

# *Catechetical Curriculum Guidelines*

*for use in*

## *Catholic High Schools, Grades 9-12*

Office of Catholic Education



ARCHDIOCESE OF INDIANAPOLIS

*The Church in Central and Southern Indiana*

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Dear High School Catechist,

Your efforts to teach our Catholic faith as well as witnessing to its power, beauty, and relevance are profoundly important and very deeply appreciated by many. As Chief Shepherd and Catechist of this Archdiocese, my gratitude to you is immense.

Catechesis, in order to be effective, must be not only solid and substantial but also carried out in ways that bridge the great divide of our time—the rupture between the Gospel and daily life. The enclosed resource, *Catechetical Curriculum Guidelines for Use in Catholic High Schools*, will help you bridge that gap by God's grace. These guidelines help see to it that young people not only know our Catholic faith but also consider its beauty in light of the Person of Jesus Christ.

Please count on my ongoing prayers for you and your mission-critical ministry of high school catechesis—a call that you answer each day with love and admirable dedication. May you use these curriculum guidelines in good health for the glory of God and the salvation of His holy people. With every best wish and prayer, I am,

Sincerely yours in Christ the Redeemer,

+ 

+ Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R.  
Archbishop of Indianapolis

Enclosure

Office of Catholic Education  
Archdiocese of Indianapolis

***Catechetical Curriculum Guidelines  
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*Background*

Catechesis, while employing the most effective methodologies available, seeks to deepen faith in Jesus Christ by passing on a Deposit of Faith. The content of high school catechesis in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis has for several years been determined by Archdiocesan curriculum guidelines. These guidelines have helped to ensure a healthy consistency to what is being taught as catechists seek to draw students by God's grace in to deeper communion with Jesus and His holy, Catholic Church.

*Recent Developments*

Our United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) in response to publishers' inquiries and other factors has articulated a vision for the content of high school catechesis in this country. This content is outlined in *Doctrinal Elements of a Curriculum Framework for the Development of Catechetical Materials for Young People of High School Age*. The comprehensive nature of this document affords an opportunity to enhance our Archdiocesan curriculum guidelines to the benefit of young people and their families.

*This Curriculum*

*Catechetical Curriculum Guidelines for Use in Catholic High Schools* is an excellent example of inculcating the Gospel of Jesus Christ, making this Good News very accessible to young people throughout southern and central Indiana. Produced collaboratively between high school catechists and Archdiocesan staff, the guidelines provide an overview of our Catholic faith in realistically-attainable one-semester units.

The guidelines acknowledge the cognitive dimension of our faith while ensuring that the affective aspects of formation are addressed well. Cognitive objectives appear in plain type while *affective objectives are in italics*. As for efforts to effect behavioral change, these are best pursued in collaboration with campus ministry teams; this curriculum presupposes such collaboration while addressing behavioral change in several affective objectives. This curriculum consists of six core courses and an additional five semesters worth of optional elective content. Flexibility is a feature of the guidelines as follows:

The six core courses can either be taught in succession or, after the fifth course is taught, a semester's worth of elective content may be covered, leaving the sixth core course for first semester of senior year. While the order of these core courses follows a sequence, catechists have flexibility regarding the order of objectives within each course as well as

time spent on each objective—based on their student’s needs and culture. (The order of objectives within each course corresponds to the USCCB framework—again, with flexibility regarding sequence of coverage by catechists.) The elective content can be covered in whatever scope and sequence desired, either in the senior year or in a split between junior and senior year as described.

### *Implementation*

The most noticeable feature of *Catechetical Curriculum Guidelines* is its focus on the Person of Jesus. Each core course explores a facet of our Savior as the table of contents makes clear. The elective content asks each school to decide what aspects of the Good News will most benefit its students.

This curriculum can be phased in at each school starting immediately given that textbooks for the majority of courses are available. Our Office of Catholic Education will offer further guidance as to the specifics of implementation. When fully implemented these curriculum guidelines will constitute the major written piece of our overall Archdiocesan high school catechesis effort—to be assessed in various ways including standardized efforts, and constantly supported with excellent materials and strategies. Thus the objectives in this document provide the basis for all lesson plans. Textbooks found in conformity with the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* by our USCCB will support pursuit of these objectives. The USCCB framework document itself can be helpful to catechists—especially given its Catechism references, and the Catechism’s glossary can help provide clarity when vocabulary-related questions arise.

### *A Word about Witnessing*

The great drama of our time is the rupture between the Gospel and daily life. No set of objectives—regardless of completeness—can substitute for catechists witnessing to the power and beauty of Catholic doctrine in their own lives as well as the lives of others, from fellow parishioners to canonized saints. When catechists use these curriculum guidelines in ways complementary to the witness that only they can provide, the gap between faith and everyday life is more likely to be bridged, by God’s grace, in the lives of teens and their families.

Also important is pointing out connections between religion content and that of secular subject areas including but not limited to world history, geography and science. Ongoing and enhanced collaboration between catechists and various faculty members will help reinforce the interrelatedness of all truth—the reality that faith and reason go hand in hand.

Our high school catechists are women and men dedicated to proclaiming the Good News, assessing the effectiveness of that proclamation, and deepening their own knowledge of content and methodology so they can be of ever-greater service to young people and their families. In due time, these curriculum guidelines can be adapted for use in parish youth ministry settings. Meanwhile, *Catechetical Curriculum Guidelines for Use in Catholic*

*High Schools* provides a powerful tool for evangelization and catechesis in high schools throughout the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

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Core Course 1 of 6:  
The Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture

Cognitive objectives appear in plain type; *affective objectives are in italics.*

**Throughout this course and at its conclusion students will be able to:**

1. Explain that God's creative love is reflected in our human need for truth and happiness. (Comprehension)
2. *Appreciate the natural longing experienced by all people as our orientation toward a relationship with God.*
3. Analyze human longings for ultimate fulfillment. (Analysis)
4. *Acknowledge that God is the source of this longing and its only means of fulfillment.*
5. Define what is meant by "Natural Revelation." (Knowledge)
6. Analyze St. Thomas Aquinas' five ontological proofs for the existence of God. (Analysis)
7. Define revelation as the sharing of God's existence and identity through human experiences. (Knowledge)
8. Recall Sacred Scripture as containing the divinely inspired record of Salvation History. (Knowledge)
9. Examine how God's covenant with humanity was progressive and in stages. (Analysis)
10. Describe Jesus as the Incarnate Word of God and fulfillment of Old Testament prophesy—explaining that He is the fullness of God's revelation. (Knowledge and Comprehension)
11. Demonstrate the nature of Apostolic Tradition and its role in transmitting and preserving Divine Revelation. (Comprehension)
12. Identify the Bible as the story of God's revelation to people as well as the Church's role in the transmission of divine revelation. (Knowledge)
13. Explain what is meant by the Divine Inspiration of Sacred Scripture. (Comprehension)

14. *Support the importance of understanding what Sacred Scripture's human authors intended to communicate while appreciating that they might not have been conscious of the deeper implications of what God wanted to communicate.*
15. *Appreciate the way that the Bible is inerrant.*
16. Explain the role of Oral Tradition in the transmission of Divine Revelation.  
(Comprehension)
17. Analyze the role of Apostolic Tradition in setting the Canon of Scripture.  
(Analysis)
18. *Acknowledge the criteria that caused sources like the Gnostic gospels to be rejected as parts of the Scriptural canon.*
19. Explain how Sacred Scripture animates the prayer life of the Church, particularly liturgical prayer—applying liturgical prayer to life experiences. (Comprehension and Application)
20. Name and analyze the merits of *Lectio Divina*. (Knowledge and Analysis)
21. Apply ideas of Scripture to daily life. (Application)
22. Compare the continuity between the role of Apostolic Tradition in setting the canon of scripture and that of magisterial authority in guiding the interpretation of scripture. (Analysis)
23. Compare the main themes of *Divino Afflante Spiritu & Dei Verbum*. (Analysis)
24. *Support the benefits of three main points within Dei Verbum.*
25. *Appreciate the importance of being aware of and understanding the unity of the content and teaching of the entire Bible when reading and interpreting each part of it.*
26. Apply the four senses of Scripture to biblical texts. (Application)
27. Describe the relationship between scientific fact and religious truth as pertains to Scripture. (Knowledge)
28. Compare and contrast the Catholic understanding of scripture with other hermeneutics currently in use. (Analyze)
29. *Appreciate the difference between the Catholic understanding of Scripture and that of those who interpret the Bible in an overly-literalist fundamentalist way or with an approach limited to a symbolic understanding.*

30. List recent developments in the field of Biblical Archaeology. (Knowledge)
31. Compare and contrast various methods of biblical interpretation. (Analysis)
32. Identify the two major components of the Bible and explain the relationship between them. (Knowledge, Comprehension)
33. Compare Protestant Bibles and analyze their differences including that many have only 39 books in the Old Testament while others contain the additional seven, referring to them as “deuterocanonical.” (Application and Analysis)
34. Explain that it is called the “Old” Testament because it relates God’s teaching and actions prior to the coming of Jesus Christ who is the fullness of Revelation. It also focuses around the Covenant God made with the Jewish People which is called the Old Covenant to distinguish it from the New Covenant made by Jesus Christ. (Comprehension)
35. Identify the four major components of the Old Testament (Torah, Historical Books, Wisdom Books, & Prophetic Books). (Knowledge)
36. Identify the major components of the New Testament (Gospels, Acts, Pauline Epistles, Catholic Epistles, & Apocalypse). (Knowledge)
37. *Appreciate how the Gospels lead us to a personal relationship with Jesus.*
38. *Understand how the life, teaching, and work of Jesus Christ form the foundation of the life of a Christian.*
39. Explain the three stages in the formation of the Gospels. (Comprehension)
40. Identify the Author, Audience, and time of each of the Gospels. (Knowledge)
41. List the common biographical details of Jesus found in the Synoptic Gospels. (Knowledge)
42. List approximate dates for each Synoptic Gospel. (Knowledge)
43. Summarize what is known about each of these three evangelists. (Comprehension)
44. Outline the contents of the Synoptic Gospels. (Analysis)
45. Compare the distinct elements of the Gospel of John to the synoptic Gospels. (Analysis)

46. Tell what is known about John. (Comprehension)
47. Outline the content of the Gospel of John. (Analysis)
48. Refute the challenge that Catholics do not use or read the Bible. (Evaluation)
49. *Acknowledge the accuracy of Saint Jerome's statement that ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ.*
50. Explain how the Bible isn't just another piece of literature. (Comprehension)
51. *Acknowledge that Scripture always needs to be read or interpreted in the light of the Holy Spirit and under the direction of the Church.*
52. Select examples of how the Bible isn't always literally true while various senses of Sacred Scripture are based on the literal. (Evaluation)
53. *Defend the Church's particularly upholding the historicity of the Gospels.*
54. Explain why even though the Bible is about the past, it applies to people today. Provide examples. (Comprehension, Synthesis)
55. *Appreciate Scripture's message as timeless and universal.*
56. Explain why Catholics maintain beliefs and practices may not be explicitly found in Scripture. (Comprehension)
57. *Acknowledge the teaching that Sacred Tradition is part of God's Revelation to us.*
58. Evaluate the question of why some people try to change what the Church teaches about Jesus Christ. (Evaluation)
59. *Express the benefits of receiving God's revealed truth about Jesus in the teaching of our Church.*

Core Course 2 of 6:  
Who is Jesus Christ?

Cognitive objectives appear in plain type; *affective objectives are in italics*.

**Throughout this course and at its conclusion students will be able to:**

1. Define Revelation. (Knowledge)
2. Define Faith. (Knowledge)
3. *Support Jesus Christ as the Son of God who redeemed humanity from sin.*
4. Compare the interrelationship between personal faith (I believe) and ecclesial faith (we believe). (Analysis)
5. *Respect the teaching that the Catholic Church in a unique way preserves the Deposit of Faith and authentically interprets Revelation.*
6. *Value participating in a faith community, working to spread the Gospel and striving to live as a disciple of Jesus.*
7. Identify Scriptures in which Jesus is identified as Logos, as Son of God, and as intimately one with God from all eternity. (Comprehension)
8. Describe the Church's teachings about the Mystery of the Trinity. (Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC), 235-237) (Knowledge)
9. *Perceive the Trinity as God.*
10. *Appreciate the intricate relationship of love and community evident in the Mystery of the Trinity.*
11. Identify the titles of Jesus. (Knowledge)
12. *Identify with Christ as worthy of imitation.*
13. List the titles, symbols, and missions of the Holy Spirit. Explain the symbols of the Holy Spirit. (Knowledge, Comprehension)
14. *Grow more aware of the Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit within and around them.*
15. Outline the historical development of the doctrine of the Trinity. (Analysis)

16. *Respond more confidently to challenges to be creative, compassionate, and loving, knowing that they are participating in the life of the Trinity.*
17. Recall and explain the articles (teachings) of the Apostles Creed and the Nicene Creed. (Knowledge, Comprehension)
18. Explain how the Apostles Creed and the Nicene Creed have shaped our tradition. (Comprehension)
19. *Listen actively, like Mary, to how God may invite students to spread the love of Christ to others.*
20. Explain what the Church teaches about Mary in the plan of salvation and relate those teachings to beliefs that Catholics have about Jesus (CCC, 487-488). (Comprehension)
21. *Appreciate the unique role that Mary played in Salvation History.*
22. Describe how the “missions of many holy women (Old Testament)” prepared for Mary who is the one who brings “God’s plan of salvation to fulfillment.” (CCC, 489) (Knowledge)
23. *Grasp with greater awareness how God uses ordinary individuals to fill extraordinary roles in the plan of Salvation History.*
24. Explain the dogmas of the Immaculate Conception and the Assumption (CCC, 490-494; 966). (Comprehension)
25. Outline the Church’s teachings about the virginity of Mary (CCC 499-507). (Analysis)
26. Explain Mary’s titles as “first disciple” and “Mother of the Church.” (CCC, 963-970). (Comprehension)
27. Compare invocations in the Hail Mary to Scripture texts. (Analysis)
28. *Be more aware of how the virtues of simplicity, obedience and faithfulness are essential elements of the life of discipleship.*
29. Design and develop support for the Catholic understanding of the necessity of the mystery of the Incarnation. (Synthesis)
30. *Appreciate the Mystery of the Incarnation as evidence of God’s love for humanity.*
31. Recall key teachings about the dignity of the human person found in Genesis 1-3. (Knowledge)

32. *Value who they are as human beings because Jesus chose to share that humanity with them.*
33. *Value Jesus' gifts of the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist.*
34. *Respect and promote the life and dignity of all human beings and of all creation.*
35. Define sin, conscience, grace, repentance and conversion. (Knowledge)
36. *Appreciate the power of God's grace revealed through Jesus' ministry to sinners.*
37. *Respond with gratitude, praise and adoration to God for his loving forgiveness of their sins.*
38. Define holiness, perseverance, humility. (Knowledge)
39. *Appreciate that becoming holy is a lifelong process of putting God first at all times and in all ways.*
40. *Value what is life-giving for themselves and others and avoid temptations to selfishness.*
41. *Become empathetic and sensitive to those who hunger, thirst, seek shelter, yearn for freedom and are in need in any way.*
42. *Grow in their awareness of the importance of prayer as daily nourishment for the Christian life.*
43. *Appreciate the Our Father as a prayer that combines many forms and elements of how a Christian is to pray.*
44. *Share their faith and prayer more freely with peers.*
45. Define the Communion of Saints, heaven, hell, purgatory, particular judgment, last judgment, end of life issues and medical directives, euthanasia and assisted suicide. (Knowledge)
46. Demonstrate how Catholics live their belief in the Communion of Saints. (Comprehension)
47. Examine the meaning of death for the Christian believer.
48. *Anticipate the end of life with fewer fears and more hope.*

- 49. Identify three stories from the life of Jesus that relate to death, explaining why each story can console and comfort those who are facing death, journeying with a loved one, or mourning a death—expressing appreciation for specific words and phrases of comfort.*
50. Justify acknowledging God's existence. (Evaluation)
- 51. Acknowledge the value of accepting the word of other believers.*
52. Explain why we say that God loves us deeply. (Comprehension)
53. Defend God's goodness even though suffering and evil are present in the world. (Evaluation)
- 54. Value life and the redemptive value of suffering.*
- 55. Support the understanding that God really wants us to be happy.*
- 56. Acknowledge how the Church helps people find true happiness and joy.*
57. Explain with certainty that what the Catholic Church teaches has come from God. (Comprehension)
- 58. Express comfort in knowing that Jesus is with the Church until the end of time.*
59. State accurately the Catholic Church's position, when asked, "Why do Catholics worship Mary?" "If Jesus had brothers as the Gospels say that he did, how could Mary have remained a virgin?" (CCC, 148, 484-511, 721-726, 773, 963-972, 829).
60. Justify acknowledging that Mary as Mother of God and Mother of the Church. (Evaluation)

Core Course 3 of 6:  
The Mission of Jesus Christ (Paschal Mystery)

Cognitive objectives appear in plain type; *affective objectives are in italics*.

**Throughout this course and at its conclusion students will be able to:**

1. Explain that all of Creation comes from God and reflects the Glory of God, a religious truth on which science and history can only speculate. (Comprehension)
2. *Experience the Trinitarian nature of our Creator God—our God of Relationships.*
3. Compare various concepts of the expression of "Creator God" and the Catholic understanding of the origins of humanity. (Analysis)
4. Examine the Catholic understanding of the hierarchy of creatures and the interdependence of creation. (Analysis)
5. *Grow in awareness of being male or female in relationship to God.*
6. Describe the principles of Salvation History in light of the Resurrection of Jesus. (Knowledge)
7. Define Original Sin, Original Holiness, Original Justice, and Concupiscence. (Knowledge)
8. Demonstrate an understanding of the consequences of sin as expressed in the stories of Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, the Tower of Babel, and Noah as well as in general. (Comprehension)
9. Analyze the principles of a Covenant relationship and discuss its progression in light of the experiences of Noah, Abraham and Moses. (Analysis)
10. *Experience the realization that God will always remain with us even in our sinfulness.*
11. Define Jesus' Paschal Mystery as the fulfillment of the Old Testament promise of Salvation. (Knowledge)
12. *Exercise the ability to live out the Paschal Mystery in our own lives by putting others before ourselves.*
13. Identify Salvation History at work in the stories of Judges, Kings, and the Prophets. (Knowledge)

- 14. Identify with the obedience of Mary and Joseph as primary examples of accepting God's will in our lives.*
15. Define Incarnation. (Knowledge)
- 16. Appreciate the mysteries of Christ's life as it manifests God's love for us.*
- 17. Increase the awareness of the baptism and temptation of Jesus in light of our own experience.*
18. Explain the significance of the Wedding Feast at Cana focusing on intercessory prayer and Jesus as the fulfillment of the new covenant. (Comprehension)
- 19. Grow in his or her experience of the parables and miracles in their own personal lives.*
20. Relate Jesus' Transfiguration as a connection between Moses and the prophets and a foreshadowing of what is to come through his glorious resurrection and the hope that he brings to humanity. (Analysis)
- 21. Develop and appreciate a personal relationship with Christ through the gift of Jesus himself through the Eucharist.*
22. Explain the Paschal Mystery in relation to our understanding of redemption and justification as well as the significance of Christ's redemptive death in God's plan of salvation. (Comprehension)
- 23. Appreciate and freely embrace the Father's redeeming love shown through his son on the cross.*
24. Explain the events at the resurrection as Jesus' physical body is raised in a historical event and transcending space and time. (Comprehension)
- 25. Recognize the fulfillment of the promises of the Old Testament and Jesus as our Gateway to the Kingdom of Heaven.*
26. Identify the meaning of the term Mystery of Faith in the Catholic Tradition. (Knowledge)
27. Define ascension and discuss the importance of the Holy Spirit coming at Pentecost. (Knowledge)
- 28. Grow in the awareness of the activity of the Holy Spirit in our everyday lives.*
- 29. Understand Mary as our heavenly Mother and develop a personal relationship with her.*

30. Examine our justification through the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. (Analysis)
31. *Grow in awareness of the various ways in which one can practice the virtues as well as how prayer can help one to work toward the goal of eternal life with God.*
32. Explain the resurrection of the body and the Last Judgment as entrance into heaven, hell, and purgatory. (Comprehension)
33. Define and explain the essential elements of a universal call to a life growing in holiness in and through the Church. (Knowledge, Comprehension)
34. Define the concept of “Christian Faithful.” (Knowledge)
35. Define Christian discipleship. (Knowledge)
36. Explain Conversion of heart and life and the formation of conscience. (Comprehension)
37. *Appreciate living a sacramental life and a life of prayer.*
38. *Increase awareness of our need to serve the poor and marginalized as part of discipleship.*
39. Recall that service is an essential element of discipleship. (Knowledge)
40. Define Evangelization and list ways in which one can fulfill the responsibility for this mission. (Knowledge)
41. Justify the Christian responsibility to share time, talent and treasure. (Evaluation)
42. *Appreciate the responsibility for stewardship and discuss various ways in which each can be good stewards.*
43. Appraise scripture as the primary source for our prayer experiences; this includes it providing us with models to emulate their prayer life. (Evaluation)
44. Explain how Catholics use the Psalms as content of prayer. (Comprehension)
45. *Grow in their expressions of prayer while experiencing Vocal, Meditative or Contemplative prayer.*
46. Describe the forms of prayer and create examples of them. (Knowledge, Synthesis)

47. Explain and experience the effort and commitment necessary in a life of prayer.
48. *Appreciate the role of the Lord's Prayer as the basis for the Church's understanding of the value of Prayer.*
49. *Support God's love through Christ for all of human kind and its role in overcoming sin and evil.*
50. Explain that all humanity is in need of redemption due to the sin of Adam and Eve. (Comprehension)
51. *Acknowledge that Jesus' sacrifice destroyed sin and restored our life with God.*
52. *Appreciate the value of personal suffering as a way to grow and trust in faith and help move us toward eternal life.*
53. Explain the roles of Suffering, Death, Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus as our key to our own salvation and eternal life. (Comprehension)
54. *Grow in awareness that our suffering is a means to unite us with the suffering of Christ.*
55. Explain the role of courage, strength and maturity in our goal to live a life of holiness. (Comprehension)
56. *Recognize that the ultimate example of love for another is Christ's sacrifice and that we too are called to sacrifice ourselves for others.*
57. *Accept the role of moral persons in every choice we make as Christians.*

Core Course 4 of 6:  
Jesus Christ's Mission Continues in the Church

Cognitive objectives appear in plain type; *affective objectives are in italics.*

**Throughout this course and at its conclusion students will be able to:**

1. Identify the Church as the vehicle through which God's plan is revealed for all humanity. (Knowledge)
2. Describe the origin, foundation, and manifestation of the church through Abraham, Christ, and the Holy Spirit. (Knowledge)
3. *Perceive the presence of the Holy Spirit and His effects through the form of this Spirit's appearance at first Pentecost and the stories of the early Church.*
4. Describe the Mission of the Apostles as guided by the Holy Spirit through the stories of The Great Commission, Preaching of Peter at Pentecost, Persecution and Martyrdoms of the early followers, and Paul's Conversion and Missionary Journeys. (Knowledge)
5. Define the role of the apostles in the early church and recognize them as the continuing leaders in today's Church. (Knowledge)
6. Explain the names, images and symbols used for Church. (Comprehension)
7. Explain covenant relationship in light of Abraham and Israel's election as the Chosen People of God. (Comprehension)
8. Describe the images of the Church expressed in the New Testament as seen in various parables, stories and teachings. (Knowledge)
9. *Experience the continuing impact of the Church in contemporary times through our brothers and sisters in Christ and ongoing Providence of God.*
10. *Acknowledge beauty in several images of the Church rooted in Scripture and developed in Tradition.*
11. Define the Eucharist as the most visible expression of Church as community. (Knowledge)
12. Name and describe the four marks of the church. (Knowledge)
13. Identify the Church as One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic. (Knowledge)

14. Compare the varied cultures within the Church and the contributions they make, including spirituality, traditions, popular world views and ethics. (Analysis)
15. *Experience the multiplicity of the one Church in its many cultures, peoples and liturgical traditions.*
16. Compare and contrast various experiences of division within the Church throughout its history in light of heresies, East and West Schism and the Reformation. (Analysis)
17. Compare and contrast the relationship of the Roman Catholic Church to other Christian Churches and other faiths. (Analysis)
18. *Experience the efforts of Vatican II and the Ecumenical movement to work for unity among all Disciples of Christ.*
19. *Experience the call to participate in God's grace as a means to live lives of Holiness.*
20. Justify that the Church is a community of God's people called to continual purification, penance and renewal. (Evaluation)
21. *Emulate Mary and other saints as models of holiness and faithfulness to God.*
22. Describe the Church as instituted by Christ as a universal mission for the world and for the salvation of all people. (Knowledge)
23. Describe the hierarchy as part of an unbroken line of authority from Peter to the present day. (Knowledge)
24. Identify the key doctrines and dogma of Catholic tradition. (Knowledge)
25. *Reflect on the signs of the times and interpret them in light of the Gospels.*
26. Observe and critique North American culture in light of Catholic values. (Application, Evaluation)
27. Demonstrate ways in which the Catholic experience of faith has been, is shaped by culture, and stands against culture. (Comprehension)
28. Define Evangelization. (Knowledge)
29. *Explore the missionary efforts of the Church.*
30. Explain the role of hierarchy in the life of the Church. (Comprehension)

31. Describe the relationship between Parish, diocese and the domestic Church. (Knowledge)
32. Describe the role of the laity, hierarchy, those in consecrated life in the Christian Faithful. (Knowledge)
33. Distinguish between religious orders and societies. (Analysis)
34. Define the roles of the laity. (Knowledge)
35. Define the Magisterium. (Knowledge)
36. Define dogma, doctrine, creed, Tradition, Magisterium, and infallibility. (Knowledge)
37. Research Church law in light of the precepts of the Church. (Analysis)
38. *Experience and reflect on the Church's sanctifying nature as expressed through the Eucharist, prayer, the sacraments, and ministry.*
39. *Acknowledge the great importance of the governing office of the Church.*
40. Define the necessity of belonging to the Church as a means of salvation. (Knowledge)
41. Demonstrate how the Nicene Creed is an essential for Christian living. (Comprehension)
42. *Engage in different forms of Prayer and the Celebration of the Christian Mysteries.*
43. *Appreciate being members of the body of Christ through evangelization.*
44. Explain the Christian involvement in the life, mission, and work of the Church, family and community as a means of fulfillment of God's plan of salvation. (Comprehension)
45. Explain the responsibility of people to participate in society. (Comprehension)
46. List individuals who make/have made contributions to the Church. (Knowledge)
47. Examine the need for communication with God as he forms, teaches, guides, consoles and blesses us. (Analysis)
48. Examine the necessity for prayer as a guide to the teachings of Christ and his Church. (Analysis)

49. Analyze the meaning of “being Catholic” and the likenesses and differences of other religions. (Analysis)
50. Explain that the Catholic Church is God’s Sacrament of Salvation and a visible organization through which He communicates His grace, truth and salvation. (Comprehension)
51. Explain the possibility of salvation offered to all people through the Church – even those who through no fault of their own do not know Christ or the Church. (Comprehension)
52. *Support that through knowledge, awareness, and experience of the Church, we are called to be evangelizers.*
53. Describe the Church as guided and animated by the Holy Spirit and, as the Body of Christ, remaining sinless even if her members sin. (Knowledge)
54. Explain that the failure to live out God’s teaching and will to avoid sin, does not invalidate the truth of the teaching. (Comprehension)
55. *Experience the Holy Spirit’s guidance and grace and expressed in the Body of Christ.*
56. Describe the Church as an interdependent community of believers called to worship and proclaim the gospel as community. (Knowledge)
57. *Be called to experience the Mass as authentic communal worship as we unite with Christ.*
58. Explain that the Church despite its cultural differences, is called to maintain unity through apostolicity in the guidance of the Spirit. (Comprehension)
59. *Experience the ability to live out our faith among various cultures and ways of worship.*

Core Course 5 of 6:  
Sacraments as Privileged Encounters with Jesus Christ

Cognitive objectives appear in plain type; *affective objectives are in italics.*

**Throughout this course and at its conclusion students will be able to:**

1. Define a Sacrament as an efficacious sign of grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church, by which divine life of grace is dispensed to us through the work of the Holy Spirit (cf. CCC 1131). (Knowledge)
2. Define the term "sacrament" and explain how the sacraments are "instituted" by Christ. (Knowledge)
3. *Describe how Christ reaches out to all of humanity through his Church, liturgy, and in a special way, the seven sacraments which He instituted while on earth.*
4. Define the Church as the universal sacrament of salvation for humanity. (Knowledge)
5. Define sign, symbol, and ritual and their importance in making tangible those realities which can't be perceived by the senses. (Knowledge)
6. Relate sacraments to their symbols - both word and matter – in their celebration. (Analysis)
7. *Define liturgy, acknowledging its importance in the life of the Catholic Church and the individual Catholic.*
8. Describe the sacraments of initiation as foundational to Christian life; include name of sacraments, essential signs, effects, biblical basis and history of sacraments. (Knowledge)
9. *Emphasize the importance of the sacraments of initiation giving one a share in the priestly, prophetic and kingly office.*
10. Describe Baptism as based in Sacred Scripture by citing a specific example. (Knowledge, Comprehension)
11. Describe the historical development of Baptism and the differences that exist among Catholics and other Christians as a result. (Knowledge)
12. Define Baptism as well as its effects, the proper minister, matter and form. (Knowledge)
13. Explain the necessity of Baptism. (Comprehension)

14. Express an appreciation for the benefits of Baptism.
15. Explain how lay people share in the common priesthood of all believers.  
(Comprehension)
16. Acknowledge baptism as a source of Christian experience of a call from God.
17. Describe Confirmation as based in Sacred Scripture by citing a specific example.  
(Knowledge, Comprehension)
18. Describe the historical development of Confirmation and compare the differences that exist among Catholics and other Christians as a result. (Knowledge, Analysis)
19. Define Confirmation as well as its effects, the proper minister, matter and form.  
(Knowledge)
20. Describe Eucharist as based in Sacred Scripture by citing a specific example.  
(Knowledge, Comprehension)
21. Describe the historical development of Eucharist and compare the differences that exist among Catholics and other Christians as a result. (Knowledge, Analysis)
22. Emphasize the importance of the liturgical celebration of the Eucharist is thanksgiving, memorial, and Eucharistic presence of Christ.
23. List the elements of the liturgical celebration of the Eucharist. (Knowledge)
24. Define transubstantiation. (Knowledge)
25. Acknowledge the benefits of Jesus being present to us—Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity—in the Holy Eucharist.
26. Define Eucharist as well as its effects, the proper minister, matter and form.  
(Knowledge)
27. List the requirements for fruitful reception of the Eucharist. (Knowledge)
28. Articulate the benefits of meeting the requirements for fruitful reception of the Eucharist.
29. Describe the sacraments of healing as a renewal in the Christian life: include names and essential signs of the sacraments, history of the sacraments, effects, and biblical basis for each. (Knowledge)

30. Describe Penance as based in Sacred Scripture by citing a specific example.  
(Knowledge, Comprehension)
31. Describe the historical development of Penance and compare the differences that exist among Catholics and other Christians as a result. (Knowledge, Analysis)
32. *Acknowledge how the reality of sin dictates the need for addressing the thing divides us from God.*
33. Define Penance as well as its effects, the proper minister, matter and form.  
(Knowledge)
34. Describe Anointing of the Sick as based in Sacred Scripture by citing a specific example. (Knowledge,Comprehension)
35. *Acknowledge the goodness that can sometimes emerge from suffering.*
36. Describe the historical development of Anointing of the Sick and compare the differences that exist among Catholics and other Christians as a result.  
(Knowledge, Analysis)
37. Define Anointing of the Sick as well as its effects, the proper minister, matter and form. (Knowledge)
38. Describe the sacraments at the service of communion toward the salvation of others: include the names and essential signs of the sacraments, history of the sacraments, effects, and biblical basis for each. (Knowledge)
39. Describe Holy Orders as based in Sacred Scripture by citing a specific example.  
(Knowledge, Comprehension)
40. Describe the historical development of Holy Orders and compare the differences that exist among Catholics and other Christians as a result. (Knowledge, Analysis)
41. Contrast the priesthood of the believers and the ministerial priesthood. (Analysis)
42. Define Holy Orders as well as its effects, the proper minister, matter and form.  
(Knowledge)
43. List the requirements for reception of Holy Orders. (Knowledge)
44. *Express the potential benefits for each of the requirements to receive Holy Orders.*
45. *Express appreciation for priests and their ministry.*

46. Describe Marriage as based in Sacred Scripture by citing the union of Christ and the Church . (Knowledge, Comprehension)
47. Describe the historical development of Marriage and compare the differences that exist among Catholics and other Christians as a result. (Knowledge, Analysis)
48. Define Marriage as well as its effects, the proper minister, matter and form. (Knowledge)
49. Summarize the revealed truth of God regarding divorce, declarations of nullity and remarriage. (Comprehension)
50. *Acknowledge the beauty and benefits of a married life in accord with God's laws regarding this sacrament.*
51. *Express appreciation for married couples and their profoundly positive impact on our culture.*
52. Explain why people can't celebrate sacraments directly with God, without our Church's help. (Comprehension)
53. *Express appreciation for the benefits of celebrating the sacraments.*
54. Justify sacramental confession in contrast to direct forgiveness from God. (Evaluation)
55. *Emphasize the great benefits of celebrating the sacrament of Penance frequently (about once per month).*
56. Distinguish between Sacraments and humanly-designed celebrations. (Analysis)
57. *Acknowledge the superiority of sacraments to celebrations that may be similar but are of human design.*
58. Contrast Catholic communion and communion in a Protestant worship service. (Analysis)
59. *Advocate against intercommunion until full communion is by God's grace achieved.*
60. *Support how we know that sacraments really work—that they are efficacious.*
61. *Acknowledge the benefits of the sacramental life.*

*62. Perceive how each sacrament is appropriated and lived out, and how this attitude is fostered throughout the course of the liturgical calendar.*

*63. Support why the Church and the sacraments are necessary in our interaction with God, and the dangers of tying to exclude these elements of faith.*

Core Course 6 of 6:  
Life in Jesus Christ

Cognitive objectives appear in plain type; *affective objectives are in italics*.

**Throughout this course and at its conclusion students will be able to:**

1. Describe the communal character of the human being including the dignity of the human person. (Knowledge)
2. Define the Catholic understanding of the morality of human actions. (Knowledge)
3. Describe on how God rules the universe with wisdom and directs its divine fulfillment. (Knowledge)
4. Describe the Catholic understanding of the natural law. (Knowledge)
5. Apply the 1<sup>st</sup> Commandment to contemporary culture. (Application)
6. *Express appreciation for how the theological virtues help us avoid sins against the 1<sup>st</sup> Commandment.*
7. Explain the 2<sup>nd</sup> Commandment using current examples. (Comprehension)
8. *Support avoiding sins against the 2<sup>nd</sup> Commandment.*
9. Define the Christian understanding of "Sabbath". (Knowledge)
10. List several ways of fulfilling the 3<sup>rd</sup> Commandment. (Knowledge, Application)  
*11. Acknowledge the benefits of keeping the Lord's Day holy.*
12. Research the role of parents and family in interpersonal relations. (Analysis)
13. Explain how we can best live the 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment. (Comprehension)
14. Describe the responsibilities of civil authority and citizens. (Knowledge)
15. Define the Catholic understanding of authority, the common good and describe the role they play in the life of the human being. (Knowledge, Comprehension)  
*16. Acknowledge the legitimate role of authority well-used.*
17. List actions that can lead to a culture of death e.g. euthanasia, embryonic stem cell research, abortion. (Knowledge)

18. *Defend the respecting of human life in all its stages and situations.*
19. Demonstrate an understanding of human sexuality. (Comprehension)
20. Define the virtue of chastity. (Knowledge)
21. *Support the benefits of living a chaste life.*
22. Explain stewardship, comparing and contrasting it with the ownership of goods. (Comprehension, Analysis)
23. Define the Catholic understanding of human work and analyze ways to support the dignity of work. (Knowledge, Analysis, Application)
24. Define stealing and why God forbids it. (Knowledge)
25. *Outline the benefits of fulfilling the 7<sup>th</sup> Commandment.*
26. Define the human responsibility to bear witness to the truth. (Knowledge)
27. Describe how to live the 8<sup>th</sup> Commandment today. (Knowledge)
28. *Advocate for responsible use of media and art.*
29. Compare modesty and purity of heart to create practical ways to live these virtues. (Analysis, synthesis)
30. *Acknowledge the scourge of pornography and benefits of avoiding it altogether.*
31. List several ways of living a simple life. (Knowledge)
32. *Admit that trust in God is the key to living simply.*
33. Identify and apply Catholic principles to our understanding of interpersonal relationships. (Knowledge, Application)
34. Outline our Church's authority and responsibility to teach. (Analysis)
35. Describe the role of magisterium of the Church in the moral life of individuals. (Knowledge)
36. *Advocate for living the Precepts of our Church as well as the moral principals God reveals through her.*

37. Describe the term "vocation" and identify vocation as a call from God - not just a choice. (Knowledge, Comprehension)
38. Define the universal call to holiness. (Knowledge)
39. Explain the relationships between love of God, love of self, and love of others. (Comprehension)
40. Define grace and list the types of grace. (Comprehension, Knowledge)
41. Explain the Catholic understanding of justification, grace and merit. (Comprehension)
42. Explain that we are justified because of God's grace. (Comprehension)
43. Define virtue including its main types (theological and cardinal). (Knowledge)
- 44. Support that living virtuously is common ground for people of good will.*
45. Define conscience, how it is formed and its role in the moral life. (Knowledge, Application)
46. Relate the role of sacraments and prayer in pursuing a moral life. (Analysis)
47. Explain the position of the Church on the Sources of morality and the morality of human acts. (Comprehension)
48. Characterize the relationship between participating in Mass and upholding morality. (Analysis)
49. Define sin and differentiate between the various kinds of sin. (Knowledge, Analysis)
50. List the effects of Original Sin. (Knowledge)
51. Explain why we alone don't decide what's right and wrong. (Comprehension)
- 52. Defend the proper understanding and use of freedom.*
53. Differentiate between judging a person and judging a behavior. (Analysis)
- 54. Acknowledge the limits of tolerance as our culture often misunderstands and misapplies it.*
55. Justify our Church's responsibility to teach God's revealed truth—including that in the area of morality. (Evaluation)

56. Acknowledge the Natural Law and its potential to unite people of good will.
57. Explain why we can't be in control over everything. (Comprehension)
58. Express appreciation for God's majesty and Christ's gift of salvation.
59. Explain a proper understanding of the adage "Charity begins at home." (Comprehension)
60. Express admiration for disciples of Jesus Christ who show their deep concern for others.

**Elective Course A:**  
**Sacred Scripture**

Cognitive objectives appear in plain type; *affective objectives are in italics.*

**Throughout this course and at its conclusion students will be able to:**

1. Define and give examples of divine revelation. (Knowledge)
2. Identify the Church's proclamation of Scripture and sharing of Sacred Tradition as the transmission of divine revelation. (Knowledge)
3. Describe the relationship between Scripture and Tradition. (Knowledge)
4. *Appreciate the Bible as truth inspired by the Holy Spirit and intended for our salvation.*
5. Apply Biblical criticism to the scriptural text. (Application)
6. *Apply the texts' meanings to student's own life.*
7. Differentiate exegesis and hermeneutics. (Analysis)
8. Differentiate literalistic interpretations of Scripture from contextual interpretations. (Analysis)
9. *Apply various Scriptural texts' meanings to student's own life.*
10. *Articulate the importance of faith as our personal and communal response to revelation.*
11. Define the Documentary Hypothesis of the Pentateuch. (Knowledge)
12. Analyze the composition of Old Testament texts in relation to the historical context of ancient Israel. (Analysis)
13. List and summarize key aspects of the Book of Genesis. (Comprehension)
14. *Acknowledge the importance and relevance of foundational truths found in the Book of Genesis.*
15. List and summarize key events in the Book of Exodus. (Comprehension)
16. *Identify with the Passover experience based on present-day events and experiences.*

17. Briefly outline the expansion of Israel's history as well as the further development of Israel's laws and liturgical practices. (Analysis)
18. Summarize the Book of Joshua and the era of the Judges. (Comprehension)
19. *Reflect on Ruth's story and her significance for women and men today.*
20. List and summarize key events in 1 and 2 Samuel. (Comprehension)
21. *Acknowledge the pros and cons of the Israelites having a king.*
22. List and summarize key events in 1 and 2 Kings. (Comprehension)
23. Identify similarities and differences between various people in the area of Sacred Scripture nearby and including 1 and 2 Kings and people of today—both famous and those often encountered in everyday life. (Analysis)
24. Summarize the Book of Job. (Comprehension)
25. *Articulate a Christian view of suffering including Job's response to hardship.*
26. Retell offer an interpretation of several psalms. (Comprehension)
27. *Participate in applying various psalms to current life-experiences.*
28. List and summarize key traits of the Wisdom books in Sacred Scripture. (Comprehension)
29. Define Isaiah's qualities of the Messiah and the Suffering Servant's saving role. (Knowledge)
30. *Acknowledge the surprising nature in Isaiah's prophecy of Messiah and Suffering Servant.*
31. Summarize Jeremiah's life story. (Comprehension)
32. *Discuss the significance of Jeremiah's point that he was chosen while in the womb as well as other key aspects of his life and message.*
33. Summarize Ezekiel's life story. (Comprehension)
34. *Discuss the importance of encouraging others toward Godly ways.*
35. Analyze the connection between Daniel and the Book of Revelation. (Analysis)
36. *Participate in applying lessons from Daniel's life to the life of teens today.*

37. List and summarize key traits of several minor prophets' lives and messages in the Old Testament. (Comprehension)
38. Describe Messianic expectations in the Old Testament. (Knowledge)
39. Explain the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy in Jesus Christ. (Comprehension)
40. Outline the major events and messages of Saint Matthew's Gospel. (Analysis)
- 41. Acknowledge the Great Commission's urgency for all the baptized.*
42. Outline the major events and messages of Saint Mark's Gospel. (Analysis)
- 43. Share the blessings of being one of Jesus' disciples.*
44. Outline the major events and messages of Saint Luke's Gospel. (Analysis)
- 45. Reflect on the Emmaus journey as well as its significance throughout history up to and including our present day and beyond.*
46. Compare and contrast Saint John's Gospel with the three others. (Analysis)
- 47. Reflect on Jesus' I AM statements as well as His priestly prayer.*
- 48. Support the Incarnation and Paschal Mystery as foundational for Christian faith.*
49. Outline the Acts of the Apostles. (Analysis)
- 50. Express appreciation for the Holy Spirit, our Blessed Mother, the Church and Saint Peter.*
51. List the key points of Saint Paul's Letter to the Romans. (Knowledge)
- 52. Acknowledge our need to share the Good News of salvation from sin and death so all people hear God's call to faith.*
53. Outline people, activities and events of the first-generation Church based on 1 Corinthians. (Analysis)
54. List and summarize key traits of various New Testament Letters. (Comprehension)
55. Outline the development of the early Church as found in Acts and the letters of Paul. (Analysis)

56. Summarize the Book of Revelation. (Comprehension)
57. *Support the value of comparing and contrasting the experience of Christians to whom the Book of Revelation was directly addressed with that of local Catholics today.*
58. Explain why Catholics acknowledge truth not explicitly taught in Sacred Scripture. (Comprehension)
59. Explain the foundation of Church doctrine in Scripture. (Comprehension)
60. Define the doctrine of “Scripture Alone” such that its absence from both the Bible and our Lord Jesus’ teaching is apparent. (Knowledge)
61. Explain why Sacred Scripture includes the number of books that it does. (Comprehension)
62. *Encounter the transformative power of God’s Mystery in changing individual lives and whole communities.*

**Elective Course B:**  
**History of the Catholic Church**

Cognitive objectives appear in plain type; *affective objectives are in italics.*

**Throughout this course and at its conclusion students will be able to:**

1. Outline how Christ established His Church to continue His saving Presence and work. (Analysis)
2. *Express appreciation for the gift of our Church including apostolic succession that preserves the mission, office and teaching of the Apostles as entrusted to them by Christ.*
3. Summarize how the early Church grew amid persecution. (Comprehension)
4. *Acknowledge the Eucharist as heart of early Christian worship.*
5. Recall highlights of the patristic age. (Knowledge)
6. *Acknowledge the Holy Spirit's role in the lives of saints—in this case early doctors and fathers of the Church—as well as in the initial development of doctrine.*
7. Describe the early western Church. (Knowledge)
8. *Acknowledge the positive influence of early bishops.*
9. Describe St. Benedict, St Columban and their followers. (Knowledge)
10. *Express appreciation for the Celtic monks' activities.*
11. Outline the development of the Church in the Middle Ages. (Analysis)
12. *Point out the benefits of Gregorian reform.*
13. List details regarding religious orders and universities of the Middle Ages. (Knowledge)
14. *Acknowledge our Church's role in the rise of education and centers for learning.*
15. List basic facts about the Crusades. (Knowledge)
16. *Reflect on why the negative aspects of the Crusades are often over-emphasized in cultural references to these military responses.*

17. List important facts regarding the Renaissance in relationship to the Church. (Knowledge)
18. *Acknowledge the positive contributions from this era.*
19. Summarize the main events of the Reformation. (Comprehension)
20. Assess the pros and cons of various reformers' positions regarding our Church. (Evaluation)
21. Summarize the work of the Council of Trent. (Comprehension)
22. *Acknowledge the Council of Trent's positive outcomes.*
23. Identify various saints associated with the Counter-Reformation. (Knowledge)
24. *Select the one or more Counter-Reformation saints who you admire most and answer the question of why you admire her/him/them.*
25. Summarize the main details of the Age of Exploration. (Comprehension)
26. *Acknowledge our Church's positive contributions during the Age of Exploration.*
27. Summarize the basic details of St. Francis Xavier's life. (Comprehension)
28. *Reflect on why St. Francis Xavier is a patron of our Archdiocese.*
29. Outline significant events from the Age of Enlightenment. (Evaluation and Analysis)
30. *Select the main dangers of carrying rationalism to the extreme.*
31. Succinctly synthesize biographical accounts of Saint Theodora Guerin and Servant of God Simon Bruté. (Synthesis)
32. *Express admiration for Saint Theodora Guerin and Servant of God Simon Bruté.*
33. Summarize Vatican I. (Comprehension)
34. *Acknowledge value of papal infallibility.*
35. Summarize the rise of Catholic Social Teaching. (Comprehension)
36. *Select the main positive contributions of Rerum Novarum.*
37. Describe Saint Pius X's papacy. (Knowledge)

- 38. Acknowledge the downside of modernism.*
- 39. Summarize our Church's role in the World Wars. (Comprehension)*
- 40. Organize, according to effectiveness, the ways that Pius XII opposed the Holocaust.*
- 41. Compile a brief overview of Vatican II. (Synthesis)*
- 42. Judge the main authentically positive results of Vatican II.*
- 43. Summarize the main details of John Paul the Great's life. (Comprehension)*
- 44. Decide why John Paul II is considered by many to be Great.*
- 45. Recall basic biographical details of all our Holy Fathers since John Paul II.*
- 46. Express appreciation for the gift of our papacy.*
- 47. Outline significant events of our Church's history in the United States of America. (Evaluation and Analysis)*
- 48. Express the benefits of Catholic schools.*
- 49. Outline the development of Catholic education in the U.S.A. (Analysis)*
- 50. Reflect on the positive contribution of our Church to education in our country.*
- 51. Outline and explain areas of concern for our Church at this point in history. (Analysis and Comprehension)*
- 52. Acknowledge the seriousness of these above-mentioned areas of concern.*
- 53. Outline the reasons for hope at this point in salvation history. (Analysis)*
- 54. Reflect on the positive contributions of various North American saints.*
- 55. Explain how our Church is holy and a protector of truth amidst occasional failures among her members. (Comprehension)*
- 56. Devise a case for the Holy Spirit's ongoing guidance of our Church. (Evaluation and Synthesis)*
- 57. Explain why various ecclesial bodies have left full communion with our Catholic Church. (Comprehension)*
- 58. Express the benefits of unity among all friends of Jesus.*

**Elective Course C:**  
Living as a Disciple of Jesus Christ in Society

Cognitive objectives appear in plain type; *affective objectives are in italics.*

**Throughout this course and at its conclusion students will be able to:**

1. Explain that the Church is a sign and instrument of communion with God and the unity of the whole human race. (Comprehension)
2. *Express appreciation for the opportunity to be close both to God and to all our fellow women and men.*
3. Explain the connection between salvation, the Paschal Mystery and eternal life with our Triune God in heaven. (Comprehension)
4. *Acknowledge the importance of knowing how to attain eternal life.*
5. Define happiness. (Knowledge)
6. *Extol the benefits of pursuing happiness in accordance with the teaching of our Church.*
7. Explain how the Church always stands for charity and justice. (Comprehension)
8. *Express appropriate pride in our Church's social concern.*
9. List and define several types of justice. (Knowledge)
10. *Offer several benefits of distinguishing between various types of justice.*
11. Outline the path of Catholic social teaching from the late 1800s to the present. (Analysis)
12. *Acknowledge the positive contribution of the Magisterium to society.*
13. Outline the basic principals of Catholic social teaching from the universal Magisterium. (Analysis)
14. *Advocate for foundational Catholic social teaching.*
15. Review the heritage of our USCCB regarding life as a disciple of Jesus Christ in society. (Comprehension)
16. *Select a USCCB pastoral letter that has special personal meaning—explaining why it has personal meaning.*

17. Explain Catholic social teaching on the dignity of human life. (Comprehension)
18. *Judge examples of real-life behavior as following Catholic social teaching or not living up to CST.*
19. *Acknowledge the positive impact of the Incarnation on our understanding of human life.*
20. Explain Catholic social teaching on the call to family, community and participation. (Comprehension)
21. *Acknowledge the benefits of spreading God's revealed truth about families, family life and the family's role in society.*
22. Explain Catholic social teaching on responsibilities and rights. (Comprehension)
23. *Advocate for a high-profile role of responsibility in discussions about rights.*
24. Explain Catholic social teaching on a preferential option for the poor. (Comprehension)
25. *Express the benefits of Jesus and His disciples addressing spiritual poverty as well as impoverishment in the temporal realm.*
26. Explain Catholic social teaching on the dignity of work and rights of workers. (Comprehension)
27. *Share appreciation for God's creation plan including work.*
28. Explain Catholic social teaching on solidarity. (Comprehension)
29. *Point out the importance of solidarity as articulated in Ecclesia in America nn. 52-65.*
30. Explain Catholic social teaching on stewardship of God's creation. (Comprehension)
31. *Advocate for an explicitly theistic ecology in contrast to one implying pantheism and/or panentheism.*
32. Define social sin. (Knowledge)
33. *Acknowledge the reality of sinful choices in response to social injustice, giving at least one example.*

34. Summarize the social dimension of the first three Commandments.  
(Comprehension)
35. *Address life in the 21<sup>st</sup>-century United States of America vis-à-vis societal authorities ensuring freedom of worship.*
36. Describe the positive aspects of the 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment in relation to people's societal interaction with each other. (Comprehension)
37. *Acknowledge the negative consequence of failing to live the 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment, delineating this failure's impact on our society.*
38. Describe the positive aspects of the 5<sup>th</sup> Commandment in relation to people's societal interaction with each other. (Comprehension)
39. *Acknowledge the negative consequence of failing to live the 5<sup>th</sup> Commandment, delineating this failure's impact on our society.*
40. Describe the positive aspects of the 6<sup>th</sup> Commandment in relation to people's societal interaction with each other. (Comprehension)
41. *Acknowledge the negative consequence of failing to live the 6<sup>th</sup> Commandment, delineating this failure's impact on our society.*
42. Describe the positive aspects of the 7<sup>th</sup> Commandment in relation to people's societal interaction with each other. (Comprehension)
43. *Acknowledge the negative consequence of failing to live the 7<sup>th</sup> Commandment, delineating this failure's impact on our society.*
44. Describe the positive aspects of the 8<sup>th</sup> Commandment in relation to people's societal interaction with each other. (Comprehension)
45. *Acknowledge the negative consequence of failing to live the 8<sup>th</sup> Commandment, delineating this failure's impact on our society.*
46. Describe the positive aspects of the 9<sup>th</sup> Commandment in relation to people's societal interaction with each other. (Comprehension)
47. *Acknowledge the negative consequence of failing to live the 9<sup>th</sup> Commandment, delineating this failure's impact on our society.*
48. Describe the positive aspects of the 10<sup>th</sup> Commandment in relation to people's societal interaction with each other. (Comprehension)

- 49. Acknowledge the negative consequence of failing to live the 10<sup>th</sup> Commandment, delineating this failure's impact on our society.*
50. Summarize the positive social contribution of each Beatitude. (Comprehension)
- 51. Express the negative societal impact of ignoring each Beatitude.*
52. State the Two Great Commandments. (Knowledge)
- 53. Speculate as to why Jesus gave His specific answer to the question of what the greatest commandment is.*
- 54. Select several reasons why we shouldn't always look out for ourselves first, making a case for selflessness properly defined.*
55. Explain why success isn't measured merely by wealth. (Comprehension)
- 56. Advocate for the healthy role of material possessions in the overall life of a disciple of Jesus.*
57. Explain to the adage that "Revenge doesn't taste sweet." (Comprehension)
- 58. Make a case for assertion rather than aggression in seeking to resolve most conflicts peacefully (i.e. without violence).*
59. Analyze the myth that working for justice is more important than engaging in charity. (Analysis)
- 60. Advocate that a person who claims the name of Catholic must work in charity and as well as applying the social teaching of our Church.*

**Elective Course D:**  
Responding to the Call of Jesus Christ

Cognitive objectives appear in plain type; *affective objectives are in italics.*

**Throughout this course and at its conclusion students will be able to:**

1. Define the universal call to holiness. (Knowledge)
2. *Acknowledge the benefits of living a holy life with holiness properly understood.*
3. Define vocation. (Knowledge)
4. *Express the importance of discerning one's vocation and pursuing it by God's grace.*
5. Summarize Jesus' teaching and example regarding service. (Comprehension)
6. *Advocate for Marriage and Holy Orders as key ways of serving the community.*
7. Outline the basic points of Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body. (Analysis)
8. *Speculate as to why this Theology of the Body has been so helpful in sharing God's message about chaste living.*
9. Identify several encouraging signs of Christ's saving work in marriage and the family. (Knowledge)
10. *Acknowledge the great value of marriage.*
11. Identify several problems encountered in marriage and family life. (Knowledge)
12. *Assert that these problems really are problems in the face of a moral relativism that would downplay their significance.*
13. Review the key components regarding the celebration of Marriage as one of the seven Sacraments. (Comprehension)
14. *Explain why Catholics are encouraged to marry other Catholics.*
15. Summarize proper remote and proximate preparation for marriage. (Comprehension)
16. *Comment on the likelihood of proper preparation contributing to a healthy and happy marriage.*

17. Summarize effective immediate preparation for marriage. (Comprehension)
18. *Comment on the Church's responsibility to prepare couples for marriage.*
19. Review the effects of the Sacrament of Marriage on the wife and husband as well as on Church, community and society. (Comprehension)
20. *Share observations of these five effects.*
21. Identify several challenges to marriage and family life. (Knowledge)
22. *Reflect on how best to meet one or more of these challenges to marriage and family life.*
23. Describe when and why a civil divorce may be permitted. (Knowledge)
24. *Advocate against divorce using research on its impact (e.g. Why Marriage Matters: Twenty-Six Conclusions from the Social Sciences).*
25. Summarize how to determine validity of a previous marriage for divorced Catholics. (Comprehension)
26. *Express a rationale for the granting of declarations of nullity.*
27. Recall that Holy Orders was instituted by Christ at the Last Supper as a sign of the Lord's abiding presence and priestly action in the Church. (Knowledge)
28. *Acknowledge the value of tracing Holy Orders back to the Lord Himself.*
29. Outline Holy Orders' historical development. (Analysis)
30. *Acknowledge the importance of the Apostles as the first bishops.*
31. List and explain the three degrees of Holy Orders. (Comprehension)
32. *Express appreciation for priests acting in persona Christi capitatis.*
33. Explain why Holy Orders is a Sacrament reserved to men. (Comprehension)
34. *Speculate as to why Christ reserved the ministerial priesthood to men.*
35. Summarize proper preparation for Holy Orders. (Comprehension)
36. *Identify at least one man who God may be calling to ordained priesthood, citing perceived signs of this call.*

37. Name the effects of Holy Orders. (Knowledge)
- 38. Express appreciation for the gift of Holy Orders.*
39. List and define the various forms of consecrated life. (Knowledge)
- 40. Express appreciation for the contributions of consecrated women and men.*
41. Name the evangelical counsels. (Knowledge)
- 42. Acknowledge the value of these counsels.*
43. Explain how religious women and men are consecrated like Christ. (Comprehension)
- 44. Advocate for a clear focus on God's Kingdom.*
45. Summarize the Paschal dimension of consecrated life. (Comprehension)
- 46. Show an awareness of a Paschal dimension for life in general.*
47. Explain how consecrated women and men witness Jesus to the world. (Comprehension)
- 48. Express appreciation for the witness of religious women and men.*
49. Summarize the eschatological dimension of consecrated life. (Comprehension)
- 50. Show an awareness of an eschatological dimension for life in general.*
51. Explain how the Virgin Mary is the model of consecration and discipleship. (Comprehension)
52. Compose a prayer asking our Blessed Mother to intercede on behalf of those who God is calling to consecrated life.
53. Explain how having the “right” vocation, job or career isn’t essential for one’s happiness.
- 54. Acknowledge the potential consequences of refusing to answer God’s call.*
55. Explain why financial security and material comfort aren’t true measures of success. (Comprehension)
- 56. Acknowledge the Beatitudes’ role in pursuing happiness.*

57. Explain why a failed marriage isn't just a regular part of life. (Comprehension)
58. *Express appreciation for God giving necessary graces for living out our commitments.*
59. Argue against the myth of celibacy leading to an unhappy, lonely life. (Evaluation)
60. *Acknowledge the value of celibacy for the sake of Jesus and His kingdom.*

**Elective Course E:**  
**Ecumenical and Interreligious Issues**

Cognitive objectives appear in plain type; *affective objectives are in italics.*

**Throughout this course and at its conclusion students will be able to:**

1. Define Divine Revelation and identify its highlights in salvation history. (Knowledge)
2. *Acknowledge the benefits of embracing the truth revealed by God.*
3. *Express the importance of differentiating between testing faith and testing God (i.e. testing God is a sin).*
4. Recall that Divine Revelation ended with the death of the last Apostle. (Knowledge)
5. *Point out the significance of Divine Revelation ending with the last Apostle's death—especially in light of any proposed changes to or reversals of our Church's basic doctrinal and moral teaching.*
6. List signs that our Catholic Church is Divinely founded. (Knowledge)
7. *Comment on the importance in the Divine foundation of the Catholic Church.*
8. Define Apostolic Succession. (Knowledge)
9. *Express gratitude for our Church's protecting the Deposit of Faith.*
10. Define what it means to be in full communion with the Church. (Knowledge)
11. *State a desire for authentic ecumenical dialogue working to overcome obstacles to full communion.*
12. Define dissent, heresy and schism. (Knowledge)
13. *Point out the importance of acknowledging Mary as Mother of God and as well as acknowledging Jesus' divine and human natures.*
14. List the basic facts associated with the Schism of 1054. (Knowledge)
15. *Comment on the truth that the Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father and the Son.*
16. Explain what it means to be ordained in the Church as well as the authority and responsibilities of priests. (Comprehension and Knowledge)

17. Outline the differences between the Catholic Church and the Eastern Orthodox Churches. (Analysis)
18. *Select the main benefits of restoring full communion between Eastern Orthodox Churches and our Catholic Church.*
19. Identify characteristics of the Anglican (Episcopal), Lutheran and Reformed Christian ecclesial communions. (Knowledge)
20. *Express gratitude for the common ties between the Catholic Church and these ecclesial communions.*
21. Summarize the process of further divisions among ecclesial communions that separated from the Catholic Church. (Comprehension)
22. *Support the value of not holding those born into ecclesial communions separated from our Catholic Church as being responsible for this separation.*
23. List the requirements of true ecumenical activity. (Knowledge)
24. *Acknowledge the importance of distinguishing between true and false (i.e. least-common-denominator) ecumenism.*
25. Outline those conditions leading to greater hope of restoring full communion between the Catholic Church and other Churches and Christian ecclesial communities. (Analysis)
26. *Express a desire for true ecumenism.*
27. Explain how the link between the Catholic Church and the Jewish people is special. (Comprehension)
28. *Express appreciation for the Jewish people as first to hear the Word of God, that is, Divine Revelation.*
29. List basic details regarding the unique and special position of the relationship between the Catholic Church and the Jewish people. (Knowledge)
30. *Acknowledge that reflecting on the Jewish origins of Jesus, Mary, the Apostles etc. can deepen our understanding of and relationship with God.*
31. Compare and contrast Judaism and our Catholic Church. (Analysis)
32. *Point out the benefits for Catholics of acknowledging Jesus as the promised Messiah.*

33. Name examples of anti-Judaism or anti-Semitism evident among Catholics in past centuries. (Knowledge)
34. *Acknowledge the importance of seeing the sins of all humanity as the cause of Jesus' death.*
35. Identify the goals of dialogue between our Catholic Church and people of Jewish faith. (Knowledge)
36. *Express a sincere desire that Catholic-Jewish dialogue will bear good fruit in God's eyes.*
37. List the key traits and tenets of the Muslim people and Islamic religion.
38. *Acknowledge that several key truths are in turn acknowledged within Islam.*
39. Identify various non-Christian religions common in the U.S. and elements held in common with Christianity. (Knowledge and Analysis)
40. *Express the importance of understanding accurately the truth that those who do not know Christ but who still strive to know and live in truth and holiness can be saved.*
41. Explain that the fulfillment of the values and virtues of other religions is found in what the Catholic Church proclaims. (Comprehension)
42. *Express admiration for the simple yet profound core proclamations of our Catholic Church.*
43. Explain what it means to say that our Catholic Church possesses the fullness of the means of salvation willed by God as the ordinary way of saving all people. (Comprehension)
44. *Express gratitude that God would make salvation from sin and death so readily available.*
45. Define Interreligious Dialogue. (Knowledge)
46. *Acknowledge the benefits of sincere interreligious dialogue.*
47. *Express that knowledge of non-Christian traditions allows a platform for orientation toward the reception of the Gospel.*
48. *Acknowledge that each person has gifts to share in participating in religious dialogue and in contributing to peace in the world.*

49. Devise an argument against the assertion that one faith or religion is just as good as any other. (Synthesis)
50. *Express appreciation for dialogue, respect and unity as they pertain to true ecumenism.*
51. Distinguish between respect for people in their intrinsic dignity and tolerance of falsehood. (Analysis)
52. *Celebrate the Church as a champion of respect and love—not to be confused with liking everyone at all times or admiring each person's decisions in all cases.*
53. Define tolerance. (Knowledge)
54. *Acknowledge the importance of distinguishing between tolerance of people and tolerance of all behaviors.*
55. Explain why compromise is an inappropriate goal in the matter of revealed truth. (Comprehension)
56. *Point out the disadvantage of overemphasizing some aspects of the truth at the expense of other aspects.*
57. Outline what caused the four divisions in Christianity from the time of Ephesus, Chalcedon, 1054 and the Protestant Reformation. (Analysis)
58. *Express a positive outlook toward recent willingness among the Catholic Church and other religious groups to meet face to face for prayer and dialogue.*
59. *Reflect on what it takes to live the greatest commandment in light of our pluralistic world: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."*
60. *Acknowledge the benefits of identifying as a part of the Body of Christ, with Christ as our Head; that all the parts of the body must work together and work against falsehood.*