Divine Love: Exploring Catechesis
Saint John Paul II’s Prayer for Catholic Evangelization

Loving God, you called each of us by name.  
You gave your only Son to redeem us.  
In your faithfulness you sent the Holy Spirit to complete  
the mission of Jesus among us.  
Open our hearts to Jesus.  
Give us the courage to speak his Name to those who are close to us, and  
the generosity to share his love with those who are far away.  
We pray that every person throughout the world be invited to know and  
love Jesus as Savior and Redeemer.  
May they come to know his all-surpassing love.  
May that love transform every element of our society.  
We make this prayer through our Lord, Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives  
and reigns with you in the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.  
Amen.
HELLO!

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- 2020-current | Campus Minister @ Roncalli
- 2018-2021 | Diocese of Green Bay | Youth Ministry Office
- 2014-2018 | St. Bernard Parish, Green Bay
HELLO!

Callie Hynek

- Husband: Jon
- 8 month old: Jonah
- A little bit about my faith journey...
Three Parts Today:

1. Catechism = what, why, how, who
2. Catechesis in Evangelization and Discipleship
3. Identifying where you are being called
WHAT IS IT?

1. Written work that contains a summary of all the beliefs of faith

2. Used as a teaching tool

“...full, complete exposition of Catholic doctrine, enabling everyone to know what the Church professes, celebrates, lives, and prays in her daily life.”

-Pope John Paul II, Laetamur Magnopere
WHAT IS THE PURPOSE?

1. It conveys the essential and fundamental content of Catholic faith and morals in a complete and summary way.

2. It is a point of reference for national and diocesan catechisms.

3. It is a positive, objective and declarative exposition of Catholic doctrine.

4. It is intended to assist those who have the duty to catechize, namely promoters and teachers of catechesis.
WHO IS IT FOR?

1. Bishops: teachers of the faith, pastors of the Church. FIRST responsible in catechesis

2. Via the Bishop: priests, catechists, and those responsible for catechesis

3. Not intended directly for young people or children, BUT it is offered to all the faithful who want to understand the riches of salvation (JPII)
HOW DO I USE IT?

1. 4 Parts
2. Paragraph numbers
3. Index
4. Glossary
5. Marginal References
6. Footnotes / Citations
4 PARTS:

1. PROFESSION OF FAITH
   Desire for God + Creed, CCC 14

2. CELEBRATION OF THE CHRISTIAN MYSTERY
   Paschal Mystery + Sacraments, CCC 15

3. LIFE IN CHRIST
   Morality, 10 Commandments, CCC 16

4. CHRISTIAN PRAYER
   What is prayer? Our Father CCC 17
HOW DO I USE IT?

1. 4 Sections
2. Paragraph numbers “CCC 123”
3. Marginal References
4. Footnotes / Citations
5. Back of document:
   a. Index of Citations
   b. Index
   c. Glossary
Mission of the Church:

Matthew 28:19-20

“Go, therefore, 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 observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age.”
Catechesis has a twofold objective:

- To mature initial faith
- To educate the true disciple of Christ
  - By a deeper and more systematic knowledge of the person of Jesus
  - By better understanding His message

-Catechesi Tradendae 19
Catechesis is **NOT** necessarily the entry point into discipleship.

- Initial proclamation
- **Thresholds of Conversion**
- **Discipleship Road Map**
  - *So, where does Catechesis fit?*
CONVERSION

The Encounter with Christ

“Evangelization”

Gospel Proclamation

Establishing Friendship

Relational Ministry

Pre-Evangelization

Discipleship

Mission

Sent

ever-deepening

A “moment” within Evangelization (JPII)

St. André Bessette Parish - Laconia, NH
THE THRESHOLDS OF CONVERSION AND DISCIPLESHIP

Relational Outreach → Conversion Greenhouse → Transformational Growth → Mission

PRE-TRUST  TRUST  CURIOSITY  OPENNESS  SEEKING  DECISION
BEGINNING DISCIPLE  GROWING DISCIPLE  COMMISSIONED DISCIPLE  DISCIPLE MAKER  SPIRITUAL MULTIPLIER

DIOCESE OF KANSAS CITY - ST. JOSEPH
Evangelization

“The proclamation of Christ and his Gospel by word and the testimony of life, in fulfillment of Christ’s command.” –CCC 905

evangelization
(n.) one beggar telling another beggar where the bread is.

- Matt Fradd
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“Catechesis is an education in the faith of children, young people and adults which includes especially the teaching of Christian doctrine imparted, generally speaking, in an organic and systematic way with a view of initiating the hearers into the fullness of Christian life” -CCC 5

“Who are catechists? They are people who keep the memory of God alive; they keep it alive in themselves and they are able to revive it in others.”

— Pope Francis, International Day for Catechists, Sept. 29, 2013
Catechesis is the process whereby we form missionary disciples.
How to utilize the Catechism/process of Catechesis in your faith journey:

- To mature initial faith
- To educate the true disciple of Christ

Where are you at on the discipleship road map?

Growth - more catechesis? Disciple others?
The Catechism in a Year Podcast

Listen on Apple Podcasts

Listen on Spotify

YouTube
The Catechism in a Year Podcast
Forming Intentional Disciples
by Sherry Weddell (2012; Revised 2022)
Discipleship, Evangelization, Catechesis:

- Volunteer with RCIA
- Attend a new retreat; lead a current one
- Start a discussion: who has been away

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Questions? Comments?