

GROWING AS A CATECHIST

A Self-Evaluation Based on 7 Critical Tools from *The Catechist's Toolbox*

Part One

Take this opportunity to evaluate yourself as a catechist over the course of this past year. For each question, choose which “catechist” you are most like with regards to the stated quality/skill:

- a. Like a Pro Larry/Louise (I strongly agree)
- b. Steady as She Goes Steve/Stella (I agree)
- c. Just Your Average Joe/Joanne (I’m in the middle)
- d. Needs a Little Work Norbert/Nancy (I disagree)
- e. Back to Square One Bill/Bonnie (I strongly disagree)

Catechist Tool (Quality or Skill)	Self Evaluation				
1. Over the course of this year, I have engaged in efforts to deepen my own knowledge of the faith and grow spiritually (i.e. attended/participated in workshops, seminars, courses, retreats, and/or dedicated time to reading/reflecting/studying Catholic literature).	a. <input type="checkbox"/>	b. <input type="checkbox"/>	c. <input type="checkbox"/>	d. <input type="checkbox"/>	e. <input type="checkbox"/>
2. When it came to preparing and planning for my lessons, I did so thoroughly, thoughtfully, and prayerfully and with an eye toward achieving specific goals/objectives.	a. <input type="checkbox"/>	b. <input type="checkbox"/>	c. <input type="checkbox"/>	d. <input type="checkbox"/>	e. <input type="checkbox"/>
3. With regards to my learning environment, I made every effort to arrange it/prepare it in such a way as to make it more conducive for faith formation and prayer.	a. <input type="checkbox"/>	b. <input type="checkbox"/>	c. <input type="checkbox"/>	d. <input type="checkbox"/>	e. <input type="checkbox"/>
4. My lessons always included a wide variety of engaging activities that enabled my learners to be active, not passive and that allowed us to use the textbook as a resource, not as the sole source of learning.	a. <input type="checkbox"/>	b. <input type="checkbox"/>	c. <input type="checkbox"/>	d. <input type="checkbox"/>	e. <input type="checkbox"/>
5. I set the tone and maintained a strong but fair sense of discipline with my group that resulted in a high level of cooperation and mutual respect.	a. <input type="checkbox"/>	b. <input type="checkbox"/>	c. <input type="checkbox"/>	d. <input type="checkbox"/>	e. <input type="checkbox"/>
6. I regularly included prayer experiences (both liturgical and reflective) that enabled my participants to reflect on and grow in their relationship with the Lord and with the Church.	a. <input type="checkbox"/>	b. <input type="checkbox"/>	c. <input type="checkbox"/>	d. <input type="checkbox"/>	e. <input type="checkbox"/>
7. I communicated a sense of teaching with authority and enthusiasm by paying attention to my technique: moving around, making eye contact, varying my voice, using facial expression and body language, keeping a sense of humor, and showing appropriate emotion.	a. <input type="checkbox"/>	b. <input type="checkbox"/>	c. <input type="checkbox"/>	d. <input type="checkbox"/>	e. <input type="checkbox"/>

Part Two

1. Which three tools did you evaluate yourself most strongly in?

2. Reflect on these strengths: where/from whom did you learn these skills/qualities? What did you do to improve in these areas in the past year? What can you/will you do to maintain this level of effectiveness or even improve?

3. Which tool do you feel you most need to improve on in the coming year?

4. Reflect on this area of improvement: what can you/will you do to develop this skill/quality? How can you use your strengths to overcome this area of weakness?
