

4 Catechist Guide Overviews

As stated in other sections of this online resource, three catechist guides accompany the sessions presented in *The Catholic Connections Handbook for Middle Schoolers, Second Edition (CCH)*. Each session in the *CCH* is supported by a session in the accompanying catechist guide. In addition, each guide includes two or more life issues sessions, to be presented at the discretion of the catechist. The guides and the sessions each one supports are as follows:

The Old Testament, the Trinity, and the Mission of Christ

This guide accompanies “Part 1: The Creed” and includes the sections “God, Revelation, and Faith” and “Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit” in the *CCH*. (These sessions are numbered from 1 through 18 in the *CCH*.) Included in this guide are presentations of the two Scripture study chapters found in this section in the *CCH*. In addition, two life issues sessions are provided in this guide:

- “Life Issues A: Who Am I?”
- “Life Issues B: Friends in Jesus”

The New Testament, the Church, and the Sacraments

This guide accompanies “Part 1: The Creed” and presents the section “The Church.” It also supports “Part 2: Liturgy and Sacraments.” (These sessions are numbered from 19 through 36 in the *CCH*.) Four Scripture study presentations based on the four Bible chapters in these sections in the *CCH* are included, as well as two life issues sessions:

- “Life Issues A: Dealing with Peer Pressure”
- “Life Issues B: God, Where Are You?”

Christian Morality and Prayer

This guide accompanies “Part 3: Christian Morality and Justice” and “Part 4: Prayer.” (These sessions are numbered from 37 through 50 in the *CCH*.) Also included are two Scripture study presentations based on the two Bible chapters in these sections of the *CCH*. In addition, six life issues sessions are provided in this guide:

- “Life Issues A: The Ultimate Question: Why Am I Here?”
- “Life Issues B: Using Money”
- “Life Issues C: Using Technology”
- “Life Issues D: Using Time”
- “Life Issues E: Times of Trouble”
- “Life Issues F: Saints as Role Models”

Activity Booklet

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In addition to the three catechist guides, an activity booklet to support the Catholic Connections program is available from Saint Mary’s Press. Two activity handouts per *CCH* chapter with both fun and challenging supplemental material make this booklet a helpful resource for additional in-class activities, supporting individual, pair, and group work; for lesson expansion and creative expression; or for distribution as take-home activities to share with families. These activities are not available online.