

Real+True

PILLAR IV

UNIT 42 GUIDE

OVERVIEW

The *Catechism* is not a textbook, a collection of ideas, or a set of rules. Rather, the *Catechism* is the faithful echo of a God who wishes to reveal himself to us and desires us to respond. Our mission is to hand down and pass along the gift of our faith by creating beautiful, captivating, and relevant content inspired by the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. And we are making this content in multiple languages and accessible for free to people all over the world.

The content, structure, and methodology of Real + True takes inspiration and direction from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* and sound, evangelizing catechesis. Catechesis is inextricably intertwined with evangelization, and its primary aim is to put people into intimacy and communion with Jesus Christ. (Catechesi Tradendae, 5)

The word “catechesis” comes from the Greek word that means “to echo”. This simple guide is designed to help you understand the structure of our content and better use it to echo the teachings of Jesus yourself. The structure takes inspiration from the catechetical methodology, the pedagogy of the *Catechism*, and the pedagogy of God.

THERE ARE FOUR PARTS TO THE CATECHISM. THE FOUR PARTS, OR PILLARS, ARE:

- The Profession of Faith (Pillar I)
- The Celebration of the Christian Mystery (Pillar II)
- Life in Christ (Pillar III)
- Christian Prayer (Pillar IV)

Each pillar is divided into 12 units. In total, this project will include 48 units that will cover the entire *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (CCC). Every month, a new unit will be published.

The twelve units for pillar four and the paragraphs of the *Catechism* they cover are:

- UNIT 37** Prayer is a personal relationship. (2558-2567)
- UNIT 38** Prayer as covenant relationship and 5 ways of prayer (2568-2649)
- UNIT 39** The wellsprings of prayer (2650-2696)
- UNIT 40** Prayer is a daily walk with Jesus. (2697- 2758)
- UNIT 41** Jesus teaches us to pray: “Our Father” (2759-2806)
- UNIT 42** Prayer in the name of Jesus. (2807-2815)
- UNIT 43** Prayer invites God’s kingdom. (2816-2821)
- UNIT 44** God’s will in our lives. (2822- 2827)
- UNIT 45** Praying to God for our needs. (2828-2837)
- UNIT 46** Prayer, mercy, forgiveness. (2838-2845)
- UNIT 47** Battling temptation, sin, and evil through prayer. (2846-2854)
- UNIT 48** The Our Father, a summary of the Good News. Amen. (2855-2865)

EACH UNIT THEN CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING VIDEOS:

Proclamation

Explanation

Connection

There are a few characteristics of the *Catechism's* approach and structure that are worth mentioning. The *Catechism* is trinitarian, meaning we view all of the faith through the lens of the Trinity. The *Catechism* is also christocentric, meaning its focus or center is Jesus. The *Catechism* is kerygmatic, meaning it is animated by the saving message of Jesus Christ, the Good News. The *Catechism* has a missionary dimension, meaning it does not presume faith in those that would read it but seeks to evangelize through its presentation of the faith. And the *Catechism* is systematic, progressive, and organic, meaning the structure itself is a catechesis. The structure for each unit was developed using these characteristics and the Ecclesial Method, proposed by Msgr. Francis Kelley (author of *The Mystery We Proclaim*).

While each video is designed to be able to stand on its own, there is some benefit in watching them in order, and they do build on each other.

Proclamation Video

The first video is meant to rouse the spiritual curiosity that allows us to be prepared to hear the Gospel message. These videos explore the world and our human experience, and the hope is that these videos will be especially attractive to those who might be less interested in a video that directly addresses the doctrines of the faith.

Explanation Video

The second video breaks open the content of the passage of the *Catechism* being addressed in the unit. This video is much more straightforward and is guided by a discussion back and forth between two voices who are exploring the truths of the faith.

Connection Video

The connection video is meant to be a real-life application of the passage from the *Catechism*, and answer common questions related to this unit's content. The tone of these videos are often playful, and it is meant to connect with the audience on a more practical level that is relevant to their lives.

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UNIT 42: PRAYER IN THE NAME OF JESUS | CCC 2807-2815

THESIS: PRAYER TO OUR FATHER IS OUR PRAYER IF IT IS PRAYED IN THE NAME OF JESUS.

Proclamation Video: How Our Lives Reflect Those We Represent

Discussion Questions:

- What did you find particularly striking in the video?
- The script says ambassadors act “in the name of” those they represent. As Christians, how does this concept apply to our daily lives when we represent Christ in the world?
- St. Paul calls Christians “ambassadors for Christ.” How do you think your actions and decisions reflect Christ to those around you?
- Ambassadors are seen as living embodiments of the leaders or countries they represent. How can we embody the teaching and example of Jesus in our relationships and communities?
- The script asks, “Who do you act ‘in the name’ of?” What groups, people, or values do you think your actions represent, and how do you feel about this?
- Ambassadors build trust and understanding between nations. How can Christians act as bridges of trust and reconciliation in a divided world?
- The role of an ambassador requires integrity, diplomacy, and communication. How can these qualities help us be more effective witnesses for Christ?
- The idea of being an ambassador means carrying responsibility for your actions. How does knowing you represent Christ affect the way you handle challenges or conflicts in your life?
- If someone observed your actions and words, what do you think they would learn about who or what you represent? How might you live more intentionally to better reflect your faith?

Explanation Video: How Praying ‘Hallowed Be Thy Name’ Changes Your Life

Discussion Questions:

- What stood out to you from the video?
- The script says that God revealed His name to invite us into a relationship with Him. How does knowing God’s name change the way you see Him and your relationship with Him?
- When we pray “hallowed be thy name,” we acknowledge God’s holiness and pray for our lives to reflect it. How can our daily actions and prayer life honor God’s name?
- The Tetragrammaton was so holy in Jewish tradition that it wasn’t spoken aloud. How can we grow in our reverence for God’s name in our words and actions?
- The video says Jesus identified Himself with the name “I AM”. How does this deepen your understanding of who Jesus is and His connection to God the Father?
- When we pray “in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit,” we acknowledge the Trinity and God’s work in our lives. How does this prayer shape the way you live and interact with others?
- The first petition of the Lord’s Prayer focuses on God’s glory and holiness. How can starting your own prayer with a focus on God’s holiness change the way you approach your own needs and petitions?
- The second commandment reminds us to honor God’s name. In what ways can you ensure your words, actions, and prayers reflect this reverence in your daily life?

Connection Video: The Lord's Prayer and the Courage to Honor God

Discussion Questions:

- What was something that struck you from the video?
- The video says martyrs are made in the little moments of their lives. How can practicing faithfulness in small decisions prepare us to be faithful to God in the bigger challenges of our life?
- In the Lord's Prayer, we ask that God's name be "hallowed." What does it mean to you to treat God's name as holy, and how does this impact the way you pray and live?
- Martyrs like St. Polycarp refused to renounce God, even under threat of death. How do their stories challenge or inspire your own life as a disciple of Jesus?
- The video suggests building awareness of God's name by making the sign of the cross or bowing at the name of Jesus. How could these practices help you stay more mindful of living a life that honors God and His name?
- St. Teresa of Avila spoke of the importance of the name of Jesus in prayer. How can invoking the name of Jesus help you center yourself in God's presence during prayer or daily activities?
- The *Catechism* says the sanctification of God's name "depends inseparably on our life and our prayer." How do you think your life reflects the holiness of God to others?

General Recommendations

FRIENDS AND FAMILIES:

These videos are great discussion starters with coworkers, family members, and friends. You can easily share one over social media or by text. Say a prayer and ask the Holy Spirit to inspire you and guide you on who to send a video to. Follow up later by asking what they thought of the video and if there were any thoughts or questions it stirred up. Practice spiritual accompaniment by using active listening and refraining from correcting or teaching.

PARISH SETTINGS, SCHOOLS, YOUTH, YOUNG ADULT, AND COLLEGE CAMPUS MINISTRY:

These videos work great as a series for social media posts or email newsletters. Be sure to include a link for people to dive deeper into the rest of the content. In more formal catechetical settings, these videos are best used as supplemental discussion starters, or to recap a lesson. Try using these to open a lesson and dive right into reactions and discussion. For younger students, or those who are not active disciples, try the proclamation videos as a way into the content. For those who might be new or active disciples, try using the proclamation, explanation, and connection videos.

CATECHISTS:

The *Catechism's* structure is itself a teaching. And the method and content of these videos is a great way to discuss with catechists how to effectively accomplish an “evangelizing catechesis”. By watching the unit videos together while reading the *Catechism* paragraphs, you can then discuss with your catechists what they noticed about how the content is presented. What was highlighted, and what was left out? What does this video have to do with Jesus and our relationship with him? How is this video trying to lead people into a deeper curiosity and openness to the *Catechism's* content? The podcast episode of each unit often dives into this “behind the scenes” approach and can be useful for catechists and catechist training.

We hope and pray that these videos will find people who are curious about what the Church teaches and about Jesus. We pray that the proclamation videos rouse a spiritual curiosity about the world and what it means to be human. We pray the explanation and connection videos would present the contents of our faith in a way that is relevant to their lives, perhaps in a way they've never heard before. We hope that many may find these videos to be useful conversation starters to journey with others who are spiritually curious or seeking truth.

We also hope and pray that Real + True helps others rediscover the “pulsating heart of the *Catechism*,” as Cardinal Raniero Cantalamessa stated in his sermon on the *Catechism* to the papal household, a heart that has a face and a name – Jesus Christ.

Visit realtrue.org for more videos and resources.