

# Common Core Catholic Identity Initiative (CCCII)

## Overview

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# WHAT?

## Project Goal:

To develop and disseminate frameworks, guidelines, and resource guides that will assist local educators in infusing Catholic values and principles of social teaching into all subjects and integrating the Catholic worldview and culture into curriculum and instructional design using the Common Core Standards.

# WHY?

Catholic schools need to pay attention to the fact that the common core standards and assessments are here and it is important to get on board.

# WHY?

*National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic elementary and Secondary Schools (2012)*

Defining Characteristic:

Distinguished by Excellence

# WHY?

## *National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic elementary and Secondary Schools (2012)*

### Standard 7:

An excellent Catholic school has a clearly articulated, rigorous curriculum aligned with relevant standards, 21<sup>st</sup> century skills, and Gospel values implemented through effective instruction.

# WHY?

## *National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic elementary and Secondary Schools (2012)*

### Benchmark 7.1:

The curriculum adheres to appropriate, delineated standards, and is vertically aligned to ensure that every student successfully completes a rigorous and coherent sequence of academic courses based on the standards and rooted in Gospel values.

# WHY?

## *National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic elementary and Secondary Schools (2012)*

### Benchmark 7.2:

Standards are adopted across the curriculum, and include integration of the religious, spiritual, moral, and ethical dimensions of learning in all subjects.

# WHY?

Teachers and principals—and many superintendents— require a great deal of assistance in understanding and implementing standards-based curriculum and instructional design.



# WHO?

**Original Committee:** Nicholas Wolsonovich,  
Lorraine Ozar, Mary Jane Krebbs,  
Michael Rush, Patricia Weitzel-O'Neill,  
Sr. Leanne Welch, PBVM (2010-2011)

**Joined by:** Sr. Dale McDonald, Br. Robert  
Bimonte, FSC, William Dinger, Laura Egan,  
Carole Eipers, Susan Abelein, Anthony Manley,  
Ron Valenti (February 2012)

# WHO?

**Collaborate with:** Catholic school teachers, curriculum experts, catechetical experts, principals, and superintendents in the field (beginning June, 2012)

**Partner with:** Companies and sponsors who support Catholic school excellence

# How?

Create resources to assist K-8 Catholic educators around the country in using CCSS for ELA in *Catholic* schools.

- Show how to develop ELA Units using CCSS.
- Show how to infuse the ELA Units with Catholic Identity elements.

# How?

- Create sample CCCII ELA Units in grade level bands (K-2, 3-5, 6-8).
- Develop written guidelines and narrative explanations that provide a “think aloud” of how to create the Units.
- Identity a substantial number of ELA Unit Topics that teachers are likely to use and provide Catholic Identity connections/ideas.

## **Important Distinction:**

The CCCII Project is not about Catholic Identity; it is about how we teach with Catholic Identity.

## Catholic Identity Elements include:

Catholic Worldview

Culture and Tradition

Gospel Values

Church Social Teachings

Moral/Ethical Dimensions

# Catholic Identity Elements:

*How can we legitimately integrate these elements into ELA units while ensuring rigor in keeping with the CCSS?*

# WHERE? *(possibly)*

Online at Catholic School Standards  
Project website:

[www.catholicschoolstandards.org](http://www.catholicschoolstandards.org)

In print through NCEA

In use by Dioceses and Vendors



# WHEN?

Beginning in Fall, 2012 and  
continuing.....

# WHAT NOW?

## Outcomes for CCCII Project:

1. Create/agree on the unit structure and build a template for use by teachers.
2. Outline and narrate the process for developing school level, grade level units based on the Common Core standards and infused with Catholic identity elements.
3. Identify 12 ELA topics/themes/concepts per grade level.
4. Identify LOTS of resources to connect Catholic identity elements with each of the topics.
5. Develop 1-3 exemplars -- full infused units -- for each grade level, using topics identified.

# WHAT NOW?

## Outcomes for June work Days:

1. Explain and use the CCCII ELA Unit template to create exemplar units.
2. Unit Design Teams develop 1 exemplar unit -- full infused unit – for assigned grade level, using topics identified.
3. Identify 12 ELA topics/themes/concepts per grade level.
4. Document this pilot process for developing school level, grade level units based on the Common Core standards and infused with Catholic identity elements.
5. Discuss Next Steps

# WHAT NOW?

## Agenda and Work Flow:

- Overview of Unit Template and Catholic Identity elements
- **Input (mini-lessons) on items in Unit Template**
- **Design Teams work on units**
- Identify Topics to connect with CI
- Review and Reflect
- Next Steps