

Aim of Catechesis

“...to put people not only in touch, but also in communion and intimacy, with Jesus Christ.” #80

Fundamental Tasks

- “Knowledge of the faith is required by adherence to the faith.” #85
- “The church ardently desires that all the ...faithful be brought to that full, conscious and active participation which is required by the very nature of the liturgy” #85
- “When catechesis is permeated by a climate of prayer...the entire Christian life reaches its summit.” #85
- “Christian community life...it is necessary to educate it carefully.” #86

The New High School Doctrinal Framework & Catechetical Issues to Consider

#1

Church documents have authority based on who is writing and their intent

Why is this important?

The Bishops’ of the United States have written and affirmed a Doctrinal Framework for High School catechesis. Bishop Persico has reviewed and approved a specific curriculum to meet the US Doctrinal Framework and therefore this curriculum is binding on all parishes unless explicitly exempted.

But...

The High School Doctrinal Framework does not supersede or replace the essential Church document



General Directory For Catechesis

that governs all catechesis which is the *General Directory for Catechesis* written by the Vatican Congregation for the Clergy in 1997 and the *National Directory for Catechesis* written by the US Bishop in 2005. This US Framework must take its place within the larger context of the Church’s universal directives.

See the sidebar for a reminder of important content.



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#2

Catechesis must never be reduced to content

The High School Framework identifies the content that must be provided for all high school students in the United States. This content is refreshingly systematic in its approach and overtly Christ-centered to emphasize our increasing need to present the person of Christ as the center of all our teaching.

However

even as the Bishops clarify the content of our catechesis they also remind us in this same document: “Therefore catechetical materials and programs shaped by this adaptation of the Curriculum Framework will, of necessity, include specific elements of sacramental catechesis, spirituality, retreats, family prayer, popular piety, devotions, and works of charity and justice.” Preamble

The implementation of this new Doctrinal Framework is a tremendous opportunity to review our overall programs and ensure that we are adequately providing all the tasks which catechesis demands for the formation of true disciples of Christ.

For a fuller description of this please paste this in your browser: http://eriercd.org/pdf/re_401-20-42hours.pdf

For a complete picture of what the Bishops require for adolescents please review *Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry* <http://www.usccbpublishing.org/productdetails.cfm?PC=63>

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Community building, teaching prayer and worship, as well as acts of charity and justice ARE NOT OPTIONAL

