

## Appendix A: NCEA IFG: ACRE edition Blueprint

### Domain 1 – Knowledge of the Faith

Student Objective:

*To know and understand basic Catholic teaching about the Incarnate Word Jesus Christ as the way, truth, and life.*

#### *Key Concepts*

1. Trinity: A community of three persons in one indivisible God and the central mystery of faith.
  - o God the Father: our loving Creator.
  - o God the Son: Jesus – Savior; Life, Death, and Resurrection; human and divine natures.
  - o God the Holy Spirit: God's sanctifying power in the life of the church.
2. Creed: a summary of the faith.
3. God's activity in human history:
  - o The Bible as the inspired Word of God.
  - o Major biblical themes: Old Testament – creation, sin, covenant, exodus, law, prophets, kingdom.
  - o Major biblical themes: New Testament – parables, miracles, kingdom of God, beatitudes, paschal mystery, Jesus' mission, eternal hope.
  - o Transmission of revelation: Scripture, Tradition, and magisterium.
4. Church history: central stories, key events, major figures, and saints.

### Domain 2 - Liturgical Life

Student Objective:

*To know the paschal mystery of Jesus:*

- *in the Church's liturgical life – feasts, seasons, symbols, and practices.*
- *in the sacraments as signs and instruments of grace.*

#### *Key Concepts*

1. Liturgical year.
2. Liturgical symbols.
3. The Mass: Nature, Liturgy of the Word, and Liturgy of the Eucharist.
4. Roles in Liturgy.
5. Celebration of sacraments as signs of grace and encounters with Christ.
6. Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.
7. Sacraments of Healing: Penance & Anointing.
8. Sacraments at the Service of Communion: Holy Orders and Matrimony.
9. Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.

- How do these results compare to those from prior administrations of this assessment? Has anything changed in the learning environment that may have contributed to any differences between this group and the last?

## Conclusion

NCEA IFG: ACRE edition instruments and accompanying processes are designed to help Catholic educators and catechetical leaders evaluate local Catholic parish and school programs by gathering evidence of what particular groups of students know about Catholicism and how their lives reflect development as Christian disciples. In addition to the reports provided with student results, NCEA is available for phone consultation as well as to offer workshops and other assistance in using the results to monitor and evaluate local performance. Contact the Religious Education Department with inquiries. Together, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, may our efforts in catechesis (religious education and faith formation) put people in touch with Jesus Christ and draw them more deeply into communion and intimacy with him.

### Contact Information

NCEA partners with Computerized Assessments & Learning (CA&L) in Lawrence, Kansas, in delivering the student portions of the assessment process. CA&L handles all orders and prepares the score reports for the NCEA IFG: ACRE edition. The administration and interpretation manuals are available online.

***Order, Return, or Process Student Materials:***

Contact CA&L to obtain question booklets, answer sheets, printed manuals, or reports. Mail all completed answer sheets to CA&L.

Computerized Assessment & Learning  
1202 East 23rd Street, Suite D  
Lawrence, KS 66046  
(866) 406-3850  
orders@caltesting.org  
<http://ncea.caltesting.org>

***Special Situations, General Questions:***

Contact NCEA Religious Education Department regarding special situations while giving the NCEA IFG: ACRE edition, interpreting results or other general questions.

NCEA Religious Education Department  
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Arlington, VA 22201  
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### Domain 3 - Moral Formation

Student Objectives:

- *To be knowledgeable about the teachings of Jesus and the Church as the basis of Christian morality and to understand Catholic Social Teaching.*
- *To be aware of the importance of a well-formed conscience for decision-making.*

#### *Key Concepts*

1. God's plan for Christian life:
  - Two great commandments, Beatitudes and Ten Commandments.
  - Precepts of the Church.
2. Nature and aspects of personal and social sin and virtue.
3. Principles of Catholic Social Teaching: life and dignity of the human person; call to family, community and participation; rights and responsibilities; preferential option for the poor and vulnerable; dignity of work and rights of workers; solidarity; care for God's creation.
4. Conscience, freedom, decision-making, responsibility, the common good, and the courage to act.
5. Morality as based on natural and divine law.
6. Pursuit of a life of holiness.

### Domain 4 – Prayer

Student Objective:

*To recognize and learn how to engage in Catholic forms of personal and communal prayer and ways of deepening one's spiritual life.*

#### *Key Concepts*

1. The Lord's Prayer, Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father, meal prayers, sign of the cross, act of contrition, apostles creed.
2. Sacramentals: Rosary, Stations of the Cross, holy water, etc.
3. Devotional practices rooted in different cultures, e.g. novenas, posadas, simbang gabi, quinceañeras.
4. Purpose and forms of prayer such as blessing, petition, intercession, thanksgiving, adoration and praise.
5. Personal prayer and spiritual reflection including vocal prayer, meditation, and contemplative prayer as basic and fruitful practices in the life of the disciple of Jesus.
6. Shared prayer, including family prayer and prayer with small communities of faith.

## Domain 5 – Communal Life

### Student Objective:

- *To know the origin, mission, structure, and communal nature of the Church.*
- *To know the rights and responsibilities of the Christian faithful.*

### Key Concepts

1. Marks of the Church (one, holy, catholic, and apostolic).
2. Mary as model of the Church.
3. Church: People of God, Body of Christ, communion of saints.
4. Leadership of the Church: order and charisms.
5. The teaching role of the magisterium.
6. Ecumenism: the pursuit of unity among Christian churches.
7. The mission of the Church, and the rights and responsibilities of the Christian faithful.
8. Church as a communion: universal, diocesan, parish, domestic church (family), Christian communities, and ecclesial movements.
9. Theological virtues: God's gifts of faith, hope and love; development of character; Christian habits; Cardinal virtues: prudence, fortitude, temperance and justice.

## Domain 6 – Missionary Spirit

### Student Objectives:

- *To recognize the centrality of evangelization as the Church's mission and identity embodied in vocation and service.*
- *To be aware of how cultures are transformed by the Gospel.*

### Key Concepts

1. Evangelization, including the new evangelization.
2. Commitment to discipleship.
3. Baptismal/vocational call as lay, ordained, or religious.
4. Responsibility to those in need, promoting the common good, and working for the transformation of society through personal and social action.

## Categories of Affective Statements

- Relationship with Jesus
- Images of God
- Catholic Identity
- Morality
- Relationships with Others
- Perceptions About Your School/Parish Program
- Perceptions About Your School/Parish Program: Students' Concerns

## Appendix B: Vocabulary and Historical Figures in NCEA IFG: ACRE Edition (2013)

The NCEA IFG: ACRE edition presumes students are familiar with a core vocabulary as a result of their faith formation. The following lists of terms support the key concepts addressed in each of the three levels of the tool. Names of significant people and places in the Bible and Church history that are included in assessment items are provided separately from the terms to aid in teaching. The listings by level are cumulative, that is, advanced levels assume knowledge of terms from earlier levels.

Students involved in Catholic faith formation either through Catholic schools or parish-based religious education programs should be learning the following terms and their meaning as part of building Catholic literacy. Teacher/catechists familiarity with where and when these terms are addressed in the local religious education program along with the concepts they represent supports gradual acquisition and use of essential Catholic terminology.

### Vocabulary Terms

#### Level One

|                     |                          |                        |                      |
|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Act of Contrition   | Discrimination           | Initiation             | Pastor               |
| Acts of Mercy       | Divine                   | Judge                  | Priest               |
| Advent              | Easter                   | Laity                  | Promised Land        |
| All Saints (Feast)  | Holy Orders              | Last Supper            | Prophets             |
| All Souls Day       | Ecumenical/Ecumenism     | Lent                   | Psalm                |
| Anointing           | Epistle                  | Liturgical Season      | Purgatory            |
| Apostles' Creed     | Eucharist(ic)            | Liturgy                | Reconciliation       |
| Baptism             | Evangelization           | Lord                   | Redeemer             |
| Beatitudes          | Excommunication          | Love                   | Redemption           |
| Bible               | Exodus                   | Magisterium            | Religious Life       |
| Bishop              | Faith                    | Mass                   | Roman Catholic       |
| Cardinal            | Fasting                  | Matrimony              | Rosary               |
| Catholic            | Forgiveness              | Memorare               | Sacred               |
| Christian           | General Intercessions    | Missal                 | Sacrament            |
| Christmas           | Gifts of the Holy Spirit | Mortal Sin             | Sacrament of Penance |
| Church              | God                      | Mystery                | Sacrifice            |
| Commandment         | Good Friday              | New Testament          | Saint                |
| Communion           | Gospels                  | Old Testament          | Salvation            |
| Communion of Saints | Grace                    | Original Sin           | Samaritan            |
| Confess             | Hail Mary                | Our Father             | Sanctifying Grace    |
| Confession          | Heaven                   | Parish                 | Savior               |
| Confirmation        | Hell                     | Paschal Mystery        | Sermon on the Mount  |
| Conscience          | Hierarchy                | Pastor                 | Sin                  |
| Contrition          | Holy                     | Pentecost              | Ten Commandments     |
| Covenant            | Holy Communion           | Pope                   | Thanksgiving         |
| Creator             | Holy Days of Obligation  | Prayer                 | Trinity              |
| Creed               | Holy Trinity             | Prayer of the Faithful | Venial Sin           |
| Cross               | Hope                     | Stations of the Cross  | Virtue               |
| Deacon              | Immaculate Conception    | Sunday                 | Vocation             |
| Diocese             | Incarnation              | Tabernacle             | Volunteer            |

## Level Two

|                          |                     |  |   |
|--------------------------|---------------------|--|---|
| Abortion                 | Conversion          | Missionary                             | Rite of Christian Initiation<br>of Adults |
| Abraham                  | Crusades            | Moral                                  | Scripture(s)                              |
| Acts of the Apostles     | Disciples           | Parable                                | Sexual Intercourse                        |
| Adultery                 | Emperor             | Peacemakers                            | Spirituality                              |
| Altar                    | Euthanasia          | Preach                                 | Sister (Religious)                        |
| Ascension                | Final Judgment      | Presentation                           | Stewardship                               |
| Assumption               | Homily              | Presentation of Jesus in<br>the Temple | Temple                                    |
| Blasphemy                | Inspiration         | Procreation                            | Tithing                                   |
| Brother (Religious)      | Kingdom             | Prophecies                             | Tradition                                 |
| Capital Punishment       | Lector              | Protestant                             | Vatican II                                |
| Catholic Social Teaching | Liturgical Year     | Resurrection                           | Virginity                                 |
| Church Council           | Liturgy of the Word | Revelation                             |   |
| Church Fathers           | Miracle             | Rite                                   |   |
| Consecration             | Mission             |  |   |

## Level Three

|                    |                     |                                     |                       |
|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Adoration          | Dark Ages           | Kingdom of God                      | Racial Discrimination |
| Annulment          | Evangelists         | Monasticism                         | Real Presence         |
| Catechumen         | Genesis             | Pastoral Letter                     | Reformation           |
| Catechumenate      | Grace (Sanctifying) | Precepts of the Church              | Veneration            |
| Commemoration      | Indulgence          | Preferential Option for the<br>Poor |                       |
| Community of Faith | Inquisition         |                                     |                       |

## Biblical and Historical Names

### Level One

Elizabeth, cousin of Mary  
 God, the Father  
 God, the Son  
 God, the Holy Spirit  
 Israelites  
 Jericho  
 Jerusalem  
 Jesus  
 John  
 Luke  
 Mark  
 Mary, Mother of God  
 Matthew  
 Moses  
 Noah  
 Our Lady of Guadalupe  
 Paul  
 Pharisees  
 Pope John Paul II  
 Prodigal Son  
 St. Peter  
 Theresa, the Little Flower  
 Yahweh

### Level Two

Abraham  
 David  
 Joshua  
 Roman Empire  
 St. Elizabeth Seton  
 St. Isaac Joques  
 St. John Bosco  
 St. Katherine Drexel  
 Solomon

### Level Three

Henry VIII  
 Holy Family: Jesus, Mary, Joseph  
 John Calvin  
 John Knox  
 John the Baptist  
 Lazarus  
 Martin Luther  
 Pope John XXIII