



KNOWLEDGE OF THE FAITH

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

How does our belief in the Holy Trinity affect the way we worship and the way we live?
Why has God given humans a unique role in creation?
Why do we call Jesus, divine, redeemer and king?
How does the Spirit lead us closer to Jesus?
How does the Church help us grow in holiness?
How does God communicate with us?
How do Mary and the saints help us grow in holiness?

STANDARD

CONTENT

A. Students will grow in their understanding of the Triune God.

- The three persons of the Trinity are identified by their relationship to one another.
- Faith is a gift from God that makes it possible for us to believe in God and the things He has revealed to us.

B. Students will grow in their understanding of God the Father.

- God the father is the creator of all that is seen and unseen. Our longings are part of the desire God put in our hearts to be happy with Him.
- God is present everywhere, and is the life sustaining force in all things. Human are called to praise God for His goodness. Our praise includes caring for one another and for creation.
- God’s plan for us that we will be with Him for all eternity in heaven.

C. Students will grow in their understanding of God the Son.

- The Incarnation means “coming into flesh” and is the mystery that the Son of God became man in order to save human beings by leading them to heaven. Jesus is fully human and fully divine.
- Jesus is the full revelation of God to humanity.
- The message of God’s love comes through the life, death, and Resurrection of Jesus, our Redeemer.

D. Students will grow in their understanding of the Holy Spirit.

- The Holy Spirit is the sanctifier and preserves the Church in faithfulness, and leads her to constant purification and renewal.

E. Students will grow in their understanding of the Church.

- Christ established and sustains here on earth His Church. It is the community of faith, hope and charity, through which he communicates truth and grace to all humankind through His Holy Spirit.
- The Church – one, holy, catholic and apostolic – is an assembly of the People of God, the Body of Christ, called together by the Holy Spirit.
- The Creed expresses the faith of our Church and professes it to the world.

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

- Revelation is God making himself and His plan of salvation known to us through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. God uses signs to communicate with us and to show that he is present in our lives.
- Sacred Scripture is the living Word of God, a history of the covenant and a guide for life today.

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

- The saints are members of the Body of Christ who lived lives of holiness that Catholics are called to imitate.
- The Communion of Saints: (cf. Apostles Creed) those disciples on earth, those in heaven and the dead are purified are all part of the Church and united in Christ.
- Mary, the Mother of God is given special honor in the Church, was preserved from sin by the Holy Spirit, and is a model of holiness and a witness of faith.
- Mary is the model for holiness and Christian discipleship. The feasts of the Annunciation and the Assumption teach us about Mary's acceptance of God's will for her life.



LITURGICAL EDUCATION

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

How does our participation in worship bring us closer to God?
How does the celebration of the sacraments draw us closer to Christ?
How does the celebration of the liturgical year help us to learn about the life and teaching of Christ?

STANDARD

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| <p>A. Students will grow in their understanding of worship.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ The Mass is central to Catholic life. It is the public prayer of the Church that unites Christ’s followers to Him and to one another.➤ In the Liturgy, Christ who died on the cross for our salvation is made present again through the power of the Holy Spirit.➤ At Mass, the Christian community gathers to celebrate the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. |
| <p>B. Students will grow in their understanding of the Sacraments.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Sacraments are special celebrations of God’s love for us.➤ Baptism is the initial encounter with the sacramental Christ and the first infusion of the gifts of the Holy Spirit.➤ Confirmation is the sacrament that completes the grace of Baptism. It more fully bestows the Gifts of the Holy Spirit on recipients in order to strengthen them to spread and defend the faith by word and action as true witnesses of Christ.➤ Eucharist is the sacrament in which the Lord Jesus Himself, under appearance of bread and wine, is present, offered and received.➤ Reconciliation is the sacrament by which each person receives God’s merciful forgiveness for personal sins.➤ Anointing of the Sick is an extension of the healing of Christ to those who are ill.➤ Matrimony is a celebration of life-long love and commitment between a man and a woman.➤ Holy Orders is the sacrament by which a man is empowered to serve the Church as deacon, priest or bishop. |
| <p>C. Students will grow in their understanding of the Liturgical Year.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ The Liturgical year consists of the feasts and seasons of the Church calendar that celebrate the Paschal Mystery of Christ. |



MORAL FORMATION

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

- How do we find happiness?
- What does living the Beatitudes mean?
- How are we called to a new life and to make moral choices that unify us with God?
- How do we decide if our choices are bringing us closer to God?
- What does the sacrament of Reconciliation teach us about the relationship between God and human beings?
- How does the teaching office of the Church help us to grow in holiness?

STANDARD

CONTENT

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| A. Students will grow in their understanding of Life in Christ. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Morality is an invitation to respond freely to God’s love by following the example of Jesus.➤ Cooperating with the grace of the sacraments assists us in living out a moral life.➤ The practice of virtues helps us to pursue what is good and choose to do good in concrete actions. |
| B. Students will grow in their understanding of the Beatitudes. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ 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.➤ The Beatitudes are the teachings of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount. |
| C. Students will grow in their understanding of the Commandments. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ In the Old Testament, God made a covenant with His people. The Ten Commandments are a very important part of living in this new relationship. |
| D. Students will grow in their understanding of conscience. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Each person’s conscience helps them to recognize what is right and wrong. |
| E. Students will grow in their understanding of sin and forgiveness. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Evil is the result if humans turn away from God’s goodness. God sent His Son to redeem people from the power of sin and evil.➤ Original sin is the sin of our first parents, Adam and Eve, which led to the sinful condition of the human race.➤ Grace is God’s loving gift of the life of the Trinity and helps us to do what he asks us to do.➤ Free will is God given freedom and the ability to make choices.➤ Sin is a deliberate thought, word, deed or omission contrary to the law of God.➤ The Church receives God’s forgiveness and God’s healing love through the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick. |
| F. Students will grow in their understanding of Church Law. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ The Catholic Church is the gathered People of God who are entrusted with the mission to bring Christ to the world.➤ The teachings of the Catholic Church are transmitted through sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition. |



TEACHING TO PRAY

GUIDING QUESTION: How do we build our relationship with God through prayer?

STANDARD

CONTENT

A. Students will grow in their understanding of prayer.

- Prayer in all its many forms is a language of love, faith and hope.
- Liturgical prayer is the public prayer of the Church.
- The Scripture is interpreted through the Church and provides an invitation from God to follow Him.
- Sacramentals are sacred blessings, objects and actions that remind us of God.

Diocese of Bridgeport – Religion Standards – Grade 5



EDUCATION FOR COMMUNITY LIFE

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

- How does taking an active role in the liturgical life of the Church bring you closer to God?
- How do we increase our holiness?
- How do leaders continue the apostles' mission?
- How can we best serve Jesus and foster the growth of God's kingdom through our personal vocations?

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">➤ Participation in the Paschal Mystery is expressed through the Church's liturgical life and her service in the world. |
| B. Students will grow in their understanding of participation in life-long faith formation. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Our community life is built on the understanding that humans grow and develop physically, mentally, emotionally, and socially as well as spiritually. |
| C. Students will grow in their understanding of Church life at parish, Diocesan and universal levels. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Peter was the first of the Apostles and head of the early Christian community. The Pope, Bishops and priests guided by the Holy Spirit lead and teach the Church today.➤ Catholics gather in communities of baptized persons, called parishes, to worship and celebrate the sacraments, to hear and proclaim God's Word, and to look forward to the coming of the Kingdom of God. |
| D. Students will grow in their understanding of participation in the ministry of the Church. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Every Christian participates in the mission of the Church, each in a different way proper to his or her own particular vocation.➤ The Catholic Church is entrusted with the mission of Jesus Christ to bring about the Kingdom of God.➤ Disciples of Jesus are called to continually change and reform their lives in light of the teaching of Jesus and to share what they have learned from Him in and through the Church with others.➤ One responds to the love of God by growing in relationship to God, others, self and all creation. |

Diocese of Bridgeport – Religion Standards – Grade 5



MISSIONARY INITIATION

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

- How are we called to care for each other?
- How would you show your understanding of justice and service to others?
- How would you explain the life and dignity of the human person?
- To what communities do you belong? What responsibilities do you have as a member of those communities?
- When is it difficult to see God's image in others?
- How does the Eucharist encourage us to care for those who are poor?
- Why do you think employers sometimes do not pay more attention to the rights of the worker?
- Why do Catholics have a special responsibility to help others throughout the world?
- Why is it important to be involved in caring for natural resources?

STANDARD

CONTENT

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| A. Students will grow in their knowledge of Catholic social teaching. | ➤ The Catholic Bishops of the United States have outlined seven themes of Catholic Social teaching, which call Catholics to address and understand the responsibilities humans have to each other and to the world. |
| B. Students will grow in their understanding of justice and service. | ➤ The Kingdom of God will be inherited by those who actively work for justice and serve others. |
| C. Students will grow in their understanding of the life and dignity of the human person. | ➤ All people are created in the image of God and are equal in human dignity. |
| D. Students will grow in their understanding of the call to family, community and participation in society. | ➤ God made the family to be the first place we learn to care for, respect and help others. |
| E. Students will grow in their understanding of the rights of all people and their responsibilities toward others. | ➤ It is important to treat members of society with love and respect and pray for them as fellow human beings created by God. |
| F. Students will grow in their understanding of the preferential option for the poor and vulnerable. | ➤ Matthew 25:40-45 means we should treat people in need in the same way we would treat Christ Himself. |
| G. Students will in their understanding of the dignity of the work and the rights of others. | ➤ Employers must respect the rights of their workers and pay them fair wages. |

H. Students will grow in their understanding of solidarity.

➤ Solidarity includes all of God's creation, including family, community and environment.

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

➤ Humans share in the Creator's loving plan by caring for creation.