

## **GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF THE CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD IN PARISHES AND SCHOOLS OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA**

1. The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, with its Roman Catholic Resources, is approved for use by the Office for Catechetical Formation of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia in accordance with the following guidelines:
  - a. The use of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd must be approved by the pastor(s) in concert with the Director of Religious Education or School Principal.
  - b. The Catechists for the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd are under the direct supervision of the Director of Religious Education in the case of the Religious Education Program and of the Principal in the case of the Catholic Elementary Parish or Regional School.
  - c. The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Program may be used up to and including the level/grade for reception of First Holy Communion in the Parish Religious Education Program. In the Catholic school, the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is permitted to be used as religious enrichment or to the existing curricula as defined by the Secretariat for Catholic Education and up to and including the grade for the reception of First Holy Communion. See Appendix.
2. The Catechists of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd serve as catechists of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. The training and formation provided by the National Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd satisfies the core courses of the Catechetical Certification Policy of the Archdiocese. The Office for Catechetical Formation recommends that Catechists for the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd participate in ongoing catechetical formation course and/or workshops.
3. The Office for Catechetical Formation, in its role to oversee all catechetical initiatives of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, is responsible for the use of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.



**Appendix**  
**Archdiocese of Philadelphia**  
**Secretariat for Catholic Education**  
Policy on Religious Enrichment for  
Parish, Regional and Merged Catholic Elementary Schools

Religious Enrichment supports the Religion Curriculum of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia; it does not replace it.

It is a specific ministry within the elementary school (i.e., Pre- Kindergarten to Grade 8) which enhances the religion content of the Archdiocesan Religion curriculum of each specific grade.

The teacher who provides the religious enrichment is a member of the School faculty who

- has completed or met the requirements for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia Catechetical Certification.
- is an experienced elementary Catholic school teacher.
- is under the direct supervision of the school principal.
- assists and supports the classroom religion teacher and works at his/her direction.
- expands upon the lessons of the Religion curriculum which are taught in the classroom on a daily basis.

Religious enrichment is not to exceed thirty (30) minutes per week and is part of the scheduled time allotted for the teaching of religion curriculum.

Examples of Religious Enrichment which enhance the Archdiocesan Religion Curriculum are:

- Classroom activities which relate to :
  - + Liturgical Calendar and its seasons
  - + Prayer
  - + Lives of the Saints
  - + Preparation for First Penance, First Holy Communion and Confirmation
  - + Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation/Examination of Conscience
  - + Marian Devotions
  - + Preparation for Sunday Mass
  - + Virtues
  - + Catholic Social Teaching
- Preparation for liturgy such as First Friday Mass
- Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- Spiritual Devotions
- Stations of the Cross
- Marian Devotions.