



## Course III: The Mission of Jesus Christ (The Paschal Mystery)

### Course III Purpose:

*To help students understand all that God has done for us through his Son, Jesus Christ. Through this course of study, students will learn that for all eternity, God has planned for us to share eternal happiness with him, which is accomplished through the redemption Christ won for us. Students will learn that they share in this redemption Christ won for us. Students will learn that they share in this redemption only in and through Jesus Christ. They will also be introduced to what it means to be a disciple of Christ and what life as a disciple entails.*

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

### Course III Essential Questions:

- What is the Paschal Mystery and what is its significance?
- How would one live out the Paschal Mystery as a disciple of Christ?

### Course III Important Concepts/Terms:

Ascension	Paschal Mystery
concupiscence	Pentecost
Covenant	Prayer
Incarnation	Salvation History
Missionary Disciple	Trinity
Original Holiness	Universal Call to Holiness
Original Sin	

### **Course III Archdiocese of Seattle Standards:**

1. Explain how the literary forms of Scripture and the use of figurative and symbolic language convey religious truths in Genesis 1-11 about which science and history can only speculate.  
USCCB Framework: (I, A, 1, a-d) (CCC, nos. 54, 279-282, 289, 283-289, 362, 375, 390, 396)
2. Explain how Creation reflects the glory of the Triune God.  
USCCB Framework: (I, A, 2) (CCC, nos. 290-295, 301)
3. Explain the relationship between God's innate goodness and His creations.  
USCCB Framework: (I, A, 3) (CCC, nos. 325-336, 349-357)
4. Identify the effects of God's creating everything good.  
USCCB Framework: (I, A, 4) (CCC, nos. 356-359, 1700-1706, 369-373, 1605, 1702, 2331, 2333-2336, 2346-2347, 356-368)
5. Articulate the basic tenants of Judeo-Christian Anthropology.  
USCCB Framework: (I, A, 5, B, 1-2) (CCC, nos. 374-379, 55, 309-314, 385-390, 1707, 1708, 391-395)
6. Interpret the disobedience of Adam and Eve as a misguided choice that had consequences beyond themselves.  
USCCB Framework: (I, B, 3, a-c) (CCC, nos. 396-398, 399-401, 402-409)
7. Define Original Sin and show how concupiscence is one of its products.  
USCCB Framework: (I, B, 3, c) (CCC, nos. 402-409)
8. Identify God's promises of Redemption and the Covenants in the Hebrew Scriptures.  
USCCB Framework: (II, A, B) (CCC, nos. 410-412, 55-64, 121-123, 129-130)
9. Recognize how God's promise of redemption endures despite humanity's continued and increased disobedience as expressed in Gen. 3-11.  
USCCB Framework: (II, A, B) (CCC, nos. 410-412, 55-64, 121-123, 129-130)
10. Analyze the principles of a covenant relationship and discuss its progression in light of the experiences of Noah, Abraham, Moses, David and the Prophets.  
USCCB Framework: (II, B, 1-5) (CCC, nos. 121-123, 129-130)

11. Analyze the importance of the "yes" in the life of a disciple as shown in Mary, the Mother of God, and St. Joseph.  
USCCB Framework: (II, C, 1, a, b) (CCC, nos. 422-451, 484-489, 496,507)
12. Connect the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus in the Gospels with the Covenant and messianic promises in the prophetic books in the Hebrew Scriptures.  
USCCB Framework: (II, C, 1, c) (CCC, nos. 522-524)
13. Summarize Christ's whole life as a mystery of redemption (CCC, nos. 535-618).  
USCCB Framework: (II, C) (CCC, nos. 535-618 )
14. Illustrate how Christ's whole earthly life—words, deeds, silences, sufferings—reveals the Father and God's love among us.  
USCCB Framework: (II, C, 4) (CCC, no. 516)
15. Provide examples of how the incarnate Jesus reveals himself and God's promise of redemption in his public ministry.  
USCCB Framework: (III, A-E) (CCC, nos. 538-540, 2618, 541-550, 554-556, 611, 1337-1344 )
16. Understand the core teachings of the Kingdom of God through parables and miracles. (CCC, nos. 541-550).  
USCCB Framework: (III, C) (CCC, nos. 541-550)
17. Identify what the resurrection of Jesus reveals about his divine and human nature.  
USCCB Framework: (IV, A, B, C) (CCC, nos. 596-618, 631-658, 659-667)
18. Explain the resurrection of Jesus as both an historical and transcendent event.  
USCCB Framework: (II, B, 1-2) (CCC, nos. 631-658)
19. Identify the ways we share in the Paschal Mystery through the Sacraments, culminating in the Eucharist and in our daily lives.  
USCCB Framework: (II, B, 4) (CCC, nos. 651, 653, 652)
20. Describe how the Paschal Mystery gives us hope in the midst of our own sufferings. (1 Cor. 15)  
USCCB Framework: (II, B, 3, c)
21. Understand that God's ultimate goal is for all Creation to accept His invitation of Redemption.  
USCCB Framework: (II, B, 4)

22. Understand the Ascension and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and how both relate to the mission of discipleship.  
USCCB Framework: (IV, C) (CCC, nos. 659-667)
23. Understand the universal call to holiness and its implications in a believer's life.  
USCCB Framework: (V, A, B) (CCC, nos. 598, 826, 2012-2014, 2028, 2045, 2813)
24. Understand that discipleship calls each to be responsible to fulfill the mission of evangelization as a representation of Christ in the world.  
USCCB Framework: (V, C, 1-8) (CCC, nos. 520, 618, 767, 1693, 1248, 618, 767, 562, 915, 1816, 1823, 1986, 2262, 2347, 2427, 2466, 2612)
25. Understand the importance of taking time to speak with and listen to God through different forms of prayers as you seek to live out God's call to holiness and justice.  
USCCB Framework: (VI, A-G) (CCC, nos. 2558, 2560, 2567-2589, 2653-2654, 2673-2679, 2700-2724, 2626-2649, 2729-2745, 2759-2865)
26. Explain how Catholics use scripture within prayer as a means to enter into the Paschal Mystery, e.g. Mass prayers and dialogues, psalms, canticles, Our Father, Hail Mary, Rosary, Stations of the Cross, Sacraments and the Angelus.  
USCCB Framework: (VI, C) (CCC, nos., 2567-2589, 2653-2654, 2673-2679)
27. Practice *Lectio Divina* as a way of praying on the Word of God.  
USCCB Framework: (VI, C, 3)
28. Describe the forms of prayer and create examples of them.  
USCCB Framework: (VI, C)

## Course III Guiding Questions

How is creation good, as well as fallen?

What is human nature?

What is sin and where does it come from?

How do we respond to the reality of sin?

Why did God become human? What is Jesus' role in salvation?

What does it mean to be redeemed? (process, not a single moment) What are we saved from and what are we save for?

In what ways do we cooperate with and respond to God's work of redemption in our lives, both personally and communally?

How does faith shape our response to suffering, struggle, and loss in our lives?

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.*

## Challenge Questions

*“This element is designed to give catechetical instruction for high-school age 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.

- A. Why would God the Father allow his Son, Jesus, to suffer and die the way he did?
- B. Why are followers of Jesus Christ sometimes so willing to make sacrifices and to accept pain and suffering, especially in witness to Christ and their faith?
- C. Isn’t making sacrifices and putting up with suffering a sign of weakness?
- D. In the end, isn’t it really only the final result that matters?