Catechist Self- Assessment

The General Directory for Catechesis lists six fundamental tasks of catechesis (#84-87) Following are questions for catechists to use as a personal reflection on their growth and formation in these areas. Catechists can then discuss these with their catechetical leader.

**Promoting Knowledge of the Faith**

As a catechist, do I: (check the areas in which you feel you have succeeded)

\_\_\_\_\_ participate fully in my own on-going formation, attending parish and/ or diocesan formation opportunities?

\_\_\_\_\_know and teach the diocesan curriculum Forming a People of Faith?

\_\_\_\_\_ understand how to plan an effective lesson?

\_\_\_\_\_understand the stages of cognitive development and faith development and plan lessons that are appropriate?

\_\_\_\_\_set clear objectives about what will be learned in each session?

\_\_\_\_\_prepare well for my sessions, having all materials ready before the students arrive?

\_\_\_\_\_use a variety of teaching methods?

\_\_\_\_\_help students apply what they learn to their daily lives?

\_\_\_\_\_assess whether the students have learned the objectives?

\_\_\_\_\_encourage my students to ask questions, to enter into discussion and take time to research questions for which I may not have the answers?

**Moral Formation**

As a catechist, do I: (check the areas in which you feel you have succeeded)

\_\_\_\_\_ know the commandments and the beatitudes and the implications of these in life and can relate them to the age level of my students?

\_\_\_\_\_ spend time in prayer and discernment when making moral decisions in my own life and help the students to form a right moral conscience?

\_\_\_\_\_ know the Church’s position on issues of social justice and morality? Am I familiar with the seven principles of Catholic Social Teaching?

**Liturgical Action**

As a catechist, do I: (check the areas in which you feel you have succeeded)

\_\_\_\_\_ fully, actively, and consciously participate in the sacraments and the Sunday liturgy in my parish?

\_\_\_\_\_ encourage my students to fully, actively, and consciously participate in the sacraments and the Sunday liturgy in their parish?

**Teaching to Pray**

As a catechist, do I: (check the areas in which you feel you have succeeded)

\_\_\_\_\_ have an active personal prayer life that sustains me?

\_\_\_\_\_ teach my students how to pray?

\_\_\_\_\_ encourage students to turn to God in prayer during times of distress or when making decisions?

\_\_\_\_\_ begin and end my sessions with prayer, involving the students?

\_\_\_\_\_ provide a diversity of prayer experiences for the students?

\_\_\_\_\_ emphasize the importance of memorizing the basic prayers of the Church for appropriate age levels?

**Education for Community Life**

As a catechist, do I: (check the areas in which you feel you have succeeded)

\_\_\_\_\_ experience community in my parish?

\_\_\_\_\_ model what it means to be a forgiving, reconciling presence when someone hurts me?

\_\_\_\_\_ readily admit when I have hurt another, modeling this attitude for the students?

\_\_\_\_\_ meet the needs of all students, including those with special needs?

\_\_\_\_\_encourage acceptance of all in the group, regardless of physical, emotional, mental, or faith development differences?

\_\_\_\_\_ encourage students to become involved in the church community in age appropriate activities?

\_\_\_\_\_ handle discipline issues effectively and with respect?

**Missionary Initiation**

As a catechist, do I: (check the areas in which you feel you have succeeded)

\_\_\_\_\_ continually proclaim the Gospel message to my students?

\_\_\_\_\_ seek to equip students to live as disciples of Jesus in all areas of their lives?

\_\_\_\_\_focus on my own discipleship so as to be a witness to my students?

\_\_\_\_\_ personally have an open acceptance to and participate in ecumenical activities?

\_\_\_\_\_ encourage my students to be open to the vocation call for them be it to the ordained ministry (priesthood), religious life (Sister, Brother), marriage, or the single life?

\_\_\_\_\_ bring to the students an awareness of the activity of missionaries and encourage students to become involved in supporting these missionaries?

Looking at the checklist, choose 2 areas to work on. Write a goal for each area and state strategies for each goal. A sample goal may be to learn how to plan more effective lessons. Action steps may include watching a webinar on lesson planning, beginning to use a lesson planning worksheet each week, and asking a veteran catechist for tips and/ or sitting in on one of their classes.

Goal #1 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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State action steps to meet this goal. Choose specific and measurable action steps.

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Goal #2 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Name of Catechist\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_