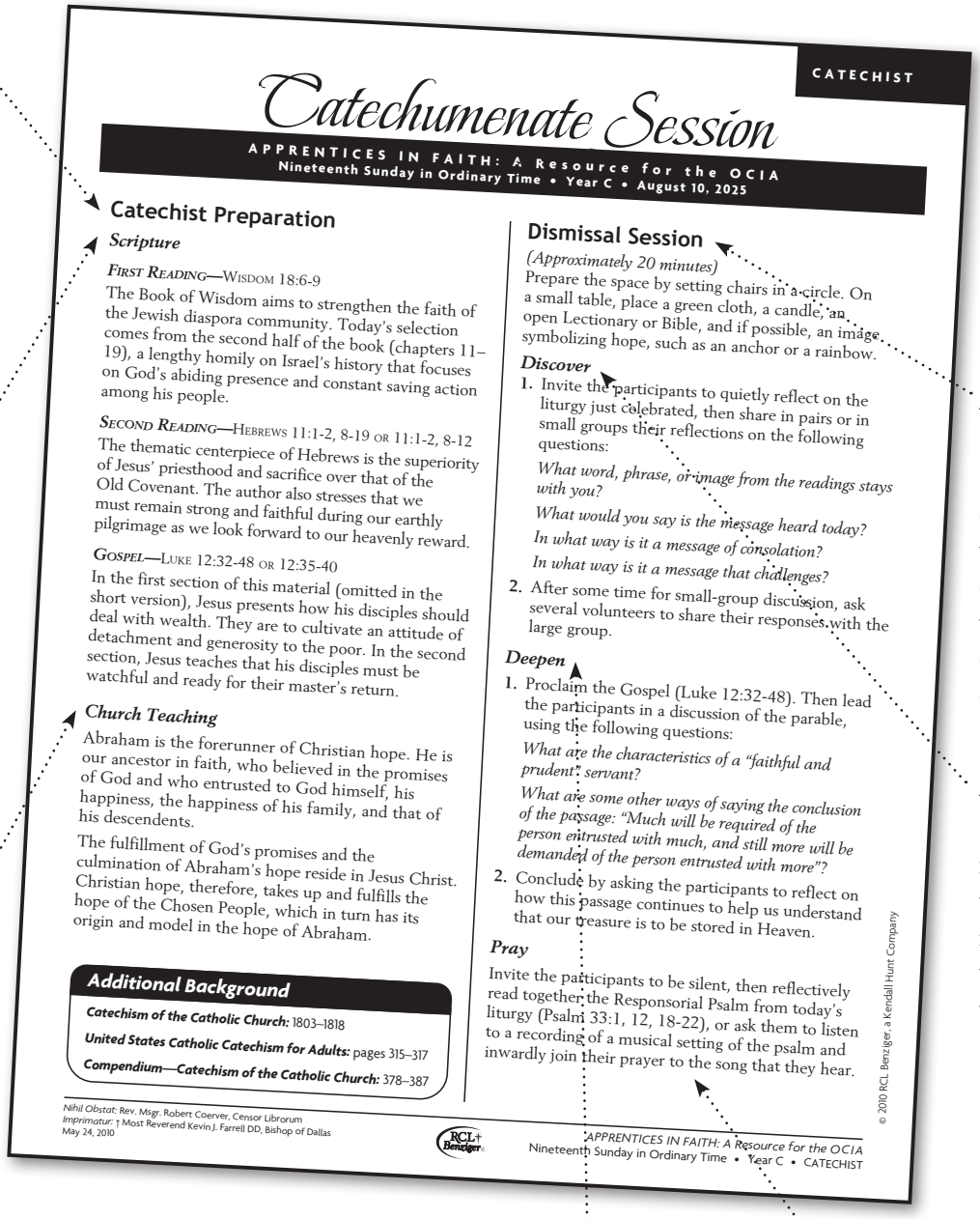
Catechumenate Session Features

Catechist Resource

Catechist Preparation
Presents helpful background information on the readings and doctrinal theme present in the Catechumenate session.

Scripture
Provides a focus on exegetical points or highlights to illuminate or explain the scriptural texts.

Church Teaching
Summarizes the doctrinal content explored in the participant material.



CATECHIST

Catechumenate Session

APPRENTICES IN FAITH: A Resource for the OCIA
Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time • Year C • August 10, 2025

Catechist Preparation

Scripture

First Reading—Wisdom 18:6-9
The Book of Wisdom aims to strengthen the faith of the Jewish diaspora community. Today's selection comes from the second half of the book (chapters 11–19), a lengthy homily on Israel's history that focuses on God's abiding presence and constant saving action among his people.

Second Reading—Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19 or 11:1-2, 8-12
The thematic centerpiece of Hebrews is the superiority of Jesus' priesthood and sacrifice over that of the Old Covenant. The author also stresses that we must remain strong and faithful during our earthly pilgrimage as we look forward to our heavenly reward.

Gospel—Luke 12:32-48 or 12:35-40
In the first section of this material (omitted in the short version), Jesus presents how his disciples should deal with wealth. They are to cultivate an attitude of detachment and generosity to the poor. In the second section, Jesus teaches that his disciples must be watchful and ready for their master's return.

Church Teaching
Abraham is the forerunner of Christian hope. He is our ancestor in faith, who believed in the promises of God and who entrusted to God himself, his happiness, the happiness of his family, and that of his descendents.

The fulfillment of God's promises and the culmination of Abraham's hope reside in Jesus Christ. Christian hope, therefore, takes up and fulfills the hope of the Chosen People, which in turn has its origin and model in the hope of Abraham.

Additional Background
Catechism of the Catholic Church: 1803–1818
United States Catholic Catechism for Adults: pages 315–317
Compendium—Catechism of the Catholic Church: 378–387

Dismissal Session
(Approximately 20 minutes)
Prepare the space by setting chairs in a circle. On a small table, place a green cloth, a candle, an open Lectionary or Bible, and if possible, an image symbolizing hope, such as an anchor or a rainbow.

Discover
1. Invite the participants to quietly reflect on the liturgy just celebrated, then share in pairs or in small groups their reflections on the following questions:
   What word, phrase, or image from the readings stays with you?
   What would you say is the message heard today?
   In what way is it a message of consolation?
   In what way is it a message that challenges?
2. After some time for small-group discussion, ask several volunteers to share their responses with the large group.

Deepen
1. Proclaim the Gospel (Luke 12:32-48). Then lead the participants in a discussion of the parable, using the following questions:
   What are the characteristics of a "faithful and prudent" servant?
   What are some other ways of saying the conclusion of the passage: "Much will be required of the person entrusted with much, and still more will be demanded of the person entrusted with more"?
2. Conclude by asking the participants to reflect on how this passage continues to help us understand that our treasure is to be stored in Heaven.

Pray
Invite the participants to be silent, then reflectively read together the Responsorial Psalm from today's liturgy (Psalm 33:1, 12, 18-22), or ask them to listen to a recording of a musical setting of the psalm and inwardly join their prayer to the song that they hear.

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Imprimatur: † Most Reverend Kevin J. Farrell DD, Bishop of Dallas
May 24, 2010

Dismissal Session
Offers a simple, consistent format that gives the catechist tools to facilitate a catechumenal dismissal session.

Discover
Offers a simple method to solicit the participants' response to the Liturgy of the Word.

Deepen
Provides questions the catechist can use to focus the sharing on a particular aspect of the Scriptures.

Pray
Concludes the Dismissal session with prayer.

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Catechumenate Session Features

Catechist Resource

Extended Catechesis Session

Guides the catechist in leading the extended sharing which takes place among catechumens after the Sunday Mass or later in the week.

Welcome

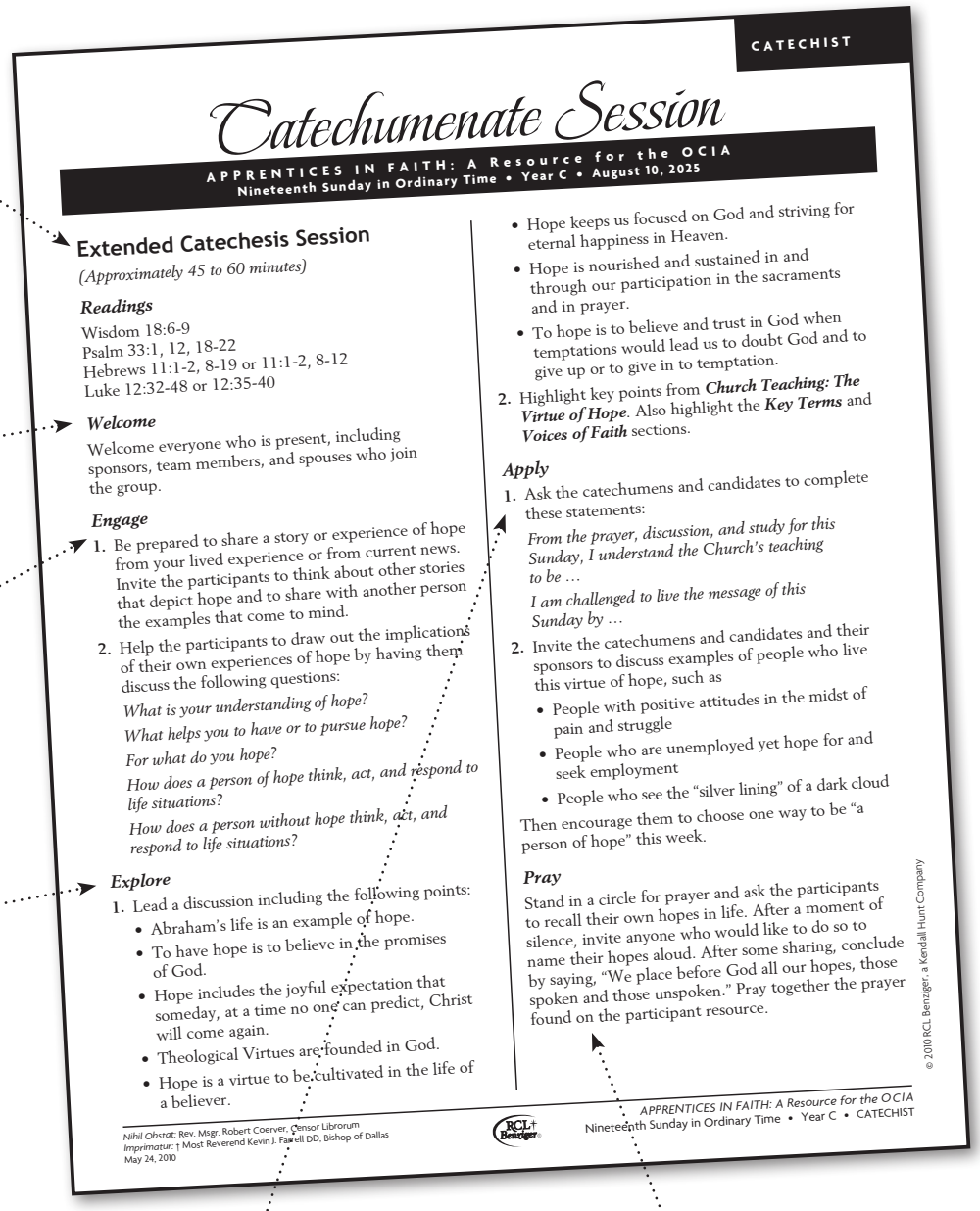
Reminds the catechist to gather everyone in an atmosphere of hospitality and warmth.

Engage

Connects the whole group by reflecting on the Sunday Scriptures.

Explore

Presents some major points for use in group discussion and guides the catechist through the elements of the participants' page.



CATECHIST

Catechumenate Session

APPRENTICES IN FAITH: A Resource for the OCIA
Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time • Year C • August 10, 2025

Extended Catechesis Session

(Approximately 45 to 60 minutes)

Readings

Wisdom 18:6-9
Psalm 33:1, 12, 18-22
Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19 or 11:1-2, 8-12
Luke 12:32-48 or 12:35-40

Welcome

Welcome everyone who is present, including sponsors, team members, and spouses who join the group.

Engage

1. Be prepared to share a story or experience of hope from your lived experience or from current news. Invite the participants to think about other stories that depict hope and to share with another person the examples that come to mind.
2. Help the participants to draw out the implications of their own experiences of hope by having them discuss the following questions:

What is your understanding of hope?

What helps you to have or to pursue hope?

For what do you hope?

How does a person of hope think, act, and respond to life situations?

How does a person without hope think, act, and respond to life situations?

Explore

1. Lead a discussion including the following points:
   - Abraham's life is an example of hope.
   - To have hope is to believe in the promises of God.
   - Hope includes the joyful expectation that someday, at a time no one can predict, Christ will come again.
   - Theological Virtues are founded in God.
   - Hope is a virtue to be cultivated in the life of a believer.
   - Hope keeps us focused on God and striving for eternal happiness in Heaven.
   - Hope is nourished and sustained in and through our participation in the sacraments and in prayer.
   - To hope is to believe and trust in God when temptations would lead us to doubt God and to give up or to give in to temptation.
2. Highlight key points from ***Church Teaching: The Virtue of Hope***. Also highlight the ***Key Terms*** and ***Voices of Faith*** sections.

Apply

1. Ask the catechumens and candidates to complete these statements:

From the prayer, discussion, and study for this Sunday, I understand the Church's teaching to be …

I am challenged to live the message of this Sunday by …

2. Invite the catechumens and candidates and their sponsors to discuss examples of people who live this virtue of hope, such as
   - People with positive attitudes in the midst of pain and struggle
   - People who are unemployed yet hope for and seek employment
   - People who see the "silver lining" of a dark cloud

Then encourage them to choose one way to be "a person of hope" this week.

Pray

Stand in a circle for prayer and ask the participants to recall their own hopes in life. After a moment of silence, invite anyone who would like to do so to name their hopes aloud. After some sharing, conclude by saying, "We place before God all our hopes, those spoken and those unspoken." Pray together the prayer found on the participant resource.

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Apply

Gives the catechist tips so the participants might integrate the wisdom they are exploring in Sacred Scripture and Tradition.

Pray

Offers ideas or specific text with which to conclude the session.

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