

1. Scripture

1. Know that the Bible contains God's Word.
2. Retell the Bible stories of creation, the life of Jesus, and the Easter story.
3. Understand that Bible stories teach us the truth about God and how we are to live.
4. Know that God speaks to us through the Bible.

2. Creed

1. Tell that God always was and will always be.
2. Recognize that God is the Creator of all things.
3. Understand that God's greatest gift to us is life.
4. Understand that God wants us to do good and avoid evil.
5. Realize that doing good and being kind pleases God.
6. Know that Jesus showed us how to live.
7. Identify Christmas as Jesus' birthday on earth.
8. Know that Jesus died on the cross for our sins but rose to life again on Easter Sunday.
9. Identify Advent as the time of preparation for Christmas and Lent as preparation for Easter.
10. Know that Mary is the Mother of Jesus, and our mother, too.
11. Tell that the church is a sacred place where the People of God gather.
12. Identify saints as people who lived holy lives.

3. Worship & Sacraments

1. Know that Jesus shares himself with us in a special way during the Mass.
2. Know that Communion is Jesus.
3. Know that Baptism is a celebration of becoming a member of the Catholic Christian family, called the Church.
4. Identify the Baptismal font, holy water, candle, and white garment as signs of the new life with Jesus.
5. Understand that we prepare for Penance/Reconciliation by forgiving others and by saying, we are sorry.
6. Understand that the church building is the place where our parish family gathers to celebrate Mass.
7. Know that we show signs of respect, including genuflecting and bowing, because Jesus is present in our church building, specifically in the tabernacle.
8. Recognize the liturgical colors match the liturgical seasons: Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter.
9. Understand that Holy Days are special days, other than Sundays, when we come together to celebrate Mass.

4. Christian Morality

1. Learn the difference between right from wrong.
2. Know that the Holy Spirit helps them to make good decisions in their everyday lives.
3. Know that Jesus is God, and also the Son of God.
4. Be familiar with stories of Jesus' healing and forgiveness of sinners
5. Understand that when they do not act in a caring way with others, they should ask for forgiveness from their parents, teachers, and Jesus.
6. Participate in prayers of forgiveness, thanksgiving, and petition.

5. Prayer & Spirituality

1. Recite the Lord's Prayer, Hail Mary, and Glory Be.
2. Participate in an age-appropriate stations of the cross during Lent.
3. Participate in Mass prayerfully.
4. Prepare and assume different roles in communal prayer.
5. Share reasons why and when they pray.
6. Realize through active participation in a variety of prayer forms that God is present in their lives in a special way.
7. Know that silence helps enter into and attend to God's presence in prayer.
8. Tell ways that God shows love for them.
9. Experience the love of Jesus in their lives.
10. Know that they can pray alone; however, that the church building is a sacred place for prayer.
11. Understand that they belong to their family and God's family, the Church.

6. Community & Service

1. Discuss how they became members of the Church community through Baptism.
2. Listen to stories of saints who served the needs of the poor.
3. Recognize ways adults serve the needs of others in their families and at school.
4. Discuss the creation story to show ways to appreciate and care for the gifts of creation.
5. Recognize that God gives us gifts and talents to share with others.

1. Scripture

1. Tell that the Bible is made up of two sections: The Old Testament (*before Jesus' birth*) and the New Testament (*after Jesus' birth*).
2. Recognize that the readings at Mass come from both the Old and New Testaments in the Bible.
3. Recall selected Bible stories from the Old Testament, and forgiveness and miracle stories about Jesus from the New Testament.
4. Know about the Ten Commandments and how we received them, and relate how they help us love God and others.
5. Know that the Gospels are part of the New Testament and are about the life and teachings of Jesus.
6. Retell the story of Passover and the Last Supper.
7. Know that the four Gospel writers are Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

2. Creed

1. Tell that we know that God is a Trinity of three Persons: the Trinity: God the Father, God the Son (Jesus Christ), and God the Holy Spirit.
2. Describe the Holy Spirit as our helper sent to us by God to always live in our hearts.
3. Tell that sin is choosing to do wrong, displeases God, and hurts others, and us.
4. Know that God the Father loves us even when we have sinned.
5. Explain the difference between Original sin, Mortal (serious) sin, and Venial (less serious) sin.
6. Identify the Life, death, and Resurrection of Jesus as the source of the forgiveness of sins and our salvation.
7. Understand that we receive the Body and Blood of Jesus when we receive the Holy Eucharist.
8. Know that at Mass we gather to listen to God's Word, celebrate what Jesus has done for us, and receive his gift of the Eucharist, his Body and Blood.
9. Understand that Mary is the model for all Christians because she was always close to God and said "yes" to God with faith and trust.
10. Know that the Feast of All Saints (November 1) celebrates all people who belong to the Communion of Saints, both in heaven and on earth.

3. Worship & Sacraments

1. Actively participate in the Mass.
2. Know that during the Last Supper (Holy Thursday) Jesus changed the bread and wine into his Body and Blood.
3. Know that the Last Supper was the first Mass that Jesus celebrated with the Apostles the night before he died.
4. Understand that the Eucharist, which is the Real Presence of Jesus, nourishes and strengthens us to follow Jesus.
5. Recognize that the Mass has two main parts: Liturgy of the Word and Liturgy of the Eucharist.
6. Know that through the sacraments, Jesus shares his divine life with us, which is called *grace*.
7. Recognize that Baptism is the first sacrament.
8. Know that when we choose to do wrong and fail to do good, we have sinned against God whom we should love above all things.
9. Know that through the sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation, we express sorrow for our sins, receive God's forgiveness through the priest, and are reconciled with God and the people of the Church.
10. Know that everyone must receive the sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation before receiving First Communion.
11. Receive the sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation.
12. Receive First Communion

4. Christian Morality

1. Understand that the Ten Commandments reveal what is right.
2. Know that the great commandment of Jesus: "Love God with all your heart, mind, and all your soul, and love your neighbor as you love yourself." summarizes the Ten Commandments.
3. Examine their consciences in the light of the Ten Commandments.
4. Know that the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross re-presented in the Mass is the source of the forgiveness of our sins.
5. Know that sin is choosing to do wrong, that it displeases God, and hurts us as well as others.
6. Know that when we sin and we are sorry for what we have done, we can always be forgiven. With the help of God's grace and the sacrament of Reconciliation, we can begin again to follow Jesus and do what is right.

5. Prayer & Spirituality

1. Recite an Act of Contrition.
2. Participate in the rosary.
3. Describe how prayer is important to their relationship with God.
4. Compose a personal prayer.
5. Know that the Lord's Prayer was given to us by Jesus.
6. Know that God hears their prayers.
7. Express their love for Jesus and Jesus' love for them through the reception of the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist.
8. Participate in a guided examination of conscience.
9. Know that we can ask Mary and the saints to pray for us, especially in times of need or temptation.
10. Describe that we gather as a Catholic family at Mass to celebrate the Life, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus.
11. Indicate that the sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation is a way to say we are sorry for our sins and to receive God's forgiveness.
12. Know that the Mass is our greatest prayer.
13. Understand that Jesus is our model of love and goodness.
14. Respect others and ourselves as a gift from God.
15. Name and thank God for the gifts that he has given them.

6. Community Service

1. Learn that Mary became the Mother of God through the Annunciation.
2. Realize that once they have received First Communion, they participate more fully as members of the Christian community.
3. Be familiar with Gospel stories where Jesus and his followers demonstrate love and service to others.
4. Read Gospel stories showing love for others in action.
5. Plan and participate in a service activity.
6. Discuss ways people in our parish provide a life of service to others.

1. Scripture

1. Describe the Old Testament as writings about God's relationship with his chosen people, the Israelites.
2. Describe the New Testament as writings about Jesus who shows us how to live and love God.
3. Know that the Psalms are special Old Testament prayers of praise, thanksgiving, petition, and sorrow.
4. Tell that the Psalms are often set to music and are sung at Mass.
5. Retell the scriptural story of Jesus' Passion, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension.
6. Know that we can have an experience of Jesus when we read, study, or pray with Scripture reverently and attentively.
7. Know that parables are stories Jesus used to teach about the Kingdom of God and be able to give several examples.

2. Creed

1. Understand that God always loves us and is faithful to us.
2. Identify that God is the Holy Trinity—one God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
3. Know that God reveals himself to us through Scripture and Tradition.
4. Know the Holy Spirit guides the Church on earth today.
5. Identify the marks of the Church as one, holy, catholic, and apostolic.
6. Describe the events of the Triduum: the Last Supper, Jesus' suffering, death, burial, and the Resurrection.
7. Discuss the concepts of Heaven, Hell, and Purgatory.
8. Recognize Mary as the Mother of the Church.
9. Know that they become a member of the Communion of Saints through Baptism.

3. Worship & Sacraments

1. Understand that the Eucharist, the Real Presence of Christ, is the center of our Catholic faith.
2. Know that we gather at Mass to listen to God's Word and to receive Jesus so that we can bring Christ's love to the world.
3. Recognize that the sacred vessels, sacred books, vestments, baptismal font, altar, lectern, and tabernacle are used in worship.
4. Understand the significance of each of the liturgical seasons.
5. Know that the bread and wine are changed into the Real Presence of Jesus during the Liturgy of the Eucharist.
6. Understand that after First Communion, all Catholics have the obligation to attend Mass every Sunday.

7. Identify Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist as sacraments of Initiation.
8. Realize that Jesus heals and forgives through the sacraments of Penance/Reconciliation, and Anointing of the Sick.
9. Participate in the stations of the cross.
10. Understand that on Good Friday, we remember that Jesus suffered and died to forgive our sins and to give us eternal happiness in heaven.

4. Christian Morality

1. Use their gifts and good qualities to help others.
2. Know that following the Ten Commandments helps us respect the dignity of each person and leads to a happy life with God.
3. Know that we respond to God's love by performing Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy.
4. Examine their thoughts, words, and deeds in light of Jesus' Law of Love.
5. Recognize that the power of good and God's grace is stronger than evil.
6. Review the steps and the rite of the sacrament of Reconciliation.
7. Celebrate the seasons of Advent and Lent as a time to strengthen the positive moral habits of prayer and sacrifice and receive the sacrament of Reconciliation.

5. Prayer & Spirituality

1. Identify the meaning of the stations of the cross.
2. Prepare and assume different roles in communal prayer experiences in the classroom.
3. Compose prayers for different occasions and needs.
4. Offer their own morning and evening prayers to include personal needs and needs of others.
5. Understand the importance of both communal and personal prayer.
6. Learn how to pray the rosary.
7. Participate in an examination of conscience.
8. Observe each of the liturgical seasons with an understanding of their significance.
9. Show how God takes care of them and is always faithful to them.
10. Develop a deeper devotion to Mary and the saints.
11. Study the lives of the saints and understand the Communion of Saints as the life of the Church.
12. Know that Christians forgive those who hurt them, bear wrongs patiently, and pray for those both living and dead.
13. Respect all life as a gift from God.
14. Recognize and respect that all people are made in the image and likeness of God.

6. Community & Service

1. Understand that loving their neighbor means to respect the rights of others and to share their gifts and talents.
2. Know that they can bring hope and comfort to others by their kind words and actions.
3. Appreciate the gifts God has given them and their responsibility to use them.
4. Learn how to become a peacemaker in their family and with their classmates.
5. Give examples of how their parish community reaches out in service to others.
6. Become familiar with the ways clergy and religious serve the Christian community.
7. Know that the lives of the saints show us how to follow Jesus.
8. Tell about a saint who is a model of service.
9. Describe Mary as the perfect disciple of Jesus.
10. Begin to understand the concept of stewardship as a response to God's many gifts to us.
11. Describe the people who make up the Church community as the pope, clergy, religious, and lay people.
12. Recognize that the Church continues Jesus' ministries of community, word, worship, and service.
13. Know that God loves and respects us so much he likes to have us help him in his work.

Students should have access to a Bible as a religion text in this and all subsequent grade levels.

1. Scripture

1. Know that the Bible is a collection of books, which are organized into chapters and verses.
2. Locate various Scripture references in their individual Bible.
3. Understand that through the life and teachings of Jesus, we know how God wants us to live.
4. Know the names of the books of the Bible, which contain the Old Testament stories they are familiar with, such as: Creation, Noah, Moses, and the Israelites, etc.
5. Know that the Ten Commandments represent God's covenant with the Israelites and their promise to keep God's laws.
6. Locate on a map where Jesus was born (Bethlehem), where he grew up (Nazareth), and where he died (Jerusalem).
7. Identify the major sections of the New Testament as the Gospels, the Acts of the Apostles, Paul's Letters, and Revelation, and be able to briefly describe each of them.

2. Creed

1. Relate that God is the author of all creation, and therefore all creation is good.
2. Know that God created us in his image with the ability to think, make choices, and love.
3. Identify Jesus as God's Son, our Savior, who came to reveal the Father to us and teach us how to live.
4. Identify the Holy Spirit as the Third Person of the Trinity, sent by the Father and the Son, to dwell within us and help us always choose the good.
5. Know that evil entered the world through the sin of our first parents.
6. Recognize that temptation is a struggle for everyone, but God's grace is always present to help us choose the good.
7. Understand that *all* sin hurts the whole Body of Christ and us, but God's grace, especially in the sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation, heals us and restores us to God's friendship.
8. Identify Mary as the Immaculate Conception saved from sin at the moment of her creation in her mother's womb.
9. Know that Mary never sinned throughout her life and so is the Church's example of perfect obedience, faith, and love of God.
10. Know that the Assumption celebrates Mary being taken up to heaven, body and soul, at the end of her earthly life.
11. Know that the Church was instituted by Christ.

12. Describe the Communion of Saints as the baptized on earth, the saints in heaven, and those in purgatory preparing for heaven.
13. Recite the Apostles' Creed and explain its meaning and importance.

3. Worship & Sacraments

1. Know that Mass is also known as the celebration of the Eucharist.
2. Know the order of the Introductory Rites and the Liturgy of the Word.
3. Know that during the Penitential Rite (at the beginning of Mass) we do not confess our sins; however, we humbly acknowledge them in our hearts, ask for mercy, and accept God's pardon.
4. Help plan and participate in liturgical celebrations.
5. Identify Matrimony and Holy Orders as sacraments of Service (vocation).
6. Know that Christ sent the Holy Spirit who guides us through grace and helps us to lead holy lives.
7. Recognize that we follow God's laws to show our love for creation and our appreciation of God's gifts.
8. Understand that Epiphany symbolizes Jesus' mission to the whole world.
9. Discuss the Liturgical Year, which begins with the First Sunday of Advent, and identify the ways we celebrate seasons and major feasts.

4. Christian Morality

1. Know that Jesus is our role model for the Christian life.
2. Know that virtues are good spiritual habits.
3. Know that our conscience is an inner voice, aided by grace, which helps us to choose what is right.
4. Define mortal and venial sins.
5. Know that prayer helps us in times of temptation.
6. Know that the sacrament of Reconciliation (Penance) is given to us by Jesus and that, in it, we ask for and receive forgiveness of our sins from God through the priest.
7. Know that living the Beatitudes helps form Christian attitudes and actions.
8. Understand that grace is a supernatural help from God that enables us to live the Christian life.
9. List the Ten Commandments.
10. Respect all life as a gift from God.
11. Recognize and respect that all people are made in the image and likeness of God.

5. Prayer & Spirituality

1. Recite the Apostles' Creed and explain its meaning and importance.
2. Tell the meaning of the Act of Contrition.
3. Define prayer; and identify the four basic categories of prayer (praise, petition, thanksgiving, and contrition), and give examples of each.
4. Describe the difference between public and private prayer.
5. Prepare for and assume different roles in communal prayer services and in the Mass.
6. Describe and participate in different kinds of prayers and devotions (Feast of Saints, Stations of the Cross).
7. Show a desire to incorporate prayer in their daily lives as Jesus did.
8. Recite a spontaneous prayer.
9. Respect all life as a gift from God.
10. Recognize and respect that all people are made in the image and likeness of God.

6. Community & Service

1. Learn, through the Visitation, Mary's example of how to willingly respond to God's call to help others.
2. Demonstrate respect for all creation, especially living things.
3. Identify and discuss ways of imitating how Jesus showed love for others.
4. Discuss how we can live out Jesus' Great Commandment, "To love God above all things and love your neighbor as yourself."
5. Learn that in contrast to the practices of the world, Jesus' community lives in a spirit of selflessness and love, and are marked by a spirit of humility and service.
6. Understand that the Christian family is the basic unit of the church community and needs to be respected and cared for.
7. Define responsible stewardship as care of personal belongings, public property, and God's creation.
8. Demonstrate that as members of the Church we are called to be examples of Jesus' love to others.

1. Scripture

1. Be familiar with the New Testament scriptural foundations for the sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation).
2. Be familiar with the New Testament scriptural foundations for the sacraments of Healing: (Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick), and Service: (Holy Orders, Matrimony).
3. Know that the Pentateuch refers to the first five books of the Bible (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy), also known as the Law or the Torah by the Jews today.
4. Read and participate in a guided discussion of weekly Scripture readings, especially the Gospels, according to the liturgical year.
5. Understand that listening to and reading the Scriptures attentively and prayerfully is necessary for them to receive what God wishes to communicate to them through his Word.

2. Creed

1. Know that the mystery of the Trinity is the core of our faith because it is the source of all other mysteries of faith.
2. Know that Jesus was the Messiah long awaited by the Israelites as the Redeemer of God's People.
3. Tell that Jesus was conceived in the womb of the Virgin Mary by the power of the Holy Spirit.
4. Know that the Church was founded on Pentecost through the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and the Virgin Mary.
5. Understand that Mary, under the title of Our Lady of Guadalupe, is honored as patroness of all of the Americas.
6. Distinguish between Christian and non-Christian.
7. Explain that the purpose of the Christian life is to know, love, and serve God and to live forever with him in heaven.
8. Know that we respect and care for our bodies because they are temples of the Holy Spirit.
9. Relate that the Church celebrates the presence and actions of Christ through the seven sacraments.
10. Identify the Church as one in its teaching, holy in its faith, Catholic in its universality, and apostolic in its founding and continuity.

3. Worship and Sacraments

1. Understand that we are members of the Church, the Body of Christ, and of a parish community.
2. Know the effects of the grace of Matrimony: Christ enables a man and a woman to share their love through a strong, permanent commitment to one another and through their willingness to welcome, nurture, and educate in the faith the children sent to them by God.
3. Know that the Paschal Mystery refers to Christ's suffering, death, Resurrection, and Ascension.
4. Define sacrament as an outward sign of an inward grace, instituted by Christ.
5. Understand that sacraments are sacred moments in which Christ shares his life with us, and we become visible signs of God's presence.
6. List and know the meaning of the signs and symbols of each sacrament.
7. Know the effects of Baptism: we are cleansed from original sin, we receive sanctifying grace, and we are reborn as children of God and members of Christ's Body, the Church.
8. Recognize that Eucharist is the center of Catholic life and understand the effects of the Eucharist: It nourishes us with the Body and Blood of Christ, unites us more deeply with Christ and his Church, transforms us and reconciles us in Christ's love, and empowers us to serve one another.
9. Know that the sacrament of Confirmation imparts the fullness of the Spirit through the gifts of the Holy Spirit and celebrates the Confirmand's personal decision to follow Christ.
10. Know the effects of the grace of Penance/Reconciliation: the forgiveness of sins, reconciliation with God and the Church, and the strengthening of the resolve to do good and avoid sin in the future.
11. Know the effects of the grace of Anointing of the Sick: strengthening, consolation, courage in the face of illness, union with Christ's suffering on the cross, and the spiritual and physical healing in the way that God wills.
12. Know the effects of the grace of Holy Orders: chosen men are configured to Christ in order to lead the Church to holiness by teaching, sanctifying, and shepherding God's flock.
13. Identify that the Triduum, which is celebrated from Holy Thursday evening through Evening Prayer on Easter Sunday, is the most sacred time of the liturgical year.
14. Understand that Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders may only be received once because through them, the Holy Spirit confers an indelible spiritual seal on the soul.
15. Understand the significance of the Liturgical seasons: Advent, Christmas, Easter, and Ordinary Time.

4. Christian Morality

1. Know that a parable is a story told by Jesus that can help them understand how to live holy lives.
2. Learn that faith, hope, and charity are theological virtues given to them by God at Baptism to help them throughout their whole lives.
3. Understand that sin has personal and social consequences; when we sin, we weaken our friendship with God and with the Church.
4. Learn that the elements of the sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation are: contrition, confession, absolution, and penance.
5. Develop the ability to examine their consciences, in light of the Ten Commandments, using an appropriate Examination of Conscience when necessary.
6. Know that they must respect their bodies because they are temples of the Holy Spirit.
7. Develop respect for all human life as God's gift because we are made in God's image and likeness.

5. Prayer & Spirituality

1. Participate in guided meditative prayer based on Gospel stories.
2. Pray the litany of the saints.
3. Understand the role of Mary and the saints as intercessors.
4. Describe what prayer means to them and why it is important in their lives.
5. Examine Jesus as the model for prayer in the Gospel.
6. Discuss difficulties in prayer and strategies to overcome them.
7. Explore how sacramentals (holy water, blessed palms, candles, ashes, rosary, medals, scapulars, crucifixes, images, statues, etc.) help enhance their spiritual lives.
8. Perform a personal examination of conscience.

6. Community & Service

1. Relate Mary's sensitivity to the needs of others at the Wedding Feast of Cana to the call to respond to the Word of God.
2. Study the words and actions of Jesus at the Last Supper (especially in **John 13-18**) as a model of the Christian understanding of community and service.
3. Discuss how the Eucharist is the source and goal of all Christian communities.
4. Study the vocations of Matrimony, Holy Orders, and Religious Life in response to Jesus' call to service.
5. As part of the Baptismal commitment, understand that Christian laypersons are called to bring Christ to the world through their professions and occupations.
6. Research how Jesus' identification of himself with the "least of my brothers" (**Matt. 25**) is lived out through parish and diocesan outreach programs to the poor and suffering.
7. Identify examples of God using human effort to build his Kingdom of justice, peace, and mercy on earth.

1. Scripture

1. Understand Salvation history as God's loving plan for our redemption through the Old Testament, fulfilled by Christ, and carried out through the Church today.
2. Know that it is important to know the Old Testament because Jesus read, studied, and prayed with it.
3. Grasp that the Old Testament helps us to understand Jesus and his promises as well as understand our Jewish heritage.
4. Be familiar with the types of books that make up the Old Testament; the Law, the Historical Books, the Wisdom Books, and the Prophetic Books; and be able to briefly describe them.
5. Know that the creation stories in Genesis are not intended to teach literal scientific fact, but the truth about our origins; that God is the source and the Creator of everything.
6. Know that the Bible is the Word of God because it is inspired; that is, God guided the authors of Scripture to write those truths he wanted to teach in the authors' own words.
7. Understand that a covenant is a sacred agreement God makes with us and to which he is always faithful. The first covenant was made with our first parents, Adam and Eve (*Gen. 2:15-17*), then with Noah (*Gen. 9:8-11*), Abraham (*Gen. 17:3-13*), and Moses (*Ex. 24:3-8*). Today our covenant with God is in Christ through our Baptism.
8. Be familiar with some of the principle Old Testament Scripture passages that speak of the Messiah who would save the Israelites: the Messiah who is Jesus (*Is. 9:5, Zec. 9:9, Ez. 34:23, Mi. 5:1*).
9. Identify some of the principal Old Testament prophets (*Isaiah, Ezekiel, Jeremiah, Amos*) and their message to God's people.
10. Understand that the Jewish people celebrate Passover to remember the night when their houses were "passed over" by the angel of death and were released from slavery.
11. Understand that Jesus celebrated the Passover with his disciples the night before he died and gave it new meaning; Jesus himself was the new Passover Lamb whose sacrifice saved the world, through which we are set free from sin and death.

2. Creed

1. Understand that God sent his Son Jesus as our Savior because of his great love for us.
2. Recognize that faith is a gift from God, strengthened through the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives.
3. Know that we are called to struggle to overcome evil throughout our lives.
4. Understand that the Bible is the inspired Word of God.
5. Relate that Jesus is God's Word made Flesh.
6. Understand that God has been faithful to us throughout history.
7. Tell that the Creed is our statement of belief as Christians.
8. Know that our Christian heritage is rooted in many signs and symbols of the Old Testament.
9. Identify Mary as the "Mother of the Church."
10. Recognize the holiness and fidelity of the great figures of the Old Testament.

3. Worship & Sacraments

1. Know that the Order of the Mass includes: Introductory Rite, Liturgy of the Word, Liturgy of the Eucharist, and Concluding Rite.
2. Know that listening to the Words of Scripture attentively and receiving the Eucharist reverently during Mass helps us to become more Christ-like.
3. Explain the link between the Jewish Passover, the Last Supper, and the Celebration of the Mass.
4. Explain the difference between sacraments and sacramentals.
5. Know that the Church's liturgy has retained certain integral elements of the worship of the Old Covenant and adopted: reading the Old Testament, praying the Psalms, and above all, recalling the events of salvation history.
6. Recognize that the struggles and the triumphs of our ancestors in faith helped to deepen their relationship with God.
7. Understand that the Jesse Tree is an example of Advent tradition that helps us to recall important persons and events in Scripture before the birth of Christ.
8. Identify the Feast of the Epiphany of Jesus as the public manifestation of Jesus as the Promised One for Israel and the Gentiles.
9. Explain why Easter is the most important Christian feast and discuss some of the symbols associated with it (Paschal candle, lamb, Easter lily, etc.).
10. Understand that the Paschal Mystery is celebrated at every Mass.
11. Know that it is a serious obligation for Catholics to attend Mass every Sunday.

4. Christian Morality

1. Articulate the role of the Old Testament prophets, and their message of God's justice and mercy in the formation of God's chosen people.
2. Recognize the Old Testament Hebrew experiences of faithfulness, sin, and reconciliation reflect the Christian moral life today.
3. Recognize an occasion of sin as any person, place, or object, which may lead them to sin and away from the call to a life of holiness.
4. Recognize that conversion is turning away from sin and toward life in Christ.
5. Recognize that the obedience of the Old Testament leaders can guide them in making their own moral decisions.
6. Know that God and his goodness always prevail over sin and evil.
7. Know that they can call upon the Holy Spirit to help them to do what is right, even in difficult times.
8. Identify that many aspects of popular culture, including some magazines, video games, television, music, and the Internet, etc., are contrary to the teachings of Jesus Christ and the Ten Commandments.
9. Demonstrate that, by their words and actions, they respect life and the basic human rights of all people for the fulfillment of God's Kingdom.
10. Learn that habits of selfishness and moral weakness lead to sin.
11. Understand that they are to be chaste and pure in thoughts, words, and actions, both with self and with others.

5. Prayer & Spirituality

1. Discuss the importance of perseverance in prayer to overcome difficulties.
2. Recognize saints as witnesses of faith whose example they can emulate (*CCC 2683*).
3. Know that the Psalms, rooted in the Judaic community, were prayed by Christ and are used today as personal and communal prayer.
4. Know that God's covenant with us, beginning with Abraham, calls each person to a life of prayer in communion with him and continues with each person in prayer to renew them in God's likeness
5. Name and explain the Mysteries of the Rosary (Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful, Glorious).
6. Understand and practice the Church's traditions of Lenten devotions and penance.
7. Deepen their understanding and appreciation of the Rosary and other Marian Devotions.
8. List and explain the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.

6. Community and Service

1. Demonstrate respect and cooperation for leadership within a community group.
2. Demonstrate respect for those being served because Christ resides in all people.
3. Recognize the works of leadership and service of Old Testament figures.
4. Discuss ways in which individuals, families, and parish communities can more fully live out Jesus' mandate to welcome the stranger.
5. Examine how love and justice are lived through the observance of the Ten Commandments.
6. Participate in prudent community service activities supporting life issues and care for the environment.
7. Recognize the importance of respecting the dignity of all people, especially the physically and emotionally challenged.
8. Research the contribution of Christian art and music to the Church and the world.
9. Discuss how the diverse cultural experiences of our faith strengthen and enrich our Universal Church.
10. Identify sin and selfishness as the cause of local, national, and global injustice.

1. Scripture

1. Know that "Gospel" means "Good News." The Gospels are four accounts of the life and teachings of Jesus.
2. Know that the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke are similar, and, therefore, called the synoptic gospels while the Gospel of John has a different, more reflective style and contains some additional stories.
3. Understand that the gospels are not biographies of Jesus, but are more like different portraits of him. Even though each gospel writer chose different stories to emphasize, all the gospels have the same message: Jesus is the Messiah, Son of God, who revealed the Father's love for us and saved us.
4. Know that Jesus' whole life and ministry took place in the area of Palestine, also called the Holy Land, and be able to identify important sites mentioned in the gospels, i.e., Nazareth, Galilee, Jerusalem, etc.
5. Realize that prayerful and attentive Scripture reading, especially of the New Testament, has the power to transform us and to assist us in the struggle to live the faithful Christian life.
6. Understand that the question that Jesus asks Peter, "Who do you say that I am?" must be answered by every Christian to develop a mature faith.
7. Know the basic elements of the Gospel message:
 - a. The Father's love is manifested in the good of creation.
 - b. We have been separated from God's plan for us because of sin.
 - c. Jesus is the bridge back to the Father
 - d. Following in the way of Jesus and participating in the sacraments he made available in the Church will lead us to Salvation.

2. Creed

1. Describe the Paschal Mystery as the Passion, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension of Jesus.
2. Know the four reasons for the Incarnation:
 - a. So that Jesus could save us by reconciling us to God the Father.
 - b. So that we could know God's love for us.
 - c. To be a model for holiness.
 - d. To make us partakers of the Divine nature.
3. Know that the persons of the Holy Trinity are distinct, yet equal in nature and divinity.
4. Understand that through our Baptism, we are called and sent forth to continue Jesus' ministry in the world.
5. Explain the role of the apostles before and after the Death and Resurrection of Jesus.
6. Identify the unique origin and fullness of the Catholic Church rooted in Jesus' commissioning of Peter as head of the apostles and unifier of the Church.

7. Know that Christian faith is a personal response, through grace, to Jesus' invitation and requires a relationship with him to grow and mature.
8. Know that after death we will be judged by the Lord according to our deeds and adherence to the Gospel.
9. Identify some of the key differences between the Catholic Church and various Protestant denominations.
10. Explain that Mary is the Virgin Mother of Jesus and remained as such her whole life, so that with her whole being she was "Handmaiden of the Lord."
11. Know that saints who died for their faith are called martyrs.
12. Identify the Church as the People of God.

3. Worship & Sacraments

1. Know that during the Penitential Rite (within the Introductory Rite at Mass) we acknowledge our sins and ask for God's mercy.
2. Know that the Lectionary is the official book of sacramental readings, arranged in a three-year cycle, used during the Liturgy of the Word.
3. Know that within the Liturgy of the Eucharist, we offer thanks and praise with Jesus to the Father.
4. Participate actively and reverently in the celebration of the Mass through proper gestures, responses, and songs.
5. List, understand, and define the signs and symbols of the Funeral Rite, e.g., pall, paschal candle, incense, and sprinkling of holy water.
6. Express that the Mass of Christian Burial (Funeral Liturgy) celebrates the triumph of Christ's victory of life over death.
7. Know that in the sacrament of Holy Orders, the three degrees of ordination are: deacon, priest, and bishop.
8. Know that sacraments are special encounters with Jesus at key points in our journey of life, and that Jesus continues to care for us through the sacraments.
9. Know that human life is changed at death but not ended, and that our bodies will rise again.
10. Understand that the Liturgical Year begins with the First Week of Advent.

4. Christian Morality

1. Identify Jesus as God as well as truly human in all ways but sin, and follow his example of obedience to God's will.
2. Know that we should respect others and ourselves because of the presence of Christ in each one of us.

3. Understand that good moral decision-making is possible with the assistance of God's grace and is based on the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes, and teachings of the Church.
4. Name and discuss the meaning of the theological virtues (faith, hope, charity) and the cardinal virtues (prudence, justice, fortitude, and temperance).
5. Understand that Christ's invitation to "...take up your cross and follow Me." (**Mt. 16:24**) demands rejecting destructive secular values and acting in truth and integrity.
6. Understand and recognize that the Church has the authority to provide moral teaching and direction through the Magisterium: The pope and the bishops in communion with him.
7. Practice an examination of conscience by reflecting on their spiritual, personal, and social responsibilities.
8. Know that prayer, grace, and self-discipline help to overcome temptation.
9. Understand that sexuality is a gift, and that its expression is reserved for those who are married, so that they can have children and show their love for one another.

5. Prayer & Spirituality

1. Understand that Jesus is our role model of prayer.
2. Explain the meaning of the seven petitions in the Lord's Prayer and understand that this is a compilation of the Gospel message.
3. Discuss how trust in God is the basis for prayers of petition.
4. Understand and practice the Church's Advent tradition of the waiting and longing for the coming of the Lord.
5. Understand and practice the Church's Lenten tradition of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving in preparation for the celebration of the Paschal Mystery.
6. Identify the Beatitudes and understand them as the pattern of the Christian way of life.
7. Reflect more deeply on their spiritual relationship with the Lord.
8. Learn that the rosary is the epitome of the Gospel expressing devotion to Jesus through Mary.
9. Explain and appreciate the role of Eucharistic spirituality and devotion, such as Eucharistic Adoration, Eucharistic Benediction, and visits to the Blessed Sacrament.
10. Understand the importance of weekly participation in the Sunday Mass as the foundation of Catholic spirituality and prayer.

6. Community & Service

1. Know that as Mary brought Jesus into the world at the Nativity, and we bring Christ to the world through service.
2. Know that the pope and the bishops are the authentic teachers endowed with the authority of Christ to guard and preach the faith to believers and to guide us to put it into practice.
3. Know the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy and identify how they are examples of putting faith into action.
4. Discuss the difficulties and challenges in today's culture for bringing hope and love to the suffering.
5. Identify men and women who have responded to God's call to holiness through their service to others.
6. Understand that it is only with the gift of Christ's grace and practice of the Theological and Cardinal Virtues, that they become true witnesses of Christ.
7. Live responsibly as stewards of God's creation, respecting life, themselves, and their environment by willingly sharing their time and God-given talents with the school, parish, and community.
8. Work together for peace and justice by cooperatively choosing and completing a service project.

1. Scripture

1. Know that the Acts of the Apostles, which follows the gospels, describes the foundation and struggles of the first Christian communities.
2. Understand that the Letters of Paul and the other apostles (also known as the Epistles) apply Christ's message and teachings to the lives and circumstances of early Christian communities from Asia Minor to Rome.
3. Recall that the Beatitudes, found in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, are the set of directives for all Christians that build on the Commandments, show us how to be happy, and help to lead us to eternal life.
4. Understand that the corporal and spiritual works of mercy put forth in Deuteronomy 15:11, and reiterated in the Gospel of Matthew, are important examples of service to others in which all followers of Christ must participate to gain eternal life.
5. Understand that Pentecost is the manifestation of the Holy Spirit in the birth of the Church as described in Acts 2:1-4.
6. Know that the gifts of the Holy Spirit are rooted in the Messianic prophecy of Isaiah 11:1-2 and belong, in their fullness, to Christ.
7. Learn that the fruits of the Holy Spirit are the benefits of leading a grace-filled Christian life as explained in Gal. 5:22-23.
8. Know that the last book of the Bible, the Book of Revelation, also called the Apocalypse, is a poetic and symbolic work that describes the end times and encourages Christians to embrace the cross and look to the coming of Christ at the end of the world.
9. Understand and be able to explain the divine authorship of the Scriptures.

2. Creed

1. Discuss the personal implications of believing in Jesus as Savior and following his teachings.
2. Recognize the Feast of the Ascension as Jesus' return to the Father in heaven and our pledge of bodily entrance into heaven (i.e., the resurrection of the body).
3. Tell that Catholic beliefs and practices are rooted in Scripture and Tradition.
4. Recite the Apostles Creed and explain its meaning and importance.
5. Understand that we offer prayers and Masses for those who have died, to both honor and benefit them on their journey to the Lord.
6. Explain the reality and possibility of eternal death, which Christ calls "hell," and understand that the principal punishment of hell consists of eternal separation from God, in whom is all happiness.
7. Know that the Church is made up of clergy, laity, and those in consecrated life.
8. Discuss the courage and faith of Mary's "Yes" to the Angel Gabriel's announcement and what her example means to us.

9. As Baptized Christians and members of the Communion of Saints, we intercede in prayer on behalf of those who have died.
10. Discuss the hope and goal of all humanity as heaven. It is the communication of eternal life and love with God, the angels, and saints, and is the fulfillment of the deepest human longings, the state of supreme definitive happiness.
11. Recall that the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary refers to her being taken up body and soul into heaven after her life on earth, anticipating the resurrection of all members of the Body of Christ.

3. Worship & Sacraments

1. Know that Jesus instituted the Eucharist, which is the source and summit of Catholic life, worship, and unity.
2. Identify the principal parts of the Mass: Introductory Rite, Liturgy of the Word, Liturgy of the Eucharist, and Concluding Rite.
3. Know that Sunday is the Sabbath set aside for worship, family and relaxation, and that Catholics have a serious obligation to attend Mass every Sunday.
4. Know that throughout history, Catholics have expressed faith and worship through song, drama, art, architecture, literature, and prayer.
5. Understand that the sacraments strengthen our faith, hope, and love and empower us to participate in the mission of the Church.
6. Know that, the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the formation process for those who wish to become full members of the Catholic Church.
7. Know that the sacrament of Confirmation imparts the fullness of the Spirit through the gifts of the Holy Spirit and celebrates the Confirmand's personal decision to follow Christ.
8. Understand that God's providential grace and love shapes and guides the Church, even through the times of conflict in Church history, including the Protestant Reformation, the Western Schism, and other events.
9. Know the importance of the missionary activity of religious orders in the growth of the Church.
10. Understand the effects of the Councils of Trent and Vatican II on the Mass and on the sacraments.
11. Realize that although the Church exists in the world and is affected by it, the Holy Spirit always guides, sanctifies, and protects it.

4. Christian Morality

1. Know that salvation has been merited for us by Jesus in the Paschal Mystery, i.e., the Passion, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension.
2. Learn and practice the theological virtues of Faith, Hope, and Charity.
3. Review the importance and the need for frequent reception of the sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation.
4. Understand the universal call to holiness as exemplified in the lives of the saints.
5. Appreciate that the frequent reception of the Eucharist is the primary source of grace needed to faithfully live out the Christian life.
6. Know the existence of an objective moral law binding on all human beings.
7. Recognize that through the sacrament of Confirmation, they receive special sacramental grace to deepen their witness to Christ in their daily lives.
8. Know that the Magisterium (the pope and bishops) is the office of the Church that gives definitive and authoritative teaching on matters of faith and morals.
9. Learn the practice and use of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.
10. Appreciate the obligation to promote the Christian principles of social justice, especially respect for life, in their community and society at large.
11. Know that the Precepts of the Church help us to participate in the life of the parish and pursue the minimum for a growth in holiness.
12. Understand that sexual desires are good and are given by God to be properly expressed in marriage.
13. Realize that is wrong to misuse their sexuality by looking at impure magazines and movies, or by daydreaming about sexual activity.

5. Prayer & Spirituality

1. Take leadership roles in working with students at other grade levels in preparing and directing a communal prayer service or liturgy.
2. Evaluate their practice of personal prayer and describe how they will make changes to strengthen their prayer lives.
3. Explain and use various expressions of prayer (vocal, meditative, and contemplative).
4. Discuss how prayer can deepen their appreciation of the gifts of the Holy Spirit in their lives.
5. Review how prayer inspired men and women of faith in the Scriptures.
6. Identify and explain each of the Theological Virtues (Faith, Hope, and Charity).
7. Explain and practice the Moral (Cardinal) Virtues (Prudence, Justice, Temperance, and Fortitude) in order to strengthen their spiritual lives.
8. Pray for an open and generous response to God's call in their lives and future vocations.
9. Pray the rosary using all four sets of Mysteries as the basis for meditating on the life and mission of Christ.

6. Community & Service

1. Know that the power of the Holy Spirit is exemplified in the life, work, and witness of the saints.
2. Understand that faith, which flows from prayer, must be lived through good works.
3. Exercise the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.
4. Discuss how Jesus' example of forgiveness and healing in the Gospels are a sign of hope and a mandate to imitate him.
5. Understand that the Church has a special mission to the poor and continually fulfills this call through the activities of local and global organizations.
6. Examine the importance of ecumenical cooperation in light of every Christians' Baptismal call to service.
7. Practice leadership and sharing of responsibilities of planning and carrying out service-oriented projects.
8. Know that the strengthening from the Holy Spirit, imparted through the sacrament of Confirmation, enables them to live a life of service.
9. Know that in the midst of conflict and evil, God raises up men and women of faith who work for peace, justice, and human dignity to further the Kingdom of God on earth.
10. Evaluate issues of homelessness, hunger, poverty, and illiteracy in their local, national, and international communities.