply, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" When Samuel went to sleep in his place, the Lord came and stood there, calling out as before: Samuel, Samuel! Samuel answered, "Speak, for your servant is listening." —1 Samuel 3:8-10

Reflect How do you use the gifts that God has given you to better serve him and to make a difference in the lives of those around you?

Some of us have been conditioned to think of a vocation as something reserved only for the ordained. But, in fact, quite the opposite is true. A vocation is every Christian's invitation to listen to Jesus' call and to follow him, to use our personal gifts to serve him and his Church. This is a challenging and exciting way to live, for it is a response to God's call. In the Beatitudes, Jesus teaches that happiness is of the utmost importance to our loving Creator. In fact, the word "beatitude" means "happiness." Reaching our fullest potential generates happiness.

Since being human means living in relationship with others, there is another aspect to vocation as well. Each of us is called to use our gifts and abilities for the glory of God rather than ourselves. After all, they are called gifts because we have done nothing to merit them. We are responsible for nurturing them and learning how they can benefit others. And when we seriously evaluate how we can best live out the Gospel in our lives, we are led to the fact that our gifts are meant for the well-being of others around us no matter what our daily lives are like.

Reflect Think about the relationship between lifestyle and vocation. How are they similar? How does vocation go beyond lifestyle?

Catechist's Prayer

Lord of all, I thank you for calling me to be a teacher. I ask that you empower me with all that I need to fulfill my vocation. I honor you and teach in your name. Amen.

Sharing the Message

How Seventh-Graders Understand Chapter Topics

Seventh-graders are often asked, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" They might be less familiar with the idea that God has a plan for their lives or that they can experience this plan as a calling, or vocation, from God. With guidance, they might see signs of God's call through the talents they are given, the opportunities they have, or the things they hear about themselves from others.

Teaching Tip

Instead of asking the youth what they want to do when they grow up, practice using the language of vocation, asking instead who they feel God is calling them to be.

Sharing the Message with Seventh-Graders

For better or worse (and probably both), young people at this age tend to identify themselves by the qualities others see and name in them.

- For some seventh-graders, their personal abilities and gifts may just be beginning to blossom.
- Remember that young adults need affirmation by those in positions of authority to help reinforce their positive abilities and qualities.

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:

- Education for Community Life
- Missionary Initiation

NCEA IFG: ACRE Edition

Communal Life

- Objective: To know the origin, mission, structure, and communal nature of the Church; to know the rights and responsibilities of the Christian faithful

Missionary Spirit

- Objectives: 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

laity, priest, religious life, vocation

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 The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers, pages 342–343.

- Start the Live step of the process by talking about Saint Anthony of Padua on page 300. Then move directly to the Catholic Social Teaching feature.
- Or, to expand the lesson, complete page 300, then move to the Catholic Social Teaching feature.
- Return to Chapter 19 for the prayer on page 301.

Music Option

- Use the following song to enhance catechetical learning or for prayer.
 - "Find Us Ready," Live, Page 301

Catechist Instruction, Grade 7 – Chapter 19

Invite Page 291

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 prayer and say the Psalm verse as a group. Prompt the group's response.

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

Remind them that God calls us, and that God hears us when we call on him.

Say: Let's listen to God's Word and recognize the ways God calls us— because he does indeed call each of us to use our gifts to bring his life and love to the world.

† 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: Each of us is called by God to share our time, talent, and treasure with the Church in our unique way.

- Invite the young people to respond to the questions.

Discover (1) Pages 294-295

Objectives

- Discuss the role of family in teaching us to hear God's call, and respond to him in faith and love
- Examine how a Catholic family is a domestic Church—a holy community of love, grace, and prayer
- Identify the laity's role in being witnesses to Christ

Teaching Activity: Family Purpose

Youth will participate in a game that identifies the purpose of the Catholic family.

Before the Lesson

Materials Needed

✦ Go to aliveinchrist.osv.com and download the Family Purpose Game, Catholic Faith Words pages
tape

Preparation

- Post the Catholic Faith Words page on the board for reference during the activity.
- Cut the answers to the Family Purpose game into little strips. Post them on the board or wall in numbered order facing the wall.
- Print out an extra copy of the answers to the Family Purpose game to have handy during the game.
- Ask a volunteer to assist you during the game by turning over the answers that are taped to the wall and revealing them to the group.

Activity Directions

Organize the group into two teams. Ask each team to stand on either side of the room and face the wall with the answers.

Say: Today we are going to play a game called Family Purpose that uses the principles of Family Feud. Each round five members of each team will go up against each other to guess the correct answers. The answers do not come from a survey but are ranked in order of importance.

Begin the game by introducing the first topic. Do not expect the young people to guess the correct answers. As the answers are revealed, they will learn more about the purpose of the Catholic Family. Play four rounds and make sure every participant has a chance to play in one of the rounds.

- Round 1: The Number One Responsibility of a Catholic Parent Is...
- Round 2: Catholic Families Are Supposed to...
- Round 3: Catholic Families Help Members Develop Their Gifts and Talents So That...
- Round 4: Catholic Families Make Purposeful Choices To

At the end of each round facilitate a group discussion about the top five answers. Ask the young people if they agree or disagree with the order in which the answers appear.

Say: So we can see that Catholic families put God at the center of their family. We call the family the *domestic Church*.

Point out the definition of *domestic Church* posted on the board. Ask a volunteer to read it aloud.

Say: Before a child is confirmed, parents and godparents promise to make it their “constant care to bring him or her up in the practice of the faith.” We can tell from our game that the family, or the domestic Church, is given the mission of bringing Christ to the world with our words and actions—all people who are baptized share in this mission. When the person is not a priest, or consecrated brother or sister, we use the word *laity* or layperson to describe ourselves.

Read aloud the definition for *laity* that is posted on the board.

Discover (2) Pages 296-297

Objectives

- Explain the process of discerning a vocation • Name ways we can share in Jesus’ mission

Ask: What does it mean to have a vocation? • List the youth’s responses on the board or on chart paper

A Commission Mission

Summarize this information for the group.

Living It Out

Choose a volunteer to read aloud the text.

- Ask: Who has a vocation? Everyone who is baptized has a vocation.
- Point out the definition for *vocation* on page 297.
- Have the young people work in small groups to discuss the question at the end of this section.

What About You?

Read through the paragraphs.

- Ask: How do prayer and advice from trusted adults help with discernment?

Lay People Share in Jesus’ Mission

Have the young people read the text in the chart to review some of the ways we can share in Jesus’ mission.

* Direct them to place a check mark next to one way they have shared in Jesus’ mission this week.

- Encourage them to write about what happened.

Allow volunteers to share their response with a partner. *Ask: How are you a priest, prophet, and king? Possible responses: **We bring love to the world; we speak God's truth to the world; we serve others***

Activity

Tell the young people to read the instructions and complete their list of talents individually

- Afterwards, have them work with a partner to generate ideas of how to use their talents to better the world.

Quick Review

As baptized members of the Church, we all have a vocation—our way of helping to carry out God's plan. Through reflection, discussion with others, and prayer, we can discern which vocation God is calling us to.

Extend the Lesson

Use **Activity Master 19: How Can I Serve?** to extend the lesson; it is not included in the timed estimate for this section of the Lesson Plan.

Discover (3) Pages 298-299

Objectives

- Compare and contrast the parish priesthood and a priest in consecrated religious life
- Explore the vows taken by those in consecrated religious life

Explain to the youth that priests and religious sisters and brothers have had to discover their vocations, just as the young people will be discovering their own vocations in the years to come.

Listening for God's Call

Have the young people silently read the text.

- *Ask:* What are some obstacles that may get in the way of people hearing or responding to God's call? What slows us down?
- Discuss these questions as a group. Emphasize the following:
- It is our job to respond to needs in the Church and the world.
- We must respond with our time, talent, and treasure.

Sacred Vows

Invite a volunteer to read the first paragraph.

- Have the youth underline the vows that those in consecrated religious life take.

Ask the youth to differentiate between the terms priesthood, consecrated life, and

vocation. Have the young people read the rest of the text on vows and silently reflect on the question.

The Vows

Point out that vows are also called evangelical counsels. Read aloud each of the descriptions of the vows from the chart, pausing at the blanks.

- Invite the young people to fill in the name of each vow.

Activity

Divide the group into smaller groups of three–five participants. Consider having parish publications available to show some of the different types of ministries.

- After the groups are finished brainstorming, have them share their responses with the larger group.

In Summary

Invite four volunteers to read aloud the summary statement and bullet points.

- After each bullet is read, ask how we can help others answer the calls.

Live Pages 300-301

Objectives

- Reflect on responding to the call of faith
- Explore the faith life of Saint Anthony of Padua
- Offer the Vocation Prayer

Our Catholic Life

Read the information on the role of the laity.

- Have the youth work with a partner or in a small group to discuss the questions.

People of Faith

Explain to the youth that certain events in Saint Anthony of Padua's life helped him to discern his vocation.

- Have the young people silently read the People of Faith paragraph.
- Discuss, with the group, the content of the People of Faith Background box.

Here are some additional details about Saint Anthony Padua to assist you in presenting this section:

- Anthony met five Franciscan friars who were going to Morocco to preach to the Muslims. A year later, he learned they had been martyred. He was so impressed with their faith and bravery that he decided to become a Franciscan himself.
- His sermons were collected into a book called Sermons for Feast Days.

Activity

Read aloud the introduction to the activity.

- Have the youth work on their own to answer the questions.

Vocation Prayer

♥ Prepare the prayer space with lit candles and a Bible.






- Invite four volunteers to serve as the readers. Allow time for them to familiarize themselves with their respective parts.
- *Say:* Prayer for vocational guidance in both state of life and work is extremely important for Christians who wish to follow Jesus.
- Follow the order of prayer on the prayer page.

► Conclude by playing the song "Find Us Ready," 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 19 Lesson Plan


Objectives	Process	Materials
Invite, 15 minutes		
Called by God Page 291	 Psalm 4:4 Pray the opening prayer.  1 Samuel 3:4–10 Guide the youth through the process of Scripture reflection. • Discuss Have You Ever Thought questions.	
Discover, 45 minutes		
The Importance of Family pp. 294–295 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss the role of family in teaching us to hear God’s call, and respond to him in faith and love • Examine how a Catholic family is a domestic Church—a holy community of love, grace, and prayer • Identify the laity’s role in being witnesses to Christ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching Activity Youth will participate in a game that ranks popular responses to identify the role and purpose of the Catholic family. 	 Family Purpose Game, Catholic Faith Words <input type="checkbox"/> tape
A Common Mission pp. 296–297 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the process of discerning a vocation • Identify people who can help someone discern his or her vocation • Name ways we can share in Jesus’ mission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss the process of discernment. ★ Youth will consider how they’ve shared Jesus’ mission. • Activity Discuss ways that specific talents can be used to help others. • Activity Master How Can I Serve? 	<input type="checkbox"/> pencils or pens <input type="checkbox"/> board or chart paper  Activity Master 19
Listening for God’s Call pp. 298–299 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare and contrast the parish priesthood and a priest in consecrated religious life • Explore the vows taken by those in consecrated religious life 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk about listening for God’s call and obstacles to hearing it. • Activity Brainstorm a list of parish ministries and vocations. 	<input type="checkbox"/> pencils or pens <input type="checkbox"/> board or chart paper <input type="checkbox"/> parish publications
Live, 15 minutes		
Our Catholic Life Page 300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss the questions in the Our Catholic Life section. • People of Faith Learn about Saint Anthony of Padua. • Activity Reflect on responding to God’s call. 	<input type="checkbox"/> pencils or pens
Vocation Prayer Page 301	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Select four readers. • Follow the order of prayer 	 “Find Us Ready”

CATHOLIC FAITH WORDS

domestic Church, laity, vocation, discernment, consecrated religious life

ASSESSMENT

Chapter Review, Page 302

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Name _____

Date _____

How Can I Serve?

In the left column, write three or four talents you have. In the right column, match your talents with a possible need in the Church. In the space below, make a plan for a way that you will begin to use one of your talents to fill a need in the Church.

My Talents:

2. _____

3.

4.

Needs in the Church:

2. _____

3. _____

4.

My plan for using my talent now:

[illegible]

Name _____

Date _____

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

Column A

Column B

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| ___ 1. A sweet-smelling oil used at Baptism | a. laity |
| ___ 2. A process by which one reflects, discusses, and prays about how God might be calling him/her | b. domestic Church |
| ___ 3. All baptized members of the Church who share in Jesus' mission but are not priests or consecrated brothers or sisters | c. vocation |
| ___ 4. The Catholic family; a community of Christians in the home | d. Sacred Chrism |
| ___ 5. Our purpose; the way we answer and live out God's call | e. discernment |

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

6. A man who has received Holy Orders is known as a ____.
- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| a. lay person | c. lector |
| b. religious brother | d. priest |
7. At a Baptism, parents and godparents are called to bring the baptized up in ____.
- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| a. a vocation | c. the practice of the faith |
| b. communion | d. consecrated religious life |
8. Consecrated religious life is a communal life characterized by the vows of poverty, chastity, and ____.
- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| a. obedience | c. fear of the Lord |
| b. fortitude | d. right counsel |
9. Children should first learn about God from their ____.
- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| a. family members | c. school teachers |
| b. parish priest | d. friends |

Write a response on the lines below.

10. Why do you think vocations to the religious life are important? _____

11. Describe the role of lay people as priests, prophets, and kings. _____

The Responsibility of a Catholic Parent Is To...

1. Help a Child Get to Heaven
2. Help a Child Discover God's Plan for Them
3. Help a Child Get to College
4. Provide for a Child's Emotional Needs
5. Provide for a Child's Physical Needs

Catholic Families Are Supposed To...

1. Help Each Other Become Saints
2. Pray Together
3. Support Each Other
4. Help Each Other
5. Share with Each Other

Catholic Families Help Members Develop Their Gifts And Talents In Order To...

1. Help Others Know God Through Your Gifts
2. Serve Jesus by Serving Others
3. Earn a Living as an Adult
4. Get a College Scholarship
5. Win Competitions

Catholic Families Make Purposeful Choices To...

1. Go to Sunday Mass Together
2. Help God Grow God's Kingdom
3. Help Each Other Do the Right Things
4. Take Care of Family Needs
5. Have Fun Together

Catholic Faith Words

domestic Church a name for the Catholic family, because it is the community of Christians in the home. God made the family to be the first place we learn about loving others and following Christ.

Catholic Faith Words

laity all baptized members of the Church who share in Jesus' mission and witness to him and his message but are not priests or consecrated sisters or brothers; sometimes called lay people.