



Archdiocese of San Francisco
Office of Religious Education
&
Department of Catholic Schools
One Peter Yorke Way
San Francisco, CA 94109-6602
415-614-5500

Dear Partners in the Catechetical Ministry,

February 2006

Our *National Directory for Catechesis* begins with the quote from 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 behold, I am with you
always, until the end of the age.

We are Jesus Christ's emissaries to those we teach in parishes and Catholic schools and their families. In an effort to assist the Archdiocese of San Francisco in its catechetical mission, these guidelines serve as a resource to integrate catechesis within a total Archdiocesan plan. This plan called for in our *National Directory for Catechesis* holds each of us responsible in our ministry. Implementation in every program in the Archdiocese will serve as a base that is comprehensive and systematic no matter what textbooks, models or cultural diversity is present.

This curriculum packet has been written as a helpful resource for all. It provides a clear model of what needs to be developed. It is consistent with the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, *The General Directory for Catechesis* and our own *National Directory for Catechesis*. The hope is that within the next three years the guidelines will be implemented by developing indicators for each concept, grades kindergarten – 8th, for catechetical use in the Catholic schools, parishes and families. Expectations are that the following outline of completion be established:

- 2006 Indicators completed for grades kindergarten – 2nd
- 2007 Indicators completed for grades 3rd – 5th
- 2008 Indicators completed for grades 6th – 8th

Each program is encouraged to involve catechists, educational professionals, parents and priests in the planning process. All have a valuable place around the table. Together we can make an important contribution in the life of our young people and their families. Faith in the Catholic Church is gift but knowing about our commitment takes formation and knowledge in order to practice and sustain one's life in Christ and the Church. We have the best job possible – making disciples in the Lord Jesus Christ. May we who are blessed with this vocation continue to know Christ is our Light.