



School Catechism Bee Rules and Procedures

REVISED: JANUARY 2026

OVERVIEW

1. Each school is invited to host a Catechism Bee (*preferably during Catholic Schools Week although not necessary*) in one, two, or should they choose all three divisions.
2. All schools are expected to facilitate at least one Classroom Bee at the Advanced Level division if applicable in your school's grade level configuration.
3. Questions and student study guides are organized into three divisions:
 - a) **Primary** (2nd & 3rd grade)
 - b) **Intermediate** (4th & 5th grade)
 - c) ***Advanced** (6th grade)

*In cases where there is no 6th grade classroom (or very few 6th graders) in your school's grade level configuration, a 5th grade student may advance to the Diocesan Catechism Bee.

4. The winner of the Advanced level school catechism bee will then participate in the Diocesan Catechism Bee which is annually hosted at the Diocesan Pastoral Center in Gaylord.

DUTIES, DIVISIONS, RULES & PROCEDURES

DUTIES

INFORMAL CLASSROOM BEE

TEACHER

1. Opening Prayer.
2. Explanation of Catechism Bee Rules and Procedures.
3. Facilitate and complete the competition following the formal Catechism Bee Rules and Procedures as outlined below.

FORMAL SCHOOL WIDE BEE

PRINCIPAL

1. Opening Prayer.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Welcome: Representatives of Sponsors, students, staff, and family members.
4. Introduce 2nd and 3rd grade participants (Primary), 4th and 5th grade participants (Intermediate), and 6th grade participants (Advanced).
5. Explanation of Catechism Bee Rules and Procedures.

MODERATOR

1. Welcome and congratulations to Catechism Bee participants.
2. Moderator facilitates and completes the competition following the formal Catechism Bee Rules and Procedures outlined below.
3. Have the winners come forward for a round of applause.



DIVISIONS

The same rules and procedures will be followed for the Primary, Intermediate and Advanced Division. If you choose, award certificates can be presented in each division as follows:

1. Champion
2. 1st Runner-up
3. 2nd Runner-up

CONTEST RULES AND PROCEDURES

1. Each contestant will be given the opportunity to draw a number and will be seated in this order.
2. Participants will answer in the order they are seated. The first round will include all contestants. Each subsequent round will include only those contestants who answered their question correctly in the previous round.
3. Upon incorrectly answering a question the contestant is eliminated from the competition, and will be seated in the audience. The next question on the moderator's list is then given to the next contestant.

TIME CONSTRAINTS

1. Each contestant has a limit of one (1) minute to answer the question.
2. The timekeeper will start the time when the moderator finishes announcing the question.
3. The contestant will be notified when one minute has elapsed, then again when 30 seconds remain. When 15 seconds remain, the timekeeper will ask the contestant if he/she would like to give an answer.
4. If the entire two minutes elapses before the contestant has provided an answer, the timekeeper will inform the contestant they are eliminated.

END OF BEE PROCEDURE:

ONLY THREE CONTESTANTS REMAIN

If none of the contestants answer correctly:

1. All remain in the competition and a new round begins.

If only one contestant answers correctly:

1. The contestant who answered correctly is given an opportunity to answer the next question on the list, the "anticipated winning question."
2. If the contestant answers the "anticipated winning question" correctly, the contestant is declared the champion.
3. If the contestant answers the "anticipated winning question" incorrectly, a new round begins with all the contestants who answered (correctly and incorrectly) in the previous round. The questioning continues in the original order.