



## PARENT PAGE

*Parents have the unique responsibility for the education of their children; they are the first educators or catechists. They teach by their witness of the faith, through their values and attitudes, by their Christian example of love for Christ and his church. When children are baptized, parents accept the responsibility to raise their children in the practice of the faith... (National Directory for Catechesis 234-235)*

Dear Parents,

In a special document entitled *Letter to Families*, Pope John Paul II wrote: “Parents are the first and most important educators of their own children, and they also possess a fundamental competence in this area; they are educators because they are parents”(16). You are the first and best role model for your child in these growing years. Your role as parent to love, teach, and lead your child to Jesus is a remarkable and noble vocation.

Junior High is a time of rapid change. Physically, cognitively, morally, emotionally, and socially your child is “crossing the bridge” between childhood and adulthood. It may be a longer journey for some than others because of each one’s unique pattern of development. However, there are some general developmental comments about this stage that can be made.

### Your Child’s Faith Development

Seventh graders desire to be actively involved in and are open to service opportunities. They are willing to explore a personal relationship with God as they begin to define their own image of God. They look to the Church for the content and expression of faith. As a parent you will want to provide opportunities for “service,” “community building,” “reflection,” and “activity.” Seventh graders need both faith structure and flexibility in their religion classes and at home. These young people present particular challenges and opportunities to those who minister to them: you, as parents, as well as, those responsible for religious education in parishes, youth workers, and clergy. They have needs and wants that are unique to their situations and their levels of maturity in many areas. Adults who work with these young adolescents must be attentive to their special circumstances, needs, and attitudes.

Adolescents:

- ✦ Are sensitive to physical changes and body image which greatly influences self-image
- ✦ Begin abstract thinking
- ✦ Use a more complex decision making process
- ✦ Can reason based on possibilities not just experience
- ✦ Can be self-conscious and critical
- ✦ Want to belong
- ✦ Begin to distance themselves at times from family influences and identify more closely with peers
- ✦ Seek limited independence
- ✦ Value friendships based on trust and loyalty
- ✦ Reason at conventional levels
- ✦ Resolve moral dilemmas based on expectations outside of self, i.e. peers, laws, parents, etc.

### ***How You Can Help Your Child Grow In Faith***

This year your child will continue to view the Catholic Church as a faith community given life by the Holy Spirit. He/she will come to realize that it is Christ's presence in the world through the power of the Holy Spirit which gives glory and praise to the Father and brings His redeeming love to all. As Catholics, we claim Jesus as the source of all teaching, sacramental life, our mission, and our ministries. As people of God we continue the mission of Jesus through active and committed participation in the life of the Church. Sacraments are specific faith actions of the Church empowered by Jesus through the guidance of the Spirit.

Your child will come to learn that building a strong and realistic concept of him/herself is based on Jesus' vision of being fully human. As God's children, created in His image and likeness, we are called to holiness and eternal life in God's Kingdom. Developing relationships with peers, parents, and other adults should be based on honest, love, and respect, leading us into a deeper life and faith and a life-giving relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church.

Here are several points that will assist you over the course of this year, to help your child grow in his/her faith.

- ➔ Attend and participate in Sunday Mass as a family. Afterward, talk about some of the things mentioned in the homily. Once a month, allow your seventh grader to select an activity that the family can enjoy after Mass (i.e. dining at a favorite restaurant, attending a special movie, sports activity etc).
- ➔ Help your child identify ways to participate in your parish. Stress the importance of service to others by volunteering our time and talents. Mention the importance of tithing.
- ➔ Encourage your child (and his/her friends) to become involved in your parish Youth Ministry Program. If your parish does not have a program, check with the Department for Youth and Young Adult Ministry (218) 724-9111 to locate a program close by.
- ➔ Discuss ways in which your child can spread the good news about Jesus (i.e. example to others, helping in the community/neighborhood, acts of kindness). Explain that Jesus works through us to reach all people.
- ➔ Help your child become familiar with a Church agency that serves the needs of the community (i.e. food bank, Meals on Wheels, local nursing home).
- ➔ Encourage your child to visit the diocesan website at [www.dioceseduluth.org](http://www.dioceseduluth.org) to become familiar with the Youth Ministry homepage.
- ➔ Have your child surf the internet for information on the lives of Catholic saints to research his/her patron saint in preparation for Confirmation. Explain why you chose his/her name. Help your child identify a sponsor for the sacrament of Confirmation keeping in mind the special person must be a practicing Catholic in good standing in the Church.
- ➔ Purchase a teen's Catholic bible as a gift for your child. Encourage him/her to pray often.

In order to understand the Catholic faith more fully every family should have a copy of the Bible, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, the *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults*, and the *Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

## Grade >

# BACKGROUND FOR CATECHISTS

## *Know Your Audience*

Just like Jesus, every good catechist knows their audience.

**“The catechist – must take into consideration all the human factors of a particular age level in order to present the Gospel message in a vital and compelling way.” (NDC #48)**

## *Who Are Your Seventh Graders?*

**JUNIOR HIGH** – Seventh and eighth grade is a time of rapid change. Physically, cognitively, morally, emotionally, and socially these young people are “crossing the bridge” between childhood and adulthood. It may be a longer journey for some than others because of each one’s unique pattern of development. However there are some general developmental comments about this stage that can be made.

## DEVELOPMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS

### Junior High Students:

#### Physical

1. Undergo a growth spurt.
2. Develop secondary sex characteristics.
3. Are sensitive to physical changes and body image which greatly influences self-image.

#### Cognitive

1. Begin abstract thinking.
2. Use a more complex decision making process.
3. Can reason based on possibilities not just experience.
4. Can be self-conscious and critical.

#### Identity

1. Want to belong.
2. Begin to distance themselves at times from family influences and identify more closely with peers.
3. Seek limited independence.
4. Value friendship based on trust and loyalty.

#### Moral

1. Reason at conventional level.
2. Resolve moral dilemmas based on expectations outside of self, i.e. peers, laws, parents, etc.

#### Faith

1. Desire active involvement and are open to service opportunities.
2. Are willing to explore a personal relationship with God as they begin to define their own

image of God.

3. Look to the Church for the content and expression of faith.

Realizing all these factors, a junior high religion program should be one that still involves the concrete, but also provides opportunities for “community building,” “reflection,” and “activity.” These young teens are truly in a transition time. They need both faith structure and flexibility in a religion program.

Junior high school students, who can range in age from 11-15, present particular challenges and opportunities to those who minister to them: parents, those responsible for religious education in parishes, youth workers, and clergy. These young people have needs and wants that are unique to their situations and their levels of maturity in many areas. Adults who work with these younger adolescents must be attentive to the special circumstances, needs, and attitudes of junior high students.

## NOTES

1. Pope John Paul II in **On Catechesis in Our Time** encourages the use of advances in pedagogy; biology, sociology as they help us to model God’s Divine Pedagogy (teaching us gradually in stages according to our level of development). The above noted information is consistent with such documents as the *General Directory for Catechesis*, the *National Directory for Catechesis*, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* and other Catechetical Documents of the Church.
2. The above sciences have limitations. While this information does provide references to typical age ranges, children continue to be viewed as individuals and individual differences need to be taken into account.

# **SEVENTH GRADE**

## **CURRICULUM STANDARDS**

### **Themes: Jesus and Morality (Including respect for life).**

Jesus became man and shared our human experience while remaining God. The church looks upon Jesus' life, values, and teachings as the fullest revelation of God, His Father. Our moral life is a lived response to God's covenant love. A Catholic, prompted by the Holy spirit, makes choices by asking, "What does the mind and heart of Jesus and the Church tell us about this situation?"

#### **The Catechist should:**

- **Make copies of the Parent Page (front and back) for students to take home.**
- **Read the Background for Catechists Information.**
- **Become familiar with the *National Directory for Catechesis* & the *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults*.**
- **Review and Clarify Previous Understandings with students:**
  - Identify Church as a community of believers in the Risen Lord with its beginnings in the People of God of the Old Testament.
  - Recognize God as personally involved in the history of His people.
  - Recall the place of oral tradition in the formation of the Bible.
  - Understand that Jesus was a Jew, and that the roots of Christianity are founded in Judaism.
  - Review the sacraments as sacred rites giving expression to covenant and commitment.
  - Review Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist as the sacraments of initiation and as

sources of identity.

- Review Penance and Anointing of the Sick as sacraments of healing.
- Review Matrimony and Holy Orders as sacraments of commitment and service.
- Review parts of the Mass.
- Understand the Seasons of the Church Year and their importance.

- Know by heart the following prayers:

Sign of the Cross

Our Father

Hail Mary

Glory Be

Act of Contrition

Apostles Creed

Prayers before and after meals (optional)

Angel of God

Prayers of Aspiration

Mysteries of the Rosary

Nicene Creed

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Memorare

Hail Holy Queen

- **Pray the Diocesan Vocation Prayer**

- **Know the following concepts:**

The Precepts of the Church

The Beatitudes

**AT THE END OF THIS GRADE LEVEL STUDENTS WILL DEMONSTRATE THE FOLLOWING UNDERSTANDINGS AND APPRECIATION OF THE EXPERIENCES INDICATED.**

[Note about symbols: Of the six tasks of catechesis (knowledge of the faith; liturgy & sacraments; moral formation; prayer; community; missionary spirit) five have a symbol assigned to them. Knowledge of the Faith is the organizing task]

**Symbol Key:**

 = Liturgy & Sacraments     = Moral Formation     = Prayer     = Community     = Missionary Spirit

**Reference Code:** CCC = *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

Compendium = *Compendium to the Catechism of the Catholic Church*

USCCA = *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults*

## KNOWLEDGE OF THE FAITH

1. **Jesus as God was also man, conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit.**
2. **Jesus Christ possesses two natures, one divine and the other human, not confused, but united in the one person of God's Son.**

CCC #464, 469, 480-482, 484; Compendium #85-95; USCCA pp. 81-83, 85-86, 91, 301, 344



- Students will experience prayer as a deepening of personal relationship with Jesus.

Scripture: Accounts of Jesus' nature, miracles, and miraculous cures

3. **The title 'Son of God' signifies the unique and eternal relationship of Jesus Christ to God his Father . . . . To be a Christian, one must believe that Jesus Christ is the Divine Son of God.**

CCC #444, 454; Compendium # 83, 85, 90; USCCA pp. 81-82, 85-87



- Students will perceive themselves as part of the Church: the People of God, the body of Christ.

Galatians 4:1-10... God's Heirs

4. **Jesus is the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity.**

CCC #240-242, 253-255; Compendium #42, 46-49, 83; USCCA pp. 52-53, 62, 81



- Students will know by heart the following formal prayers: Sign of the Cross, Glory Be, Apostles Creed

Matthew 16:15-20... Peter Acknowledges Jesus as Messiah

Vocabulary: incarnation, messiah, trinity

Textbook Chapter	Date to Teach	Date Completed

**5. Mary is the Mother of God and model of faith.**

**6. Mary, “from the first instant of her conception (Immaculate Conception), was totally preserved from the stain of original sin, and she remained pure from all personal sin throughout her life.”**

CCC #508, 509, 721, 722, 963, 967; Compendium #95, 96, 196; USCCA pp. 82, 143-145, 147, 471, 515, 520



- Students will know by heart the following formal prayers: Hail Mary, Mysteries of the Rosary, Hail Holy Queen



- Students will identify traditional saints whose lives were dedicated to service.

Vocabulary: assumption, ascension

**7. God the Father sent Jesus to be the Messiah, bringing good news, healing, and freedom to the poor and oppressed.**

CCC #713, 714; Compendium #78, 82; USCCA pp. 83, 85, 109, 507



- Students will understand that they are called to continue Christ’s mission of forgiving, healing, and reconciling one another.



- Students will develop ways to put into practice the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. Examine how social ills and injustices affect the lives of all people as well as their responsibility for others even when suffering is perceived as a global experience. Become aware of local and global social concerns.

Mark 1:40-45... Jesus’ compassion for others; cure of leper

Mark 6: 34-44... Feeding the hungry

Vocabulary: corporal works of mercy, disciple, responsibility, social justice

Textbook Chapter	Date to Teach	Date Completed

**8. Jesus, the Son of God, came to reconcile us with God, to show us God’s love, to be our model of holiness, and to make us “partakers of the divine nature.”**

CCC #456-460; Compendium #85

**9. The mysteries of Christ’s public life are his baptism, temptations, announcement of the Kingdom, miracles, transfiguration, ascent to and entry into Jerusalem.**

CCC #535-560, 565-570; Compendium #89, 101-103, 108, 110, 132; USCCA pp. 79-80, 520



- Students will understand their story in light of the story of salvation.

Luke 2:22-40... Presentation in the Temple Mark 1:23-28... power over evil

Mark 1:40-45... Cure of Leper Mark 6:34-44... Feeding the hungry

Luke 9: 28-36... Transfiguration of Jesus

Other scripture: Accounts of Jesus’ miracles, and miraculous cures

Vocabulary: apostle, beatitudes, commandments, disciple, gospel, miracle, parable

**10. Jesus’ mission was to save people from sin and to lead them to the kingdom.**

CCC #608, 542-545; Compendium # 9, 144; USCCA pp. 79-80, 91-92, 486



- Students will appreciate that belonging to the church means participating in its mission.

✠ - Students will appreciate the need for the frequent reception of the sacraments of penance and Eucharist as ways to participate in the worship of the Church and to grow in God’s grace.

Luke 19: 9-10; 4:16-21; John 10:10... Purposes of Jesus’ Coming

Vocabulary: authority, commitment, consequence, grace, kingdom, Kingdom of God, messiah

Textbook Chapter	Date to Teach	Date Completed

**11. The Beatitudes are a guide to the values of God’s kingdom.**

CCC #1716-171; Compendium #358-363; USCCA pp. 308, 500, 505



- Students will understand they are called to continue Christ’s mission of forgiving, healing, and reconciling one another. Accept the invitation and responsibility to become part of parish community experiences.



- Students will experience days of reflection and retreats as opportunities for personal spiritual growth.



- Students will recognize that in baptism all Christians receive a call to service. Develop ways to put into practice the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. Reflect on and participate in service opportunities for oneself within the parish and local community. Become involved in service outreach projects, clothing and food collections, and fund-raising drives. Realize how persons give witness to their faith through their work.

Matthew 5:1-12... Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount; Beatitudes

Vocabulary: beatitudes, disciple, grace, responsibility, values, virtue

**12. Jesus’ miracles are dramatic signs of God’s power and love.**

CCC 546-550; Compendium # 108; USCCA pp. 79-80, 539


Scripture: Accounts of Jesus’ nature, miracles, and miraculous cures

Vocabulary: miracle, paschal mystery, resurrection

Textbook Chapter	Date to Teach	Date Completed

**13. The Gospels are a divinely inspired written expression of how the early Church understood its faith experience and the Risen Christ in their lives.**


CCC #76, 124-127, 515, 573; Compendium #22; USCCA pp. 21-24, 26, 119


 - Students will understand their story in light of the story of salvation.

Vocabulary: evangelist, Gospel, New Testament, parable

**14. Jesus gave us a new commandment of love.**

CCC #1970; Compendium #420; USCCA pp. 87, 309, 321, 325

 - Students will create a family and classroom environment where each person is accepted as unique and treated justly. Discuss the future of the Church and what the adolescent role in the church might be. Identify and appreciate special gifts and talents which can be used for oneself and others.

 - Students will appreciate that all individual moral decisions affect ones relationships with self, others and God.

 - Students will reflect on and participate in service opportunities for oneself within the parish and local community.

Mark 1:40-45... Jesus' compassion for others; cure of leper; 1 Corinthians 13... Love is  
 Mark 6:34-44... Feeding the hungry      Mark 10:13-16... Blessing the children  
 John 13:4-7 & 34-35... Following Jesus' Way  
 Matthew 5:43-48 & 19:20-27; Luke 10:25-27 & 6:27-49... Following Jesus' Way

Vocabulary: commandments, disciple, virtue

Textbook Chapter	Date to Teach	Date Completed

**15. Jesus did really die and rise bodily from the dead and through his death, and resurrection, he conquered death and the devil “who has the power of death.”**

**16. Jesus redeemed us from sin and death through His sufferings, death, and resurrection.**

CCC # 601-603, 635-636; Compendium #57, 58, 65, 110, 126-131, 204, 219, 220; USCCA pp. 85, 86, 92, 178, 184, 221, 224, 243, 525

Scripture: The Gospel narrations of Jesus’ death and resurrection

Vocabulary: apostle, disciple, grace, mortal sin, venial sin, paschal mystery

**17. The holy women and the disciples came to believe in Christ’s Resurrection through the discovery of the empty tomb, and especially through the appearances of the Risen One.**

CCC #640-642, 657; Compendium #126-131; USCCA pp. 96-97



- Students will interpret the importance of modern witnesses in the Catholic Church.

Scripture: The Gospel narrations of Jesus’ death and resurrection

Vocabulary: messiah, miracle, prayer, resurrection

Textbook Chapter	Date to Teach	Date Completed

**18. Christ is the heavenly high priest, always interceding for us.**

CCC #662-667; Compendium #132, 554; USCCA pp. 99, 263468, 471



- Students will experience various forms of prayer, such as silent meditation, prayer with Scripture, centering prayer, spontaneous prayer, formal prayer, prayer with song, and liturgy of the hours. Experience days of reflection and retreats as opportunities for personal spiritual growth.

Luke 11:1-4... Jesus and the value of prayer

Vocabulary: abba, kingdom, kingdom of God, prayer

**19. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, Jesus is present in the Church, in the sacraments, and in the Christian community.**

CCC #1084-1088, 1107-1109; Compendium #136-146; USCCA pp. 115,132, 138, 170, 106-107, 168-169



- Students will appreciate the Church's ritual life as pluralistic and multi-cultural. Appreciate the need for the frequent reception of the sacraments of penance and Eucharist as ways to participate in the worship of the Church and to grow in God's grace.



- Students will perceive themselves as part of the Church: the People of God, the Body of Christ. Develop the skills necessary for building relationships and community life, such as trust, self-disclosure, and communication.

John 14:26; 20:19-23; Matthew 28:17-20... Jesus sends the Spirit

John 6:26-69... Foreshadowing of the Real Presence in the Eucharist

Vocabulary: grace, sacrament, trinity

Textbook Chapter	Date to Teach	Date Completed


**20. The first and last point of reference of moral catechesis is Jesus Christ himself.**


**21. The moral life is an appropriate response to God's covenant love.**


**22. Catholic moral values reflect the heart and mind of Jesus.**

**23. The moral life demands conforming our minds and hearts to that of Jesus Christ.**

CCC #1694, 1698, 1813, 1965-1974; Compendium # 429; USCCA pp. 307-321, 323-338

 - Students will appreciate that all individual moral decisions affect one's relationships with self, others and God.

 - Students will appreciate the need for the frequent reception of the sacraments of penance and Eucharist as ways to participate in the worship of the Church and to grow in God's grace.

 - Students will understand they are called to continue Christ's mission of forgiving, healing, and reconciling one another.

1 Corinthians 13... Love is      Vocabulary: values, virtue

**24. The contentment, joy, fulfillment and fullness of heaven are supernatural, surpassing anything we are able to do or merit on our own.**

CCC #1722, 1727; Compendium #209; USCCA pp. 153-154

John 15... Vine and the Branches

Vocabulary: commitment, consequence, free will, grace, responsibility

Textbook Chapter	Date to Teach	Date Completed

**25. There is a relationship between choices and consequences and between rights and responsibilities.**

**26. In order for an act to be good, its object, intention and circumstances must all be good.**

**27. There is a bond between freedom and truth. True freedom is the choice to embrace God's laws.**

CCC #1731-1739, 1755, 1760; Compendium # 370-376, 437-441; USCCA pp. 327-331; 314-319

Romans 7... Freedom/Law

Vocabulary: authority, commandments, conscience, consequences, free will, morality, mortal sin, venial sin

**28. The conscience is our secret core, where God speaks in the depths of our hearts.**


**29. Our conscience is a judgment of reason that helps us to recognize the moral quality of a human action.**


**30. When our conscience accuses us, it means that God may be calling us to conversion.**


**31. The formation of our conscience is a life-long task requiring prayer, fidelity in the Church's teachings and the guidance of her Magisterium.**

CCC #1778, 1779, 1784, 1795-1796-1797; Compendium #372-377; USCCA pp. 242, 314-315, 320

Textbook Chapter	Date to Teach	Date Completed

 - Students will appreciate that all individual moral decisions affect one's relationships with self, others, and God.


 - Students will experience various forms of prayers. Develop a habit of daily prayer to seek guidance and discern one's vocation.

 - Students will appreciate the need for the frequent reception of the sacraments of penance and Eucharist as ways to participate in the worship of the Church and to grow in God's grace.

Matthew 25:31-46... Teaching on the Last Judgment      Vocabulary: conscience, grace

**32. By the virtue of hope we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness.**

CCC #1817-1821, 1843; Compendium # 385, 387, 442; USCCA pp. 333, 316-317, 343

 - Students will appreciate the need for the frequent reception of the sacraments of penance and Eucharist as ways to participate in the worship of the Church and to grow in God's grace.

Matthew 25... Parables

Vocabulary: kingdom, Kingdom of God, messiah, parable, sacrament

**33. There is objective evil.**

**34. There are moral absolutes (right and wrong).**

CCC #311, 1756; Compendium #367, 375,376; USCCA pp. 56-57, 311-312, 320, 323-338

Textbook Chapter	Date to Teach	Date Completed



- Students will create a family and classroom environment where each person is accepted as unique and treated justly. Develop the skills necessary for building relationships and community life, such as trust, self-disclosure, and communication.

Mark 1:23-28... Jesus' power over evil Wisdom 1:1-16... Justice

Vocabulary: social justice, values, virtue

**35. The moral law finds its permanent expression in the Ten Commandments, the “privileged expression of the natural law.”**

CCC #2061-2064, 2070; Compendium #418; USCCA pp. 327-328



- Students will appreciate that all individual moral decisions affect ones relationships with self, others and God.

Exodus 10:1-17... Ten Commandments Exodus 23:1-9... Laws

Vocabulary: commandments, conscience, consequence, morality, mortal sin, venial sin

Textbook Chapter	Date to Teach	Date Completed

**1<sup>st</sup> Commandment: *I am the LORD your God: you shall not have strange gods before me.***

**36. The first commandment binds us to hope in God. Sins opposed to it include despair, presumption and tempting God.**

**37. The first commandment calls us to worship God alone. Opposed to true worship are idolatry, sacrilege and simony.**

**38. Idolatry means to worship a false God. It also means to put anything or anyone in the place of God.**

CCC #2090-2092, 2099-2100, 2112-2114, 2119-2121, 2136, 2139; Compendium #442-446; USCCA pp. 339-349

Exodus 10:1-17... Ten Commandments

Vocabulary: commandments, covenant, mortal sin, venial sin, virtue

**2<sup>nd</sup> Commandment: *You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.***

**39. The second commandment calls us to respect the name of Jesus.**

**40. God's name is dishonored in especially grave ways by false oaths, perjury, and cursing.**

**41. Blasphemy is the use of the name of God, of Jesus Christ, of the Virgin Mary, and of the saints in an offensive way.**

CCC #2145, 2150-2152, 2162-2163; Compendium #447-449; USCCA pp. 351-359

Exodus 10:1-17... Ten Commandments

Vocabulary: abba, commandments, conscience

Textbook Chapter	Date to Teach	Date Completed

**3<sup>rd</sup> Commandment: Remember to keep holy the LORD'S Day**

**42. Sunday fulfills the Sabbath; it is the day of the Resurrection.**

CCC #2174-2176, 2190-2191; Compendium #450-454; USCCA pp. 361-371

✠ - Students will appreciate the Church's ritual life as pluralistic and multi-cultural. Plan and participate in class/school liturgies.

Scripture: the Gospel narrations of Jesus' death and resurrection (The Last Supper)


**43. The Sunday liturgy is the heart of the Church's life. By participating, we show ourselves to be members of the Catholic community.**

**44. Catholics have the privilege and obligation of attending Sunday Mass; not to do so is a grave sin.**

**Mass; not to do so is a grave sin.**

CCC # 2177-2178, 2180-2182, 2192; Compendium #219, 453; USCCA pp. 365-367

✠ - Students will appreciate the need for the frequent reception of the sacraments of penance and Eucharist as ways to participate in the worship of the Church and to grow in God's grace.

 - Students will perceive themselves as part of the Church: the People of God, the Body of Christ. Discern the different kinds of levels of commitment determined by different relationships in the community.

Vocabulary: commitment, culture, disciple, paschal mystery, prayer, precepts of the church, sacrament

Textbook Chapter	Date to Teach	Date Completed

**4<sup>th</sup> Commandment: *Honor your father and your mother.***

**45. The family is based on marriage, which exists for the good of the spouse and the procreation and education of children.**

**46. The family is seen as “a man and woman united in marriage together with children.”**

CCC #2201, 2202, 2249; Compendium #456; USCCA pp. 375, 376, 380, 283

Vocabulary: commitment, family, responsibility, values

**47. The Christian family is a communion of persons, a sign and image of the communion of the Father and the Son in the Holy Spirit.**

CCC #2205; USCCA pp. 377



- Students will perceive themselves as part of the Church: the People of God, the Body of Christ. Develop skills necessary for building relationships and community life, such as trust, self-disclosure, and communication.

John 15... Vine and Branches    Vocabulary: family

Textbook Chapter	Date to Teach	Date Completed

**48. All baptized persons can and must participate in the life of the Church; therefore the Catholic community must manifest compassion and concern for those that find themselves in situations of separation and divorce.**

CCC #1651; Compendium #349; USCCA pp. 287-288



- Students will recognize that in baptism all Christians receive a call to serve.



- Students will create a family and classroom environment where each person is accepted as unique and treated justly. Discern the different kinds of levels of commitment determined by different relationships in the community.



- Students will understand the sacraments of initiation as a source of identity.

Galatians 4:1-10... God's Heirs

Vocabulary: social justice, virtue

**49. Children must always show respect for their parents and support them in old age.**

CCC #2218; Compendium # 459; USCCA pp. 377-378



- Students will help to create a family environment where each person is accepted as unique and treated justly.

1 Corinthians 13... Love is

Vocabulary: beatitudes, commandments, family, grace, responsibility, values, virtue

Textbook Chapter	Date to Teach	Date Completed

**50. The duties of citizens are to pay taxes, vote and defend their country.**

CCC #2239-2240, 2255; Compendium #464; USCCA pp. 380



- Students will discuss the future of the Church and what the adolescent role in the Church might be. Appreciate that belonging to the church means participating in its mission.

Exodus 23:1-9... Laws

Vocabulary: commitment, free will, responsibility

**5<sup>th</sup> Commandment: *You shall not kill.***

**51. Concern for human rights, especially for human life, is a basic**

**Gospel value.**

CCC #2258, 2273, 2297; Compendium # 466; USCCA pp. 390-391

**52. Human life in all its various stages, from conception to natural death, has intrinsic value.**

CCC #2260; Compendium #466, 478, 479; USCCA pp. 387-402

**53. “From its conception, the child has the right to life. Direct abortion, that is abortion willed as an end or a means, is a [crime against life], gravely contrary to the moral law. The Church imposes the canonical penalty of excommunication for this crime against human life.”**

CCC #2322; Compendium # 470; USCCA pp. 391-392

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**54. Stereotyping the physically or mentally challenged is to be avoided and persons with disabilities are to be accepted.**

CCC #2270-2319, 2322-2323; Compendium #407-409, 413; USCCA pp. 399, 422

**55. The Church opposes the death penalty.**

CCC #2266-2267, 2306; Compendium #468-469; USCCA pp. 423, 394-395

**56. Direct euthanasia consists in putting an end to the lives of handicapped, sick or dying persons. It is a grave sin and is always evil.**

CCC #2276-2279; Compendium #470; USCCA pp. 393-394

**57. Suicide is wrong because we are stewards, not owners, of our lives.**

CCC #2280-2283, 2325; Compendium # 470; USCCA pp. 393-394, 398-400, 422-423

**58. Child abuse, ageism, racism, sexism or a lack of reverence toward persons with physical or mental disabilities is evil.**

CCC# 2259-2291; Compendium # 411-414; USCCA pp. 326-327

**59. “The use of drugs inflicts very grave damage on human health and life . . . . Clandestine production and trafficking in drugs are scandalous practices.” They constitute direct cooperation with evil.**

CCC #2291; Compendium # 474; USCCA pp.401

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**60. Justice and charity lead to peace; injustice to war.**

CCC #2304, 2317; Compendium #481, 486; USCCA pp. 332-333, 395-396



- Students will understand they are called to continue Christ's mission of forgiving, healing, and reconciling one another. Discuss the future of the Church and what the adolescent role in the Church might be.



- Students will appreciate that all individual moral decisions affect one's relationships with self, others and God.



- Students will experience prayer as a deepening of personal relationship with Jesus.



- Students will become aware of local and global social concerns. Realize how persons give witness to their faith through their work. Interpret the importance of modern witnesses in the Catholic Church.

Exodus 10:1-17... Ten Commandments

Wisdom 1:1-16... Justice

Vocabulary: commandments, conscience, consequence, gospel, grace, morality  
mortal sin, responsibility, social justice, values, venial sin

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**6<sup>th</sup> Commandment: *You shall not commit adultery.***

**61. Human sexuality is a gift from God to establish an intimate and life-giving family bond.**

CCC #2331-2333; Compendium #488; USCCA pp.406, 408-409

**62. The sexual act finds its place only in a life-long marriage between a man and woman; this excludes masturbation, fornication, sex for engaged couples, “living together,” trial marriage, homosexual acts and adultery.**

CCC #2350-2353, 2360, 2380-2381, 2390-2391, 2396, 2400; Compendium #492; USCCA pp. 406-407

**63. Culture has a great effect on sexual morality. Pornography, prostitution and rape totally degrade sexuality and divorce is a grave offense against the dignity of marriage.**

CCC #2354, 2382-2385, 2396, 2400; Compendium #492, 502; USCCA pp. 407, 410-411


**64. Every marriage act must be open to children; this excludes the use of artificial contraception.**


CCC #2366, 2398-2399; Compendium #495, 497-498; USCCA pp.408-410


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**65. Morally sound medical treatment must exclude: harming or killing any human person in the hope of helping others (as "compassionate" abortion or taking stem cells from embryos); cloning or in vitro fertilization of humans; treating patients without their informed consent; or refusing ordinary care to the infirm.**

CCC #2275; Compendium #471-472; USCCA pp. 390-394

 - Students will appreciate that all individual moral decisions affect one's Relationships with self, others and God.

 - Students will examine how social ills and injustices affect the lives of all people as well as their responsibility for others even when suffering is perceived as a global experience. Identify and appreciate special gifts and talents which can be used for oneself and others.

 - Students will develop a habit of daily prayer to seek guidance and discern ones vocation.

John 8:1-13... Woman Caught in Adultery

Vocabulary: chastity, conscience, consequence, free will, human sexuality, morality, Mortal sin, responsibility, sacrament, virtue

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**7<sup>th</sup> Commandment: *You shall not steal.***

**66. The seventh commandment calls us to be good stewards of the world God gave to us.**

CCC # 2415, 2456; Compendium #506, 507; USCCA pp. 424

**67. The search for solidarity increasingly has international implications; rich nations must work for the development of poorer nations.**

CCC #2437-2441; Compendium #518; USCCA pp. 419-425

**68. To work for the common good in economic and political realities is especially the role of the Catholic laity.**

CCC #2442; Compendium #517-519; USCCA pp. 423-424, 426



- Students will discern the different kinds of commitment determined by different relationships in the community. Identify and appreciate special gifts and talents which can be used for oneself and others.



- Students will become aware of local and global social concerns. Realize how Persons give witness to their faith through their work.

Mark 3:13-19; Luke 5:1-11, 6:12-16... The Call of the Twelve Apostles, Vocations  
Matthew 25:14-30; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11... Service through the use of personal talents

Vocabulary: culture, responsibility

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**8<sup>th</sup> Commandment: You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.**

**69.Reputation and honor are aspects of a person’s human dignity. These are injured by rash judgment, detraction, calumny, and gossip.**

CCC #2477-2479, 2507; Compendium #523; USCCA pp.429-437



- Students will create a family and classroom environment where each person is accepted as unique and treated justly. Identify and appreciate special gifts and talents which can be used for oneself and others. Develop the skills necessary for building relationships and community life, such as trust, self-disclosure, and communication.

Mark 1:40-45... Jesus compassion for others; Cure of Leper  
Wisdom 1:1-16... Justice

Vocabulary: conscience, responsibility, values, virtue

**9<sup>th</sup> Commandment: You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife.**

**70.The moral life demands that we embrace chastity, the successful integration of sexuality within the person.**

CCC #2337-2340; Compendium #488-494; USCCA pp.405-40

**71.Purity requires modesty, which recognizes and protects the dignity of the person.**

CCC #2521-2522, 2533; Compendium #529-530; USCCA pp.405-406


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**72. Young people must actively pursue a life of chastity by showing respect for self and others, by being modest and pure in all ways, especially by prayer.**


CCC # 941; Compendium # 488-490

**73. Identify the adverse effects of some movies, music, T.V., pictures and printed materials on his/her development of sexual identity and the use of sexual stereotypes.**

CCC # 1158, 2389, 2500-2501; Compendium #490

 - Students will appreciate that all individual moral decisions affect one's relationships with self, others and God.

 - Students will experience prayer as a deepening of personal relationship with Jesus.

 - Students will appreciate the need for the frequent reception of the sacraments of penance and Eucharist as ways to participate in the worship of the Church and to grow in God's grace.

John 8:1-13... Woman Caught in Adultery

Vocabulary: chastity, conscience, consequence, human sexuality, morality, mortal sin, responsibility, values, virtue

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**10<sup>th</sup> Commandment: *You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.***

**74. True Christians set their hearts on the Kingdom of heaven; this makes them detached from all material things.**

CCC#2544-47, 2551, 2556; Compendium #532; USCCA pp. 449-455

**75. One should not covet (desire) anything that belongs to his/her neighbor.**

CCC #2538-2559; Compendium #531

✠ - **Students** will appreciate the need for the frequent reception of the sacraments of penance and Eucharist as ways to participate in the worship of the Church and to grow in God's grace.

Matthew 5:1-12... Jesus' Sermon on the Mount      Vocabulary: beatitudes, Kingdom of God

**76. Sin is a rupture in our relationship with God that is always an intentional choice knowingly to do evil.**

CCC #1849-1850; Compendium #391-397; USCCA pp. 237, 313-313

**77. There are both venial and mortal sins.**

CCC 1855; Compendium #304-306; USCCA pp. 232-238

**78. We can sin by cooperating in others' sin. Sin also has a social structure.**

CCC #1868-1869; Compendium #393, 399; USCCA pp. 331


♥ - **Students** will appreciate that all individual moral decisions affect one's relationships with self, others and God.

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✠ - Students will appreciate the need for the frequent reception of the sacraments of penance and Eucharist as ways to participate in the worship of the Church and to grow in God's grace.

Mark 1:23-28... Jesus' Power over Evil      Vocabulary: mortal sin, venial sin

**79. Skills, such as discernment and critical evaluation, are necessary to help students identify the cultural values that have influenced them.**  
 CCC #1886-1888; Compendium #303; USCCA pp. 314-315, 320, 390

 - Students will examine how social ills and injustices affect the lives of all people as well as their responsibility for others even when suffering is perceived as a global experience.

✠ - Students will experience days of reflection and retreats as opportunities for personal spiritual growth.

 - Students will become aware of local and global social concerns.

Vocabulary: culture, social justice, values

**80. Subsidiarity means that nothing should be done at a higher level of society when it could be accomplished at a lower.**  
 CCC #1883-1885, 1894; Compendium #402-403; USCCA pp.326, 529

**81. We have a responsibility to take part in public life.**  
 CCC # 1913-1915, 1926; Compendium #402, 410; USCCA pp.420-423

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**82. There is a Spirit-filled Catholic response to social issues such as poverty, environmental abuse, violence, and racism.**

CCC #1935-1938; Compendium #413, 510; USCCA pp. 420-424

**83. Differences of “talents” are part of God’s plan and call for sharing. Sinful inequalities are contrary to the Gospel.**

CCC #1936-1938, 1946-1947; Compendium #413; USCCA pp. 426-427, 450, 453



- Students will develop a habit of daily prayer to seek guidance and discern one’s vocation.



- Students will learn and pray the Diocesan Vocation Prayer.



- Students will develop ways to put into practice the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. Reflect on and participate in service opportunities for oneself within the parish and local community. Become involved in service outreach projects, clothing and food collections, and fund-raising drives.

Matthew 25:14-30; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11... Service Through the Use of Personal Talents

John 13:1-20... Washing of the Feet

Vocabulary: corporal works of mercy, social justice

**84. Catholics believe in a true merit of eternal life, due to our new life of grace.**

CCC # 2009, 2026; Compendium #426, 427; USCCA pp. 161, 328-329, 336

**85. Developing the moral virtues is key to living the moral life.**

CCC #1803-1809; Compendium #377-383; USCCA pp. 315-317


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**86. The Catholic Church has the right to teach on questions of natural law, because its observance is necessary for salvation.**


CCC #2036, 2050; Compendium #430; USCCA pp. 327-328

**87. Prayer and the Eucharist are essential components of the moral life.**

CCC #1393-1395, 1811, 2340; Compendium # 429; USCCA pp. 228, 475

 - Students will appreciate that all individual moral decisions affect one's relationships with self, others and God.

 - Students will appreciate the need for the frequent reception of the sacraments of penance and Eucharist as ways to participate in the worship of the Church and to grow in God's grace.

 - Students will experience various forms of prayer, such as silent meditation, prayer with Scripture, centering prayer, spontaneous prayer, formal prayer, prayer with song, and liturgy of the hours.

Exodus 10:1-17... Ten Commandments

Luke 11:1-13... Jesus and the Value of Prayer

Vocabulary: grace, morality, prayer, sacrament

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## RESPECT LIFE TEACHINGS

- 1. Emphasize that concern for human rights, especially for human life, is a basic Gospel value.**  
 CCC #2258, 2273, 2297; EV #1
- 2. Instill value for the various stages of life from conception to natural death.**  
 CCC #2260
- 3. Address clearly the evil of abortion as the killing of an innocent human life and as a grave sin for anyone who participates.**  
 CCC #2271-2272; EV #3, 61
- 4. Teach the avoidance of stereotyping the physically or mentally challenged and the need to be accepting of persons with disabilities.**  
 CCC #2270-2319, 2322-2323
- 5. Explain the Church's teaching on death penalty.**  
 CCC #2266-2267; EV #58
- 6. Clarify that direct euthanasia consists in putting an end to the lives of handicapped, sick or dying persons. It is a grave sin and is always evil.**  
 CCC #2277-2279; EV #3, 15, 64-65

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## SACRAMENTS

- **Deepen and enhance the meaning of the sacraments.**

### The Sacrament of Baptism

- 1. Instruct that in case of necessity, anyone with the required intention can baptize by pouring water on the person's head while saying "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."**  
CCC #1256, 1278, 1284
- 2. Teach that Baptism is the basis for the communion of all Christians.**  
CCC #1271
- 3. Stress that Baptism and the Church are necessary for salvation, but martyrs for the faith, catechumens who die, and all those who seek God in ignorance of Baptism can be saved.**  
CCC #1257-1260, 1276-1277, 1281
- 4. Discover that the sacraments of initiation "lay the foundations of every Christian's life".**  
CCC #1212, 1533
- 5. Explain that the fruits of Baptism are forgiveness of original and personal sin and birth into new life.**  
CCC #1213, 1263
- 6. Inform that the baptized are incorporated into the Church and share in the priesthood of Christ.**  
CCC #1267-1269, 1279

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## The Sacrament of Eucharist

- 1. Teach that the Eucharist re-presents the sacrifice of the cross, with which it is one single sacrifice.**  
CCC #1365-1367
- 2. Teach that the Eucharist is offered also for the faithful departed who have died and are not yet purified, so that they may enter heaven.**  
CCC #144, 1371
- 3. Call the Eucharist the Lord's Supper, the Holy Sacrifice, Holy Communion and Holy Mass.**  
CCC #1328-1332
- 4. Teach the Eucharist as the source and summit of Christian life.**  
CCC #1327, 1407
- 5. Explain that Mass can be offered for the living and the dead.**  
CCC #144
- 6. Discuss that we receive Christ whole and entire under either form of bread or wine; but receiving under both forms is a more perfect sign.**  
CCC #1373, 1390
- 7. Inform the students that while the Eucharist does not forgive mortal sins, it forgives venial sins and helps us to grow in relationship with God.**  
CCC #1394-1395, 1416
- 8. Explain that only validly ordained priests can consecrate the Eucharist.**  
CCC #1411

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**9. Discover that the Eucharist commits us to the poor.**

CCC #1397

**10. Teach that in the sacrifice of the Mass, it is Christ who both offers and is offered.**

CCC #1410

**11. Instruct that the Eucharist concerns the real presence of Jesus Christ, His Body and Blood for us to receive.**

CCC #1088, 1373-1377

### The Sacrament of Confirmation

**1. Discuss that in Confirmation the baptized person is strengthened by the Holy Spirit to continue along the path to full maturity in Christ.**

CCC #1308

**2. Inform the students that Confirmation is necessary to complete the process begun in Baptism and to receive the fullness of life in the Holy Spirit.**

CCC #1247-1248

**3. Recognize that Confirmation strengthens our faith relationship with God.**

CCC #1303

**4. Teach that we are called to membership within the community of believers through the Spirit.**

CCC #747

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**5. Discover that the Spirit strengthens our relationship with Jesus and empowers us to continue His mission through the gifts of the Spirit.**

CCC #737, 768

**6. Recall that the gifts and fruits of the Spirit enable us to develop our talents as members of the Church.**

CCC #1829-1832

**7. Instruct the students that there is a Spirit-filled Catholic response to social issues such as poverty, environmental abuse, violence, and racism.**

CCC #1935-1938

### **The Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation**

**1. Teach that “Repentance [also called contrition] must be inspired by motives that arise from faith. If repentance arises from love of charity for God, it is called ‘perfect’ contrition; if it is founded on other motives, it is called ‘imperfect.’”**

CCC #1451-1453, 1492

**2. Stress that Catholics should receive the Sacrament of Penance frequently to assist them in their faith. They must receive the Sacrament of Penance at least once a year, if they have serious sin.**

CCC #1457

**3. Explain that Jesus gave His Church the authority to forgive sins. This authority is exercised in Christ’s name by priests in the Sacrament of Penance.**

CCC #1461-1495

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**4. Inform the students that the seal of confession is a secret that admits no exceptions.**

CCC #1467

**5. Explain that the essential elements of the sacrament are the contrition for confession of sin, satisfaction made by the penitent, and the absolution of the priest.**

CCC #1448, 1480, 1491

**6. Teach that sin wounds God’s honor, the human dignity of the sinner, and the good of the Church; no evil is graver than sin.**

CCC #1487-1488

**7. Recognize that Penance offers a reunion among God, the Church and us.**

CCC #1424, 1440, 1443-1445, 1462

**The Anointing of the Sick**

**1. Instruct that “The celebration of the Anointing of the Sick consists essentially in the anointing of the forehead and hands of the sick person, the anointing being accompanied by the liturgical prayer of the celebrant asking for the special grace of this sacrament. The celebrant prays, ‘Through this holy anointing may the Lord in His love and mercy help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit. May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up.’”**

CCC #1513, 1519, 1531

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2. **Explain that “Only priests [and bishops] can give the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.”**  
CCC #1516, 1530
3. **Believe that the Anointing of the Sick is an extension of the healing of Christ to the seriously ill or elderly.**  
CCC #1499, 1514
4. **Indicate that Christ’s sufferings on the cross gave a new meaning to human suffering.**  
CCC #1505, 1521
5. **Recognize that this sacrament provides a relief and strengthening for the soul of the sick person.**  
CCC #1503, 1508, 1520-1521
6. **Introduce that sometimes a restoration of bodily health takes place.**  
CCC #1512, 1515, 1520

**The Sacrament of Holy Orders**

1. **Explain that the priest is ordained to teach, to sanctify, and to guide the People of God in Christ’s name.**
2. **Teach that ultimately, Christ is the one priest, and ordained ministers share in his priesthood. Because of this, even the sacraments of an unworthy minister are valid.**  
CCC #1545, 1550, 1584

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3. **Discuss that “The Sacrament of Holy Orders is conferred by the laying on of hands followed by a solemn prayer of consecration asking God to grant the ordained the graces of the Holy Spirit required for his ministry. Ordination imprints an indelible sacramental character.”**  
CCC #1573, 1581-1582, 1597
4. **Inform the students that “it is bishops who confer the Sacrament of Holy Orders in the three degrees.”**  
CCC #1575-1576, 1600
5. **Understand the ordained ministry as one that teaches, sanctifies and governs the People of God.**  
CCC #1552-1553
6. **Realize that priesthood is a primary means of the sacramental presence of Christ.**  
CCC #1548, 1551
7. **Understand the celebration of the three orders of bishop, priest, and deacon.**  
CCC #1554-1555, 1571
8. **Learn that “among other tasks, it is the task of the deacon to assist the bishop and priests in the celebration of the divine mysteries, above all the Eucharist, in the distribution of Holy Communion, in assisting at the blessing of marriage, in the proclamation of the Gospel and preaching, in presiding over funerals, and in dedicating themselves to the various ministries of charity.”**  
CCC #1570, 1596

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## The Sacrament of Matrimony

- 1. Instruct that since marriage is a public act, and the sacrament is connected with the Paschal mystery of Christ, it is most appropriately celebrated at Mass.**  
CCC #1621, 1663
- 2. Stress that the sacrament requires a good preparation.**  
CCC #1622, 1632
- 3. Explain the spouses are the ministers of the sacrament.**  
CCC #1623
- 4. Teach that the essence of the marriage is the consent of the couple; without this consent, the marriage is invalid.**  
CCC #1625-1628, 1662
- 5. Realize that marriage is not just a contract, but a covenant.**  
CCC #1639, 1647
- 6. Understand that the sacrament of marriage has two ends - unitive and procreative.**  
CCC #2369
- 7. Recall that marriage is an empowerment for the couple to be love-giving and life-giving.**  
CCC #1641-1642
- 8. Discuss that sex is a noble and honorable gift from God.**  
CCC #2362

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**9. Identify marriage as a reflection of the covenant of indissoluble love between Christ and the Church.**

CCC #1605, 1639-1640, 1644, 1661

**10. Portray the love of husband and wife as the image of the love of Christ for his Church.**

CCC #1616-1617, 1659, 1661

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