



# The First Comprehensive Assessment Of Catholic Religious Education

GRADE LEVEL  
DOMAINS & TOPICS

Assessing Religious  
Knowledge and Beliefs of  
2nd-12th Graders



The Assessment of Religious Knowledge is the *first comprehensive assessment tool* that measures the effectiveness of religious education programs in schools and parishes.

By assessing the religious knowledge and beliefs of students and teachers in **all grades** from 2nd through 12th, ARK is on the cutting edge in providing a holistic and far-reaching analysis for data-driven decision-makers.

- ✓ Track student and teacher knowledge **growth over time** so you can see what's working in each school or parish—and what isn't.
- ✓ **Tailor assessment questions** to meet the needs of your Diocese.
- ✓ Easily see which schools and teachers are **most effective**, and which need help.
- ✓ Provide teachers with personalized, **ready-to-use lessons** to fill the knowledge gaps within each classroom.

We established ARK because countless diocesan leaders lamented the lack of substantive, actionable information from existing Catholic assessment tools. With ARK, you now have a tool that rivals the high level of data collection and analysis that is available in math and literacy.



ARK Topics are taken from content in the leading religion textbooks (2-8), and the USCCB high school framework (9-12). Of course, much knowledge of the Catholic faith is passed on not through textbooks, but through the culture of the Catholic school. Therefore ARK includes questions in all grades that draw on knowledge gained from habits of discipleship such as the Mass, the Liturgical Year, Christian anthropology, the Use of Scripture, Virtue, and Prayer.

Please note that ARK replaces 20% new questions each year to ensure test integrity, this list of topics is based on last year's test and is subject to change.

Grade 2 Domain	Topic
Creed and Salvation History	God the Son: Jesus Christ Scripture The Blessed Trinity The Church The Last Supper The Resurrection The Virgin Mary
Living Discipleship	Advent Lent Liturgical Year Use of Scripture
Morality	Christian Anthropology Conscience formation Freedom Love of God and Love of Neighbor Sin
Prayer	The Lord's Prayer What is Prayer?
Sacraments and the Liturgy	Baptism Confession Eucharist Holy Orders The Mass What is a Sacrament?
Virtue	Fruits of the Holy Spirit Theological Virtues What is Virtue?

### Grade 3

#### Domain

#### Topic

Creed and Salvation History	God the Son: Jesus Christ Old Testament Original Sin Pentecost The Church The Virgin Mary
Living Discipleship	Communion of saints Liturgical Year The Magisterium Use of Scripture What is Discipleship?
Morality	Christian Anthropology Love of God and Neighbor The Ten Commandments
Prayer	Glory Be Hail Mary The Lord's Prayer The Rosary What is Prayer?
Sacraments and the Liturgy	Baptism Confession Confirmation Eucharist Sacramentals The Mass What is a Sacrament?
Virtue	Gifts of the Holy Spirit Theological Virtues What is Virtue?

## Grade 4

### Domain

### Topic

Creed and Salvation History	Old Testament Original Sin The Crucifixion
Living Discipleship	Liturgical Year Purgatory Respect for the human person Stewardship The Magisterium Use of Scripture
Morality	Christian anthropology Conscience Formation Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy Love of God and Love of Neighbor Sin The Beatitudes The Ten Commandments Universal Call to Holiness
Prayer	The Battle of Prayer The Rosary What is Prayer?
Sacraments and the Liturgy	Baptism Confession Eucharist The Mass
Virtue	Cardinal virtues Theological Virtues What is Virtue?

## Grade 5

### Domain

### Topic

Creed and Salvation History	Faith Original Sin The Church The Crucifixion
Living Discipleship	Heaven Liturgical Year The Magisterium Use of Scripture
Morality	Christian anthropology Conscience formation Love of God and love of neighbor Sin The Beatitudes The Ten Commandments
Prayer	Hail Mary The Battle of Prayer The Rosary What is Prayer?
Sacraments and the Liturgy	Anointing of the Sick Baptism Confession Confirmation Eucharist Holy Orders Marriage The Mass What is a Sacrament?
Virtue	Cardinal Virtues Gifts of the Holy Spirit Theological Virtues What is virtue?

## Grade 6

### Domain

### Topic

Creed and Salvation History	Faith God the Son: Jesus Christ Old Testament Scripture The Church The Last Supper The Resurrection
Living Discipleship	Advent Communion of Saints Liturgical Year The Church The Magisterium Use of Scripture
Morality	Christian Anthropology Conscience formation Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy Love of God and Love of Neighbor The Ten Commandments
Prayer	The Lord's Prayer What is Prayer?
Sacraments and Liturgy	Baptism Confession Confirmation Eucharist Holy Orders The Mass
Virtue	Cardinal virtues Gifts of the Holy Spirit What is virtue?

## Grade 7

### Domain

### Topic

Creed and Salvation History	Faith God the Son: Jesus Christ Pentecost The Church The Flood The Gospels
Living Discipleship	Communion of Saints Liturgical year Respect for the Human Person The Magisterium Use of Scripture
Morality	Christian Anthropology Conscience Formation Freedom Sin The Beatitudes The Ten Commandments
Prayer	Expressions of Prayer The Lord's Prayer The Prayer of the Church The Rosary What is Prayer?
Sacraments and the Liturgy	Baptism Confession Confirmation Eucharist Holy Orders The Mass What is a Sacrament?
Virtue	Cardinal Virtues Gifts of the Holy Spirit Theological Virtues What is Virtue?



## Grade 8

### Domain

### Topic

Creed and Salvation History	God the Son: Jesus Christ Particular Judgement The Church The Last Judgement The Ten Commandments
Living Discipleship	Heaven Liturgical Year Social Justice Use of Scripture
Morality	Christian Anthropology Conscience Formation Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy Freedom Justification Love of God and Love of Neighbor Precepts of the Church Sin Universal Call to Holiness
Prayer	Expressions of Prayer The Battle of Prayer What is Prayer?
Sacraments and the Liturgy	Anointing of the Sick Confession Eucharist Marriage The Mass What is a Sacrament?
Virtue	The Fruits of the Holy Spirit Theological Virtues What is Virtue

## Grade 9

### Domain

### Topic

Creed and Salvation History	Church History Creation Faith God the Father God the Son: Jesus Christ Heaven Moses and the Exodus Old Testament Purgatory Scripture The Blessed Trinity The Church The Crucifixion The Gospels The Holy Spirit The Nativity The Virgin Mary
Living Discipleship	Advent Liturgical Year Respect for the human person Social Justice The Magisterium Use of Scripture What is Discipleship?
Morality	Christian anthropology Love of God and love of neighbor The Beatitudes Universal Call to Holiness
Prayer	The Prayer of the Church What is Prayer?
Sacraments and Liturgy	Baptism The Eucharist The Mass What is a Sacrament?
Virtue	Theological Virtues What is virtue?

## Grade 10

### Domain

### Topic

Creed and Salvation History	Church History Creation God the Son: Jesus Christ Heaven Hell Jesus' Public Ministry Moses and the Exodus Old Testament Original Sin Particular Judgement Pentecost Royal Kingdom, Exile, and Prophets Scripture The Church The Gospels The Holy Spirit The Last Supper The Virgin Mary
Living Discipleship	Communion of saints Liturgical year Stewardship Use of Scripture What is Discipleship?
Morality	Christian anthropology Conscience Formation Sin
Prayer	Expressions of prayer What is prayer?
Sacraments and Liturgy	Anointing of the Sick Eucharist The Mass
Virtue	Theological Virtues\ What is virtue?

## Grade 11

### Domain

### Topic

Creed and Salvation History	Faith God the Son: Jesus Christ Jesus: God the Son Jesus' public ministry Original Sin The fall
Living Discipleship	Liturgical year Respect for the Human Person Social Justice Social sin The Magisterium Use of Scripture What is Discipleship?
Morality	Christian Anthropology Conscience formation Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy The Ten Commandments Freedom Justification Love of God and love of neighbor Sin The Beatitudes Universal call to holiness
Prayer	Expression of Prayer Hail Mary The prayer of the Church What is Prayer?
Sacraments and the Liturgy	Anointing of the Sick Baptism Confession Confirmation Eucharist Holy Orders Marriage The Mass What is a Sacrament?
Virtue	Cardinal Virtues Fruits of the Holy Spirit Theological Virtues What is virtue?

## Grade 12

### Domain

### Topic

Creed and Salvation History	Creation Faith God the Son: Jesus Christ Grace Original Sin Particular judgment Pentecost Scripture The Church The Flood The Gospels The Trinity
Living Discipleship	Advent Communion of saints Lent Liturgical year Social Justice Social sin Solidarity Subsidiarity The Church and World Religions The Magisterium Use of Scripture
Morality	Christian anthropology Conscience formation Sin
Prayer	Expressions of prayer Liturgy of the hours The Lord's Prayer The Rosary What is prayer?
Sacraments	Baptism Confirmation Eucharist The Mass what is a Sacrament?
Virtue	Cardinal Virtues Theological virtues What is virtue?

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