



KNOWLEDGE OF THE FAITH

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

- How does our belief in the Holy Trinity help us lead better lives?
- How does God show He is faithful to His covenant and how does this strengthen your faith?
- How does our belief in the Incarnation help us grow closer to Jesus?
- How does the Holy Spirit bring us closer to God?
- How does Sacred Scripture guide us in our daily lives?
- How are we called to be saintly?

STANDARD

CONTENT

A. Students will grow in their understanding of the Triune God.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ There are three persons in one God. God the Father sent His only Son, Jesus, into the world as a sign of His love for all people. Our love of our neighbor reflects the love of the Holy Trinity.➤ The Divine Persons in the Holy Trinity help us to do good and avoid evil.
B. Students will grow in their understanding of God the Father.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ God is the creator of all that is seen and unseen. He created human beings with a soul that is a spiritual part of us that lives forever. Sin is a deliberate thought, word or action that is contrary to God’s law.➤ God desires that each person know Him and love Him in this life and be happy with Him in heaven forever. God created human beings with free will and called them to live as His people.➤ We live by God’s laws so that at our death God will judge us worthy of life in heaven. God always remains faithful and promises salvation to people who are faithful to Him.➤ God’s very being is truth and love; God is all present, all knowing and eternal.➤ God is faithful to His promise (covenant).➤ God gives each person the grace to know Him, what is good, how to love and to avoid evil.
C. Students will grow in their understanding of God the Son.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Jesus is the second person of the Holy Trinity and God’s Son.➤ The Incarnation is the mystery that the Son of God became man in order to save all people.
D. Students will grow in their understanding of the Holy Spirit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity, sent by the Father and the Son to live within us and help us always choose good over evil.➤ The Holy Spirit came to the Apostles at Pentecost and this is called the “birthday of the Church”.
E. Students will grow in their understanding of the Church.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ The Church is Trinitarian: prepared by the Father, founded by the Son, revealed by the Holy Spirit. The mission of the Church is to proclaim the Gospel and work for the salvation of all people.➤ The Creed is a statement of beliefs and is the foundation of Catholic faith.

- The precepts of the Church are seven Church laws that guide our practice of holy days, fast days, receiving sacraments, studying Church teaching, and helping in missionary work. They deepen our relationship with God and the Church.
- Sacred tradition is the teaching of Jesus, guided by the Holy Spirit given to the Apostles and handed on to us. The Magisterium is the teaching office of the Church, which is all of the bishops in union with the Pope and guided by the Holy Spirit.

F. Students will grow in their understanding of the Revelation.

- Revelation is God making Himself and His plan of salvation known to us. This is called divine revelation because it comes to us from God.
- The Bible is the written story of the covenant relationship between God and the Israelites and God and the Christian community.
- God called Abraham and because of his belief and trust in God. God established a covenant with him.
- The Catholic Bible has seventy-three books. Forty-six in the Old Testament and twenty-seven in the New Testament.

G. Students will grow in their understanding of the Saints.

- Grace is God's free and loving gift of His own life and helps us to do what He calls us to do.
- The call to holiness begins at Baptism and is the daily journey of growing in closer to the Father by following the Son with the help of the Holy Spirit.
- Mary and the saints are models and teachers of holiness for all of us. Mary's Immaculate Conception gives her a unique role in the Church. The Immaculate Conception is the dogma that God kept Mary free from sin from the moment of her conception and throughout her life because she was to be the mother of Jesus. Mary is the Mother of the Church because she loves the followers of her Son. A saint is a person who the Church believes has led a holy life and is now in Heaven with God.
- The communion of saints is a special union of the members of the Church on earth, in purgatory, and in heaven. A martyr is a person who dies rather than deny the faith.



LITURGICAL EDUCATION

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

How does participating in the liturgical life of the Church inform, form, and transform us as disciples of Jesus in the world?
How does Jesus' saving work continue through the seven sacraments?
Why do Catholics celebrate the Liturgical year?

STANDARD

CONTENT

A. Students will grow in their understanding of worship.

- The Liturgy is the celebration of the life, death and resurrection of Christ.
- The Mass has a central place in the life of the Church and weekly attendance and participation at Mass is an obligation for all Catholics.

B. Students will grow in their understanding of the Sacraments.

- Sacraments are signs of God's life, instituted by Christ and given to the Church so that Jesus can continue His redemptive work in the world. The sacraments bestow grace, God's life within us. Through Baptism we are freed from sin and reborn as sons and daughters of God.
- The fruits of Baptism are forgiveness of original and personal sin and entry into membership in the Church.
- Confirmation is a sacrament of Initiation and is associated with Pentecost and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.
- The Sacrament of the Eucharist is "thanksgiving and praise to the Father, the sacrificial memorial of Christ and His Body, the presence of Christ by the power of His Word and of His Spirit".
- The Sacrament of Penance celebrates the forgiveness of Christ through the Church. Reconciliation involves conversion. Conversion is turning away from sin, responding to God's forgiveness and following Jesus example of life.
- There are four actions in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. For the one receiving the Sacrament there are three actions: contrition, confession of sins, and reparation. The priest performs the action of absolution.
- Christ touched and healed people during His life on earth and continues to do so in the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.
- Through the Sacrament of Holy Orders, ministry to Christ's body and Church continues.
- The Sacrament of Matrimony, celebrating the love between a man and a woman, is a reflection of the covenant of indissoluble love between Christ and the Church.

C. Students will grow in their understanding of the Liturgical Year.

- The Paschal Mystery is the mystery of Jesus' suffering, death, resurrection and Ascension.
- The Liturgical Year consists of the feasts and the seasons of the Church calendar that celebrate the Paschal Mystery of Christ.



MORAL FORMATION

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

- How do we imitate Christ?
- How does Jesus' teaching in the Beatitudes help us to get closer to God and neighbor?
- How can we use the Commandments as a guide for daily living?
- How can our conscience help strengthen our relationship with God?
- How can sin hurt the way people reflect God's image?
- How do the precepts of the Church deepen our relationship with God and the Church?

STANDARD

CONTENT

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| A. Students will grow in their understanding of Life in Christ. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Moral law helps us live in right relationship with ourselves, God and others in the community.➤ Virtues strengthen the moral life. A virtue is a good habit and a strong decision to do what is right. |
| B. Students will grow in their understanding of the Beatitudes. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ The Great Commandment of Jesus is to love the Lord, our God, and to love our neighbor as we love ourselves (Matthew 22:26-40).➤ In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus gave us the Beatitudes. They are at the heart of the teachings of Christ. |
| C. Students will grow in their understanding of the Commandments. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ God gave His chosen people the Ten Commandments to help us be faithful to Him and to his Covenant. The Ten Commandments and God's law help to strengthen our conscience so that we can make good decisions.➤ The First Commandment states "I am the Lord your God: you shall not have strange gods before me." The First Commandment teaches us to honor and worship God and not to give people of things more importance than God.➤ God's Second Commandment states "You shall no take the name of the Lord, your God in Vain." The Second Commandment teaches us to respect the name of God, Jesus Christ, Mary and the saints.➤ God's Third Commandment states "Remember to keep holy the Lord's Day."➤ God's Fourth Commandment states "Honor your father and your mother." We honor our parents because they are to love, provide for and share faith with their children.➤ God's Fifth Commandment states "You shall not kill." Life is created by God and is sacred. Any action that harms human life is sinful.➤ God's Sixth Commandment states "You shall not commit adultery."➤ God's Seventh Commandment states "You shall not steal."➤ God's Eighth Commandment states "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor."➤ God's Ninth Commandment states "You shall not covet your neighbor's wife."➤ God's Tenth Commandment states "You shall not covet your neighbor's goods." |

D. Students will grow in their understanding of conscience.

- Conscience is a voice within our hearts where God has inscribed His law calling us to love and to choose to do what is good and avoid evil.

E. Students will grow in their understanding of sin and forgiveness.

- Sin is a deliberate thought, word, deed or omission contrary to the law of God.
- There are different types of sin: personal sin, mortal, venial and social sin.

F. Students will grow in their understanding of Church Law.

- The Precepts of the Church set out to bring us a solid understanding of what our behavior should be as Catholic Christians.

TEACHING TO PRAY

GUIDING QUESTION:

How do we get closer to God through prayer?

STANDARD

CONTENT

A. Students will grow in their understanding of prayer.

- Prayer in all its forms is a language of love, faith and hope.
- We share prayer with others, and worship together as the people of God.
- Devotions are popular prayers or practices that honor Jesus, Mary and the saints.

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EDUCATION FOR COMMUNITY LIFE

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

- How can we remember and celebrate Jesus Christ?
- How can students continue to grow in their Christian faith?
- How can we participate in the world wide Church Community?
- How does your vocation help you to become a disciple of Christ?

STANDARD

CONTENT

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| A. Students will grow in their understanding of participation in the liturgical life of the Church. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Catholic Church is the assembly of God’s people.➤ The Church is a community of people who worship God and care for one another. |
| B. Students will grow in their understanding of participation in life-long faith formation. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ One responds to the love of God by growing in relationship to God, others, self and all creation. |
| C. Students will grow in their understanding of Church life at parish, Diocesan and universal levels. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ The Church is hierarchical (i.e. that there is a divinely given order of ministry and leadership in the Church – the threefold order of bishop, priest and deacon with each having a special role). |
| D. Students will grow in their understanding of participation in the ministry of the Church. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Belonging to the Church means following Jesus way of living responsibly for self and others.➤ Discipleship in Christ is responding in faith by participation in the mission of the Church through living a specific call in the life on the Church. |



MISSIONARY INITIATION

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

- How can you show love for your neighbor?
- How can you be of service to others?
- What are some ways you can show respect for human life and dignity?
- How can you be an active member in your community?
- What human rights and responsibilities can you name?
- What are some ways that families, parishes and countries could show that they put the needs of the poor first?
- How can we work for justice?
- How can we care for others?

STANDARD

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| A. Students will grow in their knowledge of Catholic social teaching. | ➤ The social teachings of our tradition inspire us to concern and to action aimed at the well-being of all humankind. |
| B. Students will grow in their understanding of justice and service. | ➤ The “New Commandment” of Jesus to love one another as He, God, has loved us is one of the defining characteristics of the Christian faith.
➤ Justice challenges us to work for the common good.
➤ We are called to spread the Good News of Christ through evangelization.
➤ Kingdom of God is God’s rule of peace, justice, and love that exists in Heaven, but has not come into its fullness on earth.
➤ The virtue of justice is giving God and others what is due to them. |
| C. Students will grow in their understanding of the life and dignity of the human person. | ➤ Human life is sacred. |
| D. Students will grow in their understanding of the call to family, community and participation in society. | ➤ A community is a group of people who share common beliefs and activities. |
| E. Students will grow in their understanding of the rights of all people and their responsibilities towards others. | ➤ Rights are the freedoms or things every person needs and should have. Responsibilities are the duties or things we must do so others have their rights. |
| F. Students will grow in their understanding of the preferential option for the poor and vulnerable. | ➤ Option for the poor and vulnerable challenges us to treat people in need the same way we would treat Jesus Himself. |

G. Students will in their understanding of the dignity of the work and the rights of others.

➤ We are challenged to use our gifts and talents for the dignity and the rights of others – especially the worker.

H. Students will grow in their understanding of solidarity.

➤ The Church is a worldwide community.

I. Students will grow in their understanding of the importance of care for God's creation.

➤ We respect the gift of life.