

Does My Candidate Have Sufficient Catechesis for the Sacraments?

(note: the purpose of this document is not for it to be given to a candidate as a written or verbal exam. Rather, these are areas that would be covered in a complete catechesis and provide a framework to assist you in identifying gaps.)

Personal Relationship with God

- See their relationship as something that is personal and familiar
- Have a posture of docility and obedience forming in their relationship
- Understand what “worship” is and the necessity of the Mass and prayer
- Desire to abide by the Five Precepts of the Church
- Aware of the Church’s teachings on horoscopes, crystal use, the occult, etc

Creation

- Understand that we are created in the image and likeness of God and can articulate what that means

The Kerygma

- God created us out of love for a personal relationship with Him
- This relationship was broken not only through Original Sin, but through our sins today
- By his cross, Jesus came to restore this relationship with humanity and provide a bridge to the gap our sins have left
- God expects us to respond to this call to be at the center of our lives by following Him in holiness and in mission

Divine Revelation and God’s Continued Pursuit of Humanity

- Understands that God has constantly been pursuing humanity
- Aware that the Bible is a divine inspiration from God and should be treated as such

The Trinity

- One nature, Three persons
- Two processions (the Son proceeds from the Father and the HS proceeds from the Father and the Son)
- Not a subscriber of any heresies (Modalism, Tritheism, Docetism, Macedonianism, Adoptism, Partialism, etc)

The Holy Spirit and the Church

- Understand the role of the Holy Spirit in our lives as an advocate
- Comprehend a need for a Church
- Verbalize the meaning of Pentecost Sunday

Mary & the Saints

- See Mary as an important figure to have a relationship with
- Conceptualize intercession by the Saints and Mary in prayer

The Sacraments

- Can name the seven sacraments and their purpose
- Have an understanding of “grace”
- Can articulate a need for confession
- Understand and believe in the “Real Presence” of the Eucharist
- Understand the meaning of “Vocation”

Rightly Ordered Society

- Understand the Social Doctrine of the Church
- Engaged in corporal and spiritual works of mercy

Marriage and Family Ethics

- Understand Church teaching on bioethics, birth control, and IVF
- See marriage as a means of sanctification to the world
- Aware of Church teaching on divorce and what annulments are
- Understand the Church's meaning of "chastity according to state of life"

Respect for Human Life

- Can articulate what "dignity of the human person" means to them in accordance with Church teaching
- Aware of Church teaching on abortion, suicide, euthanasia & assisted suicide, death penalty, care of the body, and just war