



Anglican Diocese of San Joaquin
Anglican Catechist Training School Syllabus
for Lay Catechist I



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Rationale: Jesus tells us that the harvest is great but the workers are few and that we are to pray for harvest hands. The ACNA Constitution (paragraph two in Article III) clearly articulates the mission of Anglicans in North America:

The work of the Province is to equip each member of the Province so that they may reconcile the world to Christ, plant new congregations, and make disciples of all nations; baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything commanded by Jesus Christ.

Catechesis plays a critical role in the ministry of the Church and is vital for the Church to fulfill Christ's mandate to call, form, equip, and send followers of Jesus Christ to serve him in the harvest. The task of reconciling the world to Christ is a call of the whole body of Christ, not just the ordained clergy. Partnering with ordained clergy, lay catechists serve as leaders and equippers in local congregations and throughout the diocese in preparing "God's people for works of service, so the body of Christ may be built up" and brought to maturity (Ephesians 4:12-16), resulting in fruitful ministry.

The primary ministry of a catechist is to teach the essentials of the faith, which are rooted in Scripture and expressed in the ACNA Catechism, *To Be A Christian*. Secondly, catechists are expected to develop skills and effective teaching practices that encourage genuine learning and formation. Since formation is essentially relational in nature, catechists need to be committed to growing spiritually and emotionally.

The 3 Dimensions of the ACTS Course:

There are four essential qualities that spiritual leaders need: 1) sound doctrine in the basics of the faith (1 Tim. 4:16), 2) a spiritual formation that leads to maturity of the whole person (e.g., spiritual, emotional, character, etc.) (Eph. 4:11-15), 3) a growing lifestyle of abiding in Christ (John 15:5; 1 John 2:27), and 4) a growing faith, discernment and obedience to God's leading (Luke 17:5, 6; Rom. 1:5).

Thus, ACTS has been designed as a three-dimensional course, consisting of deepening of biblical and theological knowledge, spiritual formation, and ministry practicum. Each dimension works with the others in forming and preparing the student for the ministry of a Catechist. The course will consist of a combination of hands-on training and regular mentoring with one's clergy or other lay leader and independent study that includes: assigned reading, online reflections and responses, monthly face-to-face meetings, and a retreat. The face-to-face meetings will occur on the first Saturday of each month (unless there is a holiday) from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Licensed Catechist I

Description	<p>Primarily when we think of catechists, we think of people being called to a teaching ministry in the local congregation, which may include teaching youth and adult catechism classes, leading Alpha Groups, or Bible studies. This ministry is greatly lacking and much needed in God’s church today. However, catechesis is far greater than just teaching doctrine. Catechesis involves the formation of the whole person into the image of Christ; therefore, licensed catechists may feel called to other ministries such as spiritual direction, intercession, pastoral counseling, inner-healing, church planting, or ministering to the poor or the infirmed. Some catechists may be called to evangelism and mission within or beyond their local context, which is what Anglicans call “catechesis from the front porch.” All these callings are vital ministries in the church’s call to fulfill the Great Commission to “go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything” Jesus commanded, and these ministries can only bear fruit by the leading and empowerment of the Holy Spirit.</p>
Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with parish clergy to begin discerning your call to this ministry • Complete application and background check • Complete “Ministry Safe” Training • Participate in a local evangelistic outreach • Complete Year 1 for Parish Catechist Training Program (See all requirements as outlined below.) • Pass all 3 Catechists Exams • Licensing by the Bishop and commissioning in parish.
Spiritual Formation and Mentoring	<p>Students must meet with their mentor <i>a minimum of once a month</i> for an hour. Students will be provided a mentor reflection sheet, which they must prayerfully fill out before the meeting with their mentor. During the mentoring meeting, students are encouraged to share transparently what they have reflected on and written with their mentor. The reflection sheet is to be <u>signed by the mentor</u> and submitted to the course instructor NO LATER THAN the last day of the month. If the student does not turn this in by the due date, they will not receive credit for mentoring requirement for that month. Students may only miss one month of mentoring to receive the Catechist license.</p> <p>In addition to mentoring, students will be expected to “try on” a variety of spiritual disciplines, such as praying the Daily Office, practicing forms of ancient prayer, scripture memorization, etc.</p>
Deepening Knowledge	<p>Students are required to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend the once-a-month class meeting in person or via Zoom. Participation is integral to the way the class is conducted. Students CANNOT miss more than two meetings, including the over-night retreat. • Complete all assigned readings and video viewing. • Participate in an online reflection forum in which they will respond to at least two other students’ reflections. Students must reflectively answer posted questions in response to the assigned reading or video viewing, referencing the texts to support their answers and thereby demonstrating thoughtful completion of the assignment. Assignments must be completed by the due date specified in this syllabus.
Practicum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in various ministries within the local church and the community. • Develop a syllabus/project for catechesis. • Participate in an outreach/service with a ministry in your city.

Required Texts and Materials:

McGrath, Alister. *Theology: The Basics*. 4th Edition Oxford: Wiley Blackwell. 2018

McKenzie, Thomas. *The Anglican Way: A Guidebook*. Nashville, TN: Colony Catherine, Inc. 2014.

Murray, Andrew. *Lord Teach Us to Pray*.

Packer, J. I. *Keeping the Ten Commandments*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway. 2007

Packer, J. I. *Praying the Lord's Prayer*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway. 2007

The Book of Common Prayer (ACNA, June 2019) (Available at anglicanchurch.net).

To Be A Christian: An Anglican Catechism by Catechesis Task Force Anglican Church in North America (2014-06-30). Available in PDF version online at

<http://www.anglicanchurch.net> or for purchase at

<https://www.crossway.org/books/to-be-a-christian-hconly/> or from Amazon.

ACTS Spiritual Formation Toolkit (provided for the student).

Course Pack with various assigned readings will be posted online.

Estimated Time Requirements: For every hour of classroom instruction, plan on spending 3 hours of independent study outside of class.

Proposed Training and Assignment Schedule

JUNE/JULY
Application Process <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meet with your clergy to discuss ministry goals.• Discern calling to Lay Parish Catechist ministry.• Complete Background Check• Turn in application to diocesan office by 7/30/2021 (or by July 16 to receive a \$50 discount).
Meet & Greet: AUGUST The 3 Dimensions of ACTS and How to Use Classroom Online Zoom Meeting from 6:00-7:00 PM on August 11, 2021, at 6:30 PM
During this short one-hour meeting, we will review how to get started and how to prepare for the September 4 class.
The following pages contain the assignments for each month.

Orientation class meets August 11, 2021, via Zoom at 6:30 P.M.

To Do During AUGUST				
CLASS 1 meets on September 4, 2021				
EXAM	<i>Read TBAC and the BCP readings first each month!</i>			READING & ASSIGNMENTS
	CLASS TOPICS	TO BE A CHRISTIAN	BCP 2019	
In Preparation for Catechist Exam I Administered first week of January	Catechesis and the Gospel	Part I: Beginning with Christ Questions 1-17, pp. 19-27	Collect for a Teacher of the Faith pp. 634 & 638 The Mission of the Church p. 651-#17	DEEPENING THEOLOGICAL UNDERSTANDING
				Objective: More deeply understand what the Gospel is and gain an overview of the ministry of Catechesis and Jesus as the Divine Pedagogy/Master Catechist.
				<u>Read:</u> (In addition to readings in <i>To Be A Christian</i> and <i>BCP</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Catechesis and Christian Discipleship” article. • “Guide for Catechists” in binder. • “The Way God Teaches” in binder.
				<u>Watch:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “What is the Gospel?” by N.T. Wright
				<u>Write:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A half page answering “1) What is the ministry of the catechist? 2) Why are you attracted to this ministry? 3) Describe one thing you read that particularly stood out to you in the “Guide for Catechist.” Post online and be ready to share. • A half page to a page that answers the question, “What is the Gospel?” • Review the entire syllabus and email the ACTS director 2-3 questions you have about it.
				SPIRITUAL FORMATION
				Objective: Cultivate a personal devotional life, sensitivity to God’s presence by reflection.
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend weekly Sunday services. • Contemplative prayer practice: Select 1 or 2 contemplative practices from the Toolkit to regularly practice this month. Write in a journal what you notice in your time and your experience with God.
				PRACTICUM
				No practicum this month.

To Do During SEPTEMBER CLASS 2 meets on October 2, 2021			
<i>Read TBAC and the BCP readings first each month!</i>			READING & ASSIGNMENTS
CLASS TOPICS	TO BE A CHRISTIAN	BCP 2019	
The Creeds	Part II: Believing in Christ Questions 18-24, pp.29-32	Pp. 766-771	<p style="text-align: center;">DEEPENING THEOLOGICAL UNDERSTANDING</p> <p>Objective: Understand how Anglicans and others from the catholic streams use Scripture, Tradition and Creeds to establish theological boundaries.</p> <p><u>Read:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Discipleship, for Super-Christians Only?” by Dallas Willard • Skim through and become familiar with the ACNA’s vision paper “Toward an Anglican Catechumenate.” Found HERE! • <i>The Anglican Way: A Guidebook</i>: Chapters 1 & 2 (pp. 1-16), Chapters 12-16: The Daily Office (pp 95-123); Part III, (Ch. 18) The Creeds & 39 Articles (pp. 139-147) • Preface through Chapter 1: Faith, in <i>Theology: The Basics</i> <p><u>Watch:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “The formative power of belonging: being shaped by the Church’s Worship” • Video on “Scripture, Tradition and Creeds” <p><u>Write:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Answer the question, “How does discipleship happen? How can the understanding that we are primarily people shaped by our loves, not our minds, change the way we approach discipleship in our congregations?” Post online by 9/20/21. Then respond to at least two other students’ answers for the question by 9/24/21.
	Scripture and Tradition	Questions 25-35, pp. 32-35 Questions 227-232, pp. 82-83	The Ordinal for ordaining a presbyter. pp. 483-496
PRACTICUM – No Practicum this month			

To Do During OCTOBER
CLASS 3 meets on November 6, 2021

Catechist Exam I Administered first week of January	To Do During OCTOBER CLASS 3 meets on November 6, 2021			
	CLASS TOPICS	TO BE A CHRISTIAN	BCP 2019	READING & ASSIGNMENTS
	GOD	The Apostles' Creed: Article I		DEEPENING THEOLOGICAL UNDERSTANDING
	The Trinity	Questions 36-37, p. 35	Collect on p. 615	<p>Objective: Begin to understand and articulate the trinitarian nature of God, and who God the Father is.</p> <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Theology: The Basics</i>, Ch. 2: God and Ch. 3: Creation, pp. 19-59 • <i>The Anglican Way: A Guidebook</i>, Chapter 17, pp. 124-137 (The Church Calendar) <p>Watch:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 Videos: "Our Trinitarian God," "God, the Father," and "Creator God" • Watch the Bible Project: "God" <p>Write:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Answer the question, "Even though God is not specifically male, why is it important that we affirm the fatherhood of God and that God is Creator?" Post online by 10/29/21. Then respond to at least two other students' answers for the question by 11/5/21.
	God the Father	Questions 38-41, pp. 35-36	The Athanasian Creed p.769-71	
	God the Creator	Questions 42-47, pp.36-38		
			The Thirty-nine Articles of Religion Article I p. 772	<p style="text-align: center;">SPIRITUAL FORMATION</p> <p>Objective: Cultivate intimacy with God and cultivate an understanding of the liturgical calendar and how its gospel shape leads to Christoformity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pray a version of the Daily Office three times per week. (See "Spiritual Formation Toolbox.") During the Office, give space for God to speak to you. For example, during confession of sin, ask the Lord to highlight specific sins and wait for a response before confessing. • Watch: "The Story as Told Through the Church Year" at https://vimeo.com/79923336 • Read "The Church Year: A Rookie Anglican Guide to the Liturgical Year" • Prayerfully complete your Spiritual Formation Reflection for the month and meet with your mentor.
			<p style="text-align: center;">PRACTICUM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read the different options for celebrating Advent and begin to pray about how you might reach out to others in your church community, neighborhood or people from your workplace or school. Plan an Advent celebration for the purpose of catechesis or evangelism and be prepared to share this plan during the class on November 6. 	

To Do During NOVEMBER
CLASS 4 meets on December 4, 2021

In Preparation for Catechist Exam I Administered first week of January	To Do During NOVEMBER CLASS 4 meets on December 4, 2021		
	CLASS TOPICS	TO BE A CHRISTIAN	BCP 2019
JESUS God the Son The nature of the Son's divinity and humanity The Liturgical Calendar	The Apostles' Creed: Article II Questions 48-52, pp. 38-39 Questions 53-58, pp. 39-40	Read 687-690, skim pp. 691-717 The Thirty-nine Articles of Religion Article II, III, & IV p. 772-3	<p style="text-align: center;">DEEPENING THEOLOGICAL UNDERSTANDING</p> <p>Objective: Understand Jesus as God's eternally begotten Son, whose nature is fully divine and human.</p>
			<p><u>Read:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Theology: The Basics</i>, Ch. 4: "Jesus" pp. 61-81 • <i>The Anglican Way: A Guidebook</i>, Chapter 3-11, pp. 18-93 (The Compass Rose) • "Don't Panic—It's Just the Mother of God" https://blogs.ancientfaith.com/glory2godforallthings/2018/11/24/dont-panic-its-just-the-mother-of-god/
			<p><u>Watch:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video on our Jesus: Divine and Human • Video on "Worship and the Church Year: How the church Calendar is an instrument of catechesis" -- Anthony
			<p><u>Write:</u></p> <p>Answer the question, "What is Mary's contribution to Jesus' humanity? Since she plays a vital role in the incarnation, does she then play a role in redemption even though she, herself needs redemption?" Post answer online by 11/26/21. Then respond to at least two other students' answers for the question by 12/3/21.</p>
			<p style="text-align: center;">SPIRITUAL FORMATION</p> <p>Objective: Cultivate a personal devotional life, sensitivity to God's presence by reflection. Enter the Gospel story by participating in the church year.</p>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to pray one of the Daily Office options once a day for 5 days a week. • Read "Advent? A Rookie Anglican Guide" found at http://anglicancompass.com/advent-a-rookie-anglican-guide/ • Watch Busted Halo "Advent in 2 Minutes" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eC0FGQLBp7w and "The Hidden Meaning of Advent" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yVha4We_KOk • Prayerfully complete Spiritual Formation Reflection for the month and meet with your mentor.
<p style="text-align: center;">PRACTICUM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in a Thanksgiving outreach in your city (serve at a homeless shelter, deliver Thanksgiving baskets, etc.) Reflect on your participation in this outreach. What did you do? Who did you meet? What did you learn? What happened? If you aren't able to do an outreach at this time, schedule another month to do outreach. 			

To Do in DECEMBER CLASS 5 meets on January 8, 2022				
Catechist Exam I DUE January 7, 2022	CLASS TOPICS	TO BE A CHRISTIAN	BCP 2019	READING & ASSIGNMENTS
	SALVATION	The Apostles' Creed: Article II		DEEPENING THEOLOGICAL UNDERSTANDING
	Christ's suffering, death, resurrection, and ascension	Questions 59-75, pp. 40-44		<p>Objective: Understand the various on-going aspects of God's saving work in our lives.</p> <p><u>Read:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Theology: The Basics</i>, Ch. 5: "Salvation" pp. 82-104 and Ch. 7: "The Trinity" pp. 127-149 <p><u>Watch:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Video on Salvation. The Bible Project: "Sacrifice and Atonement" <p><u>Write:</u></p> <p>Answer the question, "Why can only a suffering God help human beings in their sinful, broken state? How is a suffering God also a personal God? Besides the crucifixion, does God suffer other ways?" Post answer online by 1/3/2022. Then respond to at least two other students' answers for each question by 1/7/22.</p>
	Salvation	Review pp. 19-17 Questions 105-113, pp. 52-53	Read (skim) the Baptism Service from the BCP 2019: pp. 160-196. Read 160, 174, & 193 closely.	SPIRITUAL FORMATION
	Jesus' second coming	Questions 76-83, pp. 44-46		<p>Objective: Cultivate a personal devotional life, sensitivity to God's presence by reflection. Enter the Gospel story by participating in the church year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend weekly Sunday services and Christmas Eve Service Continue to pray one of the Daily Office options once a day for 5 days a week. Observe the different Saint Days that occur in December and especially during the 12 Days of Christmas. Watch: "Anglican Saints" Read "The Twelve Days: The Ultimate Guide to Christmastide" Prayerfully complete the Spiritual Formation Reflection for the month & meet with mentor.
				PRACTICUM
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During the first week of December host one of the options for Advent celebrations (#3-9) in the Spiritual Formation Toolbox. This month your assignment is to actually host the event and reflect on the outcome. Who came? What did you do? What happened? How did those invited engage in the gathering? Choose one of the options in the Spiritual Formation Toolbox or your own option to celebrate the 12 Days of Christmas with others while engaging in catechesis.

To Do in January CLASS 6 meets on February 5, 2022			
CLASS TOPICS	TO BE A CHRISTIAN	BCP 2019	READING & ASSIGNMENTS
THE HOLY SPIRIT The Holy Spirit	The Apostles' Creed: Article III Questions 84-91, pp. 47-49	Read the Confirmation Service on pp. 174-181 What does this service have to do with the Holy Spirit?	DEEPENING THEOLOGICAL UNDERSTANDING
			Objective: Understand the role of the Holy Spirit in sanctifying the life of the believer and equipping the believer with power to do ministry.
			Read: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Theology: The Basics</i>, Ch. 6: "Spirit" pp. 105-126
			Watch: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video lesson on "Ministering in the Spirit" (Fr. Noah), "The Spiritual Realm" (Fr. Carlos) • The Bible Project "Spiritual Beings" series (7 short videos).
			Write: Answer the question, "What metaphors/pictures do the Scriptures give us about the Holy Spirit and how do these relate to his functions in our lives and in his Church? In what ways do we need to be more welcoming of the Holy Spirit both individually and corporately? Be detailed and reflective in your response before answering this last question." Post answer online by 1/31/22. Then respond to at least two other students' answers for each question by 2/4/22.
			SPIRITUAL FORMATION
			Objective: Cultivate a personal devotional life, sensitivity to God's presence by reflection. Enter the Gospel story by participating in the church year.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read "Epiphany and Epiphanytide: A Rookie Anglican Guide" • Contemplative prayer practice: Select 1 or 2 contemplative prayer practices from the Toolkit to regularly practice this month. Write in a journal what you notice in your time and your experience with God. • Keep a journal about what you are noticing as you practice the spiritual disciplines of praying the Daily Office and practicing awareness of God's presence in your daily life. You may also draw, write poetry or a song, or other creative expressions describing your experience. • Memorize the Apostle's Creed • Prayerfully complete the Spiritual Formation Reflection for the month & meet with mentor.
			PRACTICUM
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With your priest or another mentor, lead Morning or Evening Prayer on any day you choose. Invite several others to join this time. Reflect on what you learned. Think about how this practice might continue at your church if it is not already occurring. Refer to the articles "The Daily Office" and/or "Corporate Devotions" found in the first section of the Toolbox. • Pray with others for gifts of the Holy Spirit and begin to step out and practice those gifts.

To Do in February CLASS 7 Meets March 5, 2022				
In Preparation for Catechist Exam II DUE April 8, 2022	CLASS TOPICS	TO BE A CHRISTIAN	BCP 2019	READING & ASSIGNMENTS
	THE CHURCH	The Apostles' Creed: Article III	Pp. 123-138	DEEPENING THEOLOGICAL UNDERSTANDING
	The Holy Catholic Church	Questions 92-99, pp.49-50		<p>Objective: Understand the importance engaging in church, not just attending but actually participating in the reality of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church.</p> <p><u>Read:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Theology: The Basics</i>, Ch. 8: "The Church" • <i>The Anglican Way: A Guidebook</i>, Chapter 19-25, pp. 148-204 (Sacraments and Liturgy) <p><u>Watch:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video lessons on The Church. There are 6 short videos in this series that can be found on Fr. Howard Giles YouTube channel (I-VI). • Video lesson on The Communion of Saints, Saints in the Anglican Tradition, and Charge to Catechists. <p><u>Write:</u></p> <p>Answer the question, "After reading McGrath chapter 8 and viewing videos, what does it mean when the Creed refers to the church as "one holy catholic and apostolic church? What does it mean that the Church is God's telos?" Post answer online by 2/28/22. Respond to at least 2 other students' answers for each question by 3/4/22.</p>
	The Communion of Saints	Questions 100-104, pp. 51-52		SPIRITUAL FORMATION
	The forgiveness of sins	Questions 105-113, pp. 52-53		<p>Objective: Cultivate a personal devotional life and sensitivity to God's presence. Enter the Gospel story by participating in the church year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend church weekly. • Pray the Daily Office using the <i>2019 Prayer Book</i> once a day at least 4 days a week this month. • Pray and ask the Holy Spirit how you are to observe Lent this year. From what will you abstain? What special spiritual practices (in the Toolbox) will you try on? How will you make room to hear the Holy Spirit speak to you and work in your life? Create a plan and be ready to share during the March 5 class. • Read "The Calendar of Saints: And Anglican Rookie Guide" (also in hard copy form in the Toolbox). • Prayerfully complete the Spiritual Formation Reflection for the month & meet with mentor.
	The resurrection of the body	Questions 114-118, pp. 54-55		PRACTICUM
	The life everlasting	Questions 119-120, p. 55		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using the diagram, "The Two Mountains of Worship," explain to another (perhaps a newcomer to your church) the different parts of liturgy and what they mean and how they are a recapitulation of the Gospel. Reflect on your learning and on the learning or experience of the person you shared with, OR annotate "The Two Mountains of Worship," explaining what each part of the liturgy means, inserting text boxes to the diagram.

		To Do in March CLASS 8 Meets on April 2, 2022		
In Preparation for Catechist Exam II DUE April 8, 2022	CLASS TOPICS	TO BE A CHRISTIAN	BCP 2019	READING & ASSIGNMENTS
	SACRAMENTS	The Apostles' Creed: Article III		DEEPENING THEOLOGICAL UNDERSTANDING
	Sacraments	Questions 121-125, pp. 55-56	(Skim) Rites of Healing	<p>Objective: Understand how the sacraments provide a meeting place with God and his Kingdom. Understand how the sacraments strengthen us in following Christ.</p> <p><u>Read:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Theology: The Basics</i>, Ch. 9: "Sacraments" pp. 170-190. • <i>The Anglican Way: A Guidebook</i>, Chapter 24-25, pp. 205-257 (Leadership, history, and • "Let's Talk About Baptism" <p><u>Watch:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video on "Sacraments" by Bp. Eric. <p><u>Write:</u></p> <p>Answer the question, "What is a sacrament? What is the function of sacraments? What do they do, and how do they help us to live out the Christian life as disciples of Jesus and subjects of his kingdom? Make sure to include in your discussion what occurs during baptism and Eucharist." Post answer online by 3/28/22. Then respond to at least two other students' answers for each question by 4/1/2022.</p>
	Baptism	Questions 126-130, pp. 57-58	pp. 222-235	
	Eucharist	Questions 131-136, pp. 58-59	(Skim) Holy Matrimony	
	The other 5 sacraments	Questions 137-153, pp. 59-63	pp. 198-214 (Skim) Ministry to the Dying	
			pp. 236-242	
				SPIRITUAL FORMATION
				<p>Objective: Cultivate a personal devotional life and rule using the rhythms of the Daily Office and cultivate a sensitivity to God's presence.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pray the Daily Office (one of the versions) twice a day for at least 4 days a week this month. • Practice being aware of God (turning your inward attention to him) throughout your day, perhaps using one of the contemplative prayer practices in the "Toolkit." • On March 24, watch: "The Feast of the Annunciation - keeping the feast in a home chapel" and observe the feast the next day (alone, in your family or with friends). • Choose and observe one of the fasting assignments from the "Spiritual Formation Toolbox" under "Fasting." • Prayerfully complete the Spiritual Formation Reflection for the month & meet with mentor.
				PRACTICUM
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research the story of St. Patrick and celebrate this day (March 17) with others, explaining its significance, perhaps even inviting others to a movie night on St. Patrick's life. Or you might teach a group of children about the life of St. Patrick.

		To Do in April CLASS 9 meets on May 7, 2022			
		CLASS TOPICS	TO BE A CHRISTIAN	BCP 2019	READING & ASSIGNMENTS
Catechist Exam III Administered last week of May	Prayer	Part III: Belonging to Christ: The Lord's Prayer	Pp. 598-683	DEEPENING THEOLOGICAL UNDERSTANDING Objective: Understand the nature and power of prayer as the primary ministry of the believer.	
	Prayer & The Lord's Prayer	Questions 154-164, pp. 65-69		<u>Read:</u> Murray, Andrew. <i>Lord, Teach Us to Pray</i> . Packer, J. I. <i>Praying the Lord's Prayer</i> . Wheaton, IL: Crossway. 2007 <u>Write:</u> Answer the question: "Why should we learn and practice the Lord's Prayer? What are its parts and why is it a pattern for prayer? Provide a brief (1-2 sentence) commentary on each of the parts (the address, petitions, and doxology)." Post answer online by 4/25/22. Then respond to at least two other students' answers for each question by 4/29/2022.	
	The Address	Questions 165-171, pp. 69-70			
	First Petition: "Hallowed be they Name"	Questions 172-177, pp. 70-71			
	Second Petition: God's Kingdom	Questions 178-182, pp. 71-72			
	Third Petition: God's Will	Questions 183-187, pp. 72-73			
	Fourth Petition: God's Provision	Questions 188-192, p. 74			
	Fifth Petition: Forgiveness	Questions 193-201, pp.75-76			
	Sixth Petition: Temptation	Questions 202-208, pp. 76-78			
	Seventh Petition: Deliverance from Evil	Questions 209-220, pp.78-80			
Doxology	Questions 221-223, pp. 80-81				
Rule of Prayer: Scripture, Prayer Worship	Questions 224-255, pp. 81-88		SPIRITUAL FORMATION Objective: Cultivate a personal devotional life and rule using the rhythms of the Daily Office and The Lord's Prayer.		
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During Holy Week (beginning Palm Sunday) pray the collect for each day of Holy Week in your devotion time. • Attend as many of the Holy Week services (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, The Great Easter Vigil, and Easter Sunday service) as is possible for you in order to enter into the story of Christ's passion. Reflect on your experience in a journal. • AND/OR Attend a Stations of the Cross service on Good Friday. • Pray the Daily Office (using one of the versions) twice a day for 5 days of week this month. • Memorize the Lord's Prayer • Prayerfully complete the Spiritual Formation Reflection for the month & meet with mentor.
					PRACTICUM
					Develop a catechism course for non-Christians, the Anglican curious, or for children, teens, or adults in your church. See Signature Assignment.

To Do in May			
Class 10 meets on June 4, 2022, or This class may meet during our retreat date TBD			
CLASS TOPICS	TO BE A CHRISTIAN	BCP 2019	READING & ASSIGNMENTS
The 10 Commandments Justification & Sanctification	Part IV: Becoming Like Christ: The 10 Commandments Questions 256-356, pp. 89-111 Questions 357-368, pp.111-114	Pp. 100-101	DEEPENING THEOLOGICAL UNDERSTANDING
			Objective: Understand the intent and purpose of the Ten Commandments
			<u>Read:</u> Packer, J. I. <i>Keeping the Ten Commandments</i> . Wheaton, IL: Crossway. 2007 “Principle 3: Live in Brokenness and Vulnerability” by Pete Scazzero.
			<u>Watch:</u> The Bible Project: “The Law” & “How to Read Biblical Prose Discourse: The Law”
			<u>Write:</u> 1. Answer the following question in a well-developed paragraph: “Why is it important for you as a leader in God’s church to lead from a place of vulnerability, being committed to facing the darkness, brokenness and sin in your heart? How can NOT doing so be harmful to those you lead and to yourself?” Post answer online by 5/23/22. Then respond to at least two other students’ answers for each question by 5/27/2022. 2. Complete the Ten Commandments Worksheet in preparation for the Exam. OR answer the question: “What is God’s Law? How should we understand it and apply it to our lives? How does Jesus summarize the Law and how did he fulfill it? Why is it beneficial to teach The Ten Commandments?”
			SPIRITUAL FORMATION
Objective: Cultivate a personal devotional life and rule using the rhythms of the Daily Office and cultivate a sensitivity to God’s presence. Deepen understanding of the need to teach The Ten Commandments.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pray the Daily Office (using one of the versions) twice a day for 5 days of week this month. Include praying the Decalogue Litany on p. 100 of the 2019 BCP instead of the Confession. • Continue to use contemplative prayer to practice silent prayer and the presence of God. • Reflect on your year’s experience in ACTS by completing the ACTS Course Evaluation. • Memorize The Ten Commandments. • Prayerfully complete the Spiritual Formation Reflection for the month & meet with mentor.
PRACTICUM			
Complete the signature assignment and be prepared to share with the class at the next meeting.			

 In Preparation for Catechist Exam III
 DUE May 27, 2022

Grades?

You will **not** receive a grade for this course but will receive credit/no credit for assignments and for attendance. Work will not be accepted after 20 days overdue. In order to receive a Certificate of Completion (Catechist I), you will need to earn a minimum of 100 out of 125 points for the 10 months of the course as well as attend all classes, not missing more than two. In addition, to receive the Catechist II License, you will need to pass all three parts of the Catechist Licensing Exam.

The following is a breakdown of assignment values:

Assignment	Points
Online Forum Question per month with response to other student responses.	3 points per question X 10 = 30 points
Signature Assignment: Catechism Course Design and unit design.	25 points
Attendance and Participation (Students may not miss more than 2 online classes.)	1 points each X 11 = 11 points
Mentoring (Minimum 1X month. No make ups.)	9 X 3 points for each signed reflection = 27 points
Course Evaluation	7 points
Total Point Possible	100 points

Students need to obtain a minimum of 85 points to complete ACTS and receive a certificate of completion! Student must pass all three Catechist Exams to receive a Catechist License II.

Rubric for Online responses (half points are also given)	
0	Incomplete
1	Answered the question by primarily providing a summary of learning. Student did not provide application nor respond to two other students' responses.
2	Answered the question with depth and did provide some application to one's life. Either the student <i>did not</i> thoughtfully respond to two other students' responses or she did not fully develop the response.
3	Answer is posted on time and reflects deep thinking and application. Answer not only summarizes understanding but exhibits ability to apply learning or draw out implications for other areas of life. Student thoughtfully responded to two other students' responses.

Something to Consider

This ten-month course invites you into a season of potential learning and growth. You are encouraged to experience and learn as much as you can during this year, prioritizing your time in order to complete reading and assignments with depth and thoughtfulness. In order for this course to be formational for your soul, don't just "jump through the hoops" but invest your heart and be open to the working of the Holy Spirit, the One who guides us into all truth, particularly truth about ourselves. Developing one's inner life takes time and contemplation. You are encouraged to be honest and transparent in your written

responses, when contributing in class, and in your discussions with your mentor. **Live this journey!** You will most likely not be the same person when it is all over.

A Word About Confidentiality

Learning never happens in a vacuum, and thus when we are working through the content of this class issues will likely arise either related to how our understanding has been shaped by former traditions, or by issues in our souls related to past hurts. In either instance, we desire to create a context for our year together that is without judgment and where confidence is kept so that students can freely express reservations, dissonance, and concerns openly. To create this context please keep the following ground rules in minds:

- Keep your focus on what God is doing in you. No trying to fix others.
- Keep your sharing to a minimum, so others have an opportunity to share.
- Confidentiality is a basic requirement. What is shared in our group, stays in our group.
- If a problem arises with another classmate, go to that person first and discuss it. If the problem persists, then you may invite the instructors to help and pray.

Appendix A

Selective Bibliography for Catechesis

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Online Resources

The Bible Project:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/jointhebibleproject>

<https://thebibleproject.com>

"Recovering Catechism," Dean Blevins

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ak-gMngErbg>

"On Catechesis," J.I. Packer

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Hpl-dMH1BY>

"You Are What You Love: The Spiritual Power of Habit," James K.A. Smith

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HChKd1aW-hI>

"The Bible and Tradition," (3 videos) by Edith Humphry

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jdaPfnvIUfg&t=30s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vzthvRFT-sw>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pQhfzTD5Yi0>

The Bible Project "How to Read the Bible Series" (9 videos)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ak06MSETeo4&list=PLH0Szn1yYNedn4FbBMMtOIGN-BPLQ54IH>

Appendix B

Sample Online Forum Responses

Question: How are people immersed in the Gospel through liturgy?

A response that received a 3:

It would seem that we are immersed in the gospel through the liturgy by The Holy scriptures. As our ears become attune to hearing the gospel it then begins its work in our lives. Through this last month I have been reading or listening to Morning or Evening prayer; yes, its long and yes, there are a lot of psalms to read, but I keep coming back to it. The Word of God draws me to need it. I recently had a revelation about the church year. During our 102 class, there was a graph that showed how most of the church year is "ordinary" time, or green time, then I saw this quote which said, "find joy in the ordinary." I have never wanted to be ordinary and can become very bored with ordinary and doing the same things over and over. Being an evangelical, we were always pushed to not live ordinary lives. However, after the visual and learning of how the ordinary time can be a time of discipleship, learning, teaching and yes folding the laundry, I have felt more peace in my family and vocational life. The gospel is a healer, at least for me. Sunday morning worship - even though sitting here at my computer I know everything that will happen at church tomorrow, it's still my favorite day of the week. In *Grounded in the Gospel*, the liturgy touches humans at the levels of their heads, hearts and hands. We take in the truth by our hearts and minds, we experience the fellowship with the Father and Son and we practice the truth we have received. I believe the liturgy keeps calling us back to Jesus Christ and his grace towards us. I'm not just saying this as a new Anglican, there's a room full of us that are called back to it every day as well.

(Response specifically tells the reader how the Gospel is conveyed through the liturgy. Student also responded to 2 other students online as well.)

A response that received a 2:

The liturgy enables us to fix our eyes on Jesus, the author & perfecter of our faith. It does this by providing powerful prayers that are aligned with the church year. It also allows us to make declarations of our faith using the Apostle's Creed, Nicene Creed & Creed of Saint Athanasius. By participating in Morning & Evening Prayer, we experience being set apart for God's kingdom & having our mind renewed according to His truth. The structure of Sunday Morning Worship along with Morning & Evening Prayer allow us to walk in the light as He is in the light & confess our sins that we might be transformed into His image. And all of this takes place while we lift our voices in praise & worship with joyful singing!

(Response doesn't specifically tell the reader how the Gospel is communicated through the liturgy. Student *did* respond to two other students' responses.)

A response that received a 1:

The purpose of the Liturgy is to draw people closer to God through its many components. The Lectionary, Daily Office, and special services are all developed with the use of the scriptures, and this is shown through the way the Church year has been established, with its focus on specific events in the history of the church and recognition of those who have shown by their lives how to live effectively for God. The liturgy is designed to aid our connection with God and our ability to improve our conscious contact with Him.

(Does not answer the question, as to how people are immersed in the Gospel through the liturgy. No responses to other students' answers.)