

Catechesis VIII: Social Doctrine of the Catholic Church



Catechesis VIII Purpose:

The purpose of this course is to present the teachings of the Catholic Church on social justice. It explores the principles, implicit in Divine Revelation, that have been articulated by the Magisterium in response to the tremendous changes that society has undergone, beginning with the Industrial Revolution.

Included will be an analysis of the Church's response to challenges such as our social nature, the heavenly model for earthly society, Justice and rights, the Church teaches us how to live, principles of Catholic social doctrine, Law, love, Sin, and Virtue, and challenges that we face today.

Doctrinal Elements of a Curriculum Framework for the Development of Catechetical Materials for Young People of High School Age - USCCB

Catechesis VIII Essential Questions:

- Although we are wounded by Original Sin, how has God given us a way to order our human relationships based on the modeling of Christ's love?
- How has the Church developed and implemented Catholic social teachings?

Catechesis VIII Important Concepts/Terms:

Social Doctrine	Atheism	Common good	Eminent Domain
Charity	Communism	Participation	Ecology
Family of God	Encyclical	Solidarity	Anarchy
Apologist	Fascism	Subsidiarity	Detraction
Commutative Justice	Ideology	Technocratic	Just War
Distributive Justice	Laissez-Faire Capitalism	Universal destination of goods	Perjury
Justice	Statism	Dignity	Materialism
Legal Justice	Nazism	Racism	Relativism
Social Justice	Socialism	stewardship	Secularism
Duty			Secularity

Catechesis VIII Guiding Questions:

1. What does the Old Testament, Sacred Scripture, and the Church teach us about living in society?

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2. What set early Christianity apart from other religions and philosophies, and how does Christ's "New Commandment," fit into Christianity?
3. What is the foundation of human rights, and what are some major obstacles and threats to human rights?
4. What historical circumstances required the Church to develop its social doctrine in the modern era, and which documents reflect, influence, and articulate modern developments in social doctrine?
5. What were the social encyclicals?
6. What are the four basic principles of Catholic social doctrine?
7. What is a family, and what is the family's place in society?
8. What gives human life its special dignity, and warrants its special protection?
9. What is the structure of sin, social sin, and how do we combat these using the Ten Commandments and Beatitudes?
10. What are the major obstacles to human fulfillment in Christ?
11. What is the error of secularism, materialism, and individualism?

Note:

Essential questions promote deep and enduring understanding. They cannot be answered in one sentence. Even though they are written simplistically, they are complex enough to be broken down into smaller, guiding questions.

Guiding questions are more detailed questions that support the essential questions of the course.

Catechesis VIII Challenge Questions:

"This element is designed to give catechetical instruction for high-school aged young people an apologetical component. Publishers and teachers or catechists are to strive to provide for a catechetical instruction and formation that is imbued with an apologetical approach. Challenges that appear under one particular theme can also apply to other themes in the framework, and such application is encouraged." Introduction to the Bishops' Framework.

Answers to each of the following questions with references to the Catechism are found in the last section of each course in the Framework. It should be noted, however, that each question has also been addressed within the coursework of the standards.

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- A. If God created us to be social beings is it hypocritical for a practicing Catholic not to follow the flow of mainstream ideas and habits? What moral dilemmas might occur?
- B. The Catholic Church has faced many scandals in the past. What gives Her the right to teach others how to live?
- C. Can one life be more valuable than another? Consider Adolf Hitler vs. Mother Teresa, how would human dignity apply to these two historical figures?
- D. To circumvent the pitfalls of society would it be within reason to isolate my family as to avoid social interaction and avoid sin? Does every human being have a responsibility to a community and the world at large?
- E. My sins are my choice which make them personal. How could my sins affect others? Does my participation in the Sacrament of Reconciliation affect others?
- F. God stated that it is a sin to murder, so how can the Church have a doctrine on just war?

Catechesis VIII Diocese of Gaylord Standards	USCCB Framework (still to be added)/ Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC)
E1 Recognizes the work of the Church as love, peace and justice.	USCCB Framework: Option C, II. B 1-4, D 1-3 CCC: 1807, 2236-2412, 1928-1942, 1959, 2070, 2242, 1899, 1905-1912, 1925-1927
E3. Recalls that God's creation is for our enjoyment, respect and stewardship.	USCCB Framework: Option A, I. A 1a CCC: 50-58
E4. Practices care for the earth.	USCCB Framework: Option A, I. a-c CCC: 758–769; 857-862
E6. Names and explains the Seven Catholic Social Teachings: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Life and dignity of the human person 2. Call to family, community and participation 3. Rights and responsibility 4. Option for the poor and vulnerable 	USCCB Framework: Option C, III. A 1-3, B 1-4, C 1-3, D 1-6, E 1-2, F, G CCC: 758–769; 857-862, 2202-2203, 2402-2406, 2437-2442, 2415-2418

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5. The dignity of work and the rights of the worker 6. Solidarity 7. Care for God’s creation 	
<p>E7. Can discuss the preferential option for the poor.</p>	<p>USCCB Framework: Option C, II. C 1-5, III. D 1-6 CCC: 758–769; 857-862, 2448</p>
<p>E8. Applies the Church’s social teachings to current situations and problems.</p>	<p>USCCB Framework: Option C, II. C 1-5 CCC: 758–769; 857-862, 2448, 2402-2406, 1959, 2070, 2242, 1905-1912, 1925-1927</p>
<p>E9. Identifies ways of responsible use and reuse of resources.</p>	<p>USCCB Framework: Option C, III. G CCC: 758–769; 857-862, 2415-2418</p>
<p>E11. Describes and explains the Church’s teaching on life issues such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Euthanasia 2. Abortion 3. Capital punishment 4. AIDS 5. Reproductive Issues 6. Cloning 7. Stem Cell Research 8. Just War 	<p>USCCB Framework: Option C, IV. 2b1-2a-d CCC: 758–769; 857-862, 2258-2330</p>
<p>E12. Recognizes equality of races, sexes and the rights of all people.</p>	<p>USCCB Framework: Option C, IV C 1-8 CCC: 758–769; 857-862, 1720-1729</p>
<p>E13. Recognizes the value of different cultural expressions of Catholicism.</p>	<p>USCCB Framework: Option C, IV C 1-8 CCC: 758–769; 857-862, 1720-1729</p>