

# FOR RELIGION GRADES PS - 8

## DIOCESE OF SAN BERNARDINO, CALIFORNIA

Our sincerest thanks is extended to the dedicated members of the Religion Curriculum Committee who contributed their professional expertise and invested many hours of valuable time during the past two years to bring these Guidelines into reality.

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

MISSION STATEMENT	2
PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT	3-4
PROGRAM CONTENTS	4
FAMILY LIFE CURRICULUM	5
RELIGION CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK	6
RELIGION CURRICULUM EXPECTATIONS AND RATIONALES	
Creed (What We Believe)	7-8
Sacraments/Liturgy (How We Celebrate)	8-9
Christian Living (How We Live)	9
Prayer (How We Pray)	10
REFERENCE ABBREVIATIONS and APPROVED TEXTS	10
CURRICULUM EXPECTATIONS: GRADE LEVEL EMPHASIS	11
RELIGION CURRICULUM	11
(Expectations, Activities/Assessment, Family Life/ACRE words)	
PRESCHOOL/KINDERGARTEN	12-14
Kdgn. ACRE Vocabulary	15
GRADE ONE	16 -18
Gr. 1 ACRE Vocabulary	18-19
GRADE TWO	19-22
Gr. 2 ACRE Vocabulary	23-24
GRADE THREE	25-28
Gr. 3 ACRE Vocabulary	28-30
GRADE FOUR	30-34
Gr. 4 ACRE Vocabulary	34-38
GRADE FIVE	39-42
Gr. 5 ACRE Vocabulary	42-45
GRADE SIX	46-49
Gr. 6 ACRE Vocabulary	49-52
GRADE SEVEN	52-55
Gr. 7 ACRE Vocabulary	56-58
GRADE EIGHT	59-62
Gr. 8 ACRE Vocabulary	62-65
VOCABULARY NOT IN ACRE	65-67
RESOURCES	68-70
ECCLESIAL DOCUMENTS	71
RELIGION PUBLISHERS	72

## **MISSION STATEMENT FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

The Catholic schools of the Diocese of San Bernardino, participating in the educational mission of the Catholic Church, endeavor to lead students to:

- a full and ever deepening realization of God's love for them,
- a Catholic foundation
- personal sanctification,
- social reform in light of Christian values

In support and in collaboration with parents we accept our call to be Catholic leaders and educators by embracing and witnessing the fullness of the Catholic faith. Rooted in Scripture, tradition and the richness of the Catholic Church we strive to empower the student to live the Christian call.

The Catholic school has a clear identity, not only as a presence of the Church in society, but also as a genuine and proper instrument of the Church. It is a place of evangelization, of authentic apostolate and of pastoral action - not through complementary or parallel or extra-curricular activity, but of its very nature: its work of educating the Christian person. The words of Pope John Paul II make this abundantly clear: "the Catholic school is not a marginal or secondary element in the pastoral mission of the bishop. Its function is not merely to be an instrument with which to combat the education given in a state school."

*(The Religious Dimension of Education in a Catholic School, #33).*

The Catholic school finds its true justification in the mission of the Church; it is based on an educational philosophy in which faith, culture and life are brought into harmony. Through it, the local Church evangelizes, educates and contributes to the formation of a healthy and morally sound life-style among its members. Pope John Paul II affirmed that "the need for the Catholic school becomes evidently clear when we consider what it contributes to the development of the mission of the People of God, to the dialogue between Church and the human community, to the safeguarding of freedom of conscience...." Above all, according to the Holy Father, the Catholic school helps in achieving a double objective: "of its nature it guides men and women to human and Christian perfection, and at the same time helps them to become mature in their faith. For those who believe in Christ, these are two facets of a single reality."

*(The Religious Dimension of Education in a Catholic School, #34).*

The Catholic school is a living community of faith "animated by a spirit of liberty and charity" which enables young people to grow in their faith while at the same time developing their own personalities, and of "orienting the whole human culture to the message of salvation" (*General Directory for Catechesis, #259*).

This religious view of life is integrated into every aspect of the school's curriculum. The integration of religious truth and values with the whole of life distinguishes the Catholic school from all other schools. Only in such a school can students experience learning and living fully integrated in the light of faith (*To Teach as Jesus Did, #105-105*).

The Catholic school, characterized by a holistic catechetical approach, which is grounded in Sacred Scripture as well as the tradition and Doctrine of the Catholic Church, leads to deeper participation in worship and the sacramental life of the Church. The Catholic school is a most important place of human and Christian formation.

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## **FOR RELIGION**

As Catholic Educators teaching religion in the Catholic Schools of the Diocese of San Bernardino, California:  
We believe that Catholic education is an expression of and participation in the mission entrusted by Jesus to His Church.

We believe that the Catholic school embodies the three-fold purpose of the Church's educational mission:

- proclaiming the message revealed by God
- building Christian community
- reaching out to the world in service

We believe that Catholic education is fundamental to seeing the dignity of in the image and likeness of God.

We believe that parents are the primary religious educators of their children and that Catholic education supports and assists them in faith formation.

We believe that a special function of the Catholic school is to be a community based on Christian values and to promote these values in families, places of work, neighborhoods, the nation and the world.

We believe that Catholic Education fosters and nourishes each student's growth in holiness and relationship with Jesus Christ.

We believe that Catholic education is directed to the formation of a conscience, which empowers students to make morally good decisions in their everyday life.

We believe that faith is the underlying reality within which students' experiences of living achieve their deepest meaning.

We believe that the Catholic school educates to a social awareness, which calls forth an active Christian response based on love and hope while sharing at the same time a realistic view of the human condition affected by evil and sin.

We believe that faith formation is a life-long process of development and growth.

### **FUNDAMENTAL TASKS OF CATECHESIS** (From General Directory for Catechesis)

1. **Promoting Knowledge of the Faith**: "...leads to the gradual grasping of the whole truth about the divine plan"
2. **Liturgical Education**: "The Church ardently desires that all the Christian faithful be brought to the full, conscious and active participation which is required by the very nature of the liturgy and the dignity of the baptismal priesthood."
3. **Moral Formation**: "The moral testimony, which is prepared for by the catechesis, must always demonstrate the social consequences of the demands of the Gospel."
4. **Teaching to Pray**: "When catechesis is permeated by a climate of prayer, the assimilation of the entire Christian life reaches its summit."
5. **Education for Community Life**: "Christian community life is not realized spontaneously. It is necessary to educate it carefully."
6. **Missionary Initiation**: "This seeks to equip the disciples of Jesus to be present as Christians in society through their professional, cultural and social lives."

## **PROGRAM CONTENTS**

### **Course**

Instruction should be unified in such a way that there exists within each program a continuous progression of content from grade to grade. In order to facilitate this progression, there should be ongoing program-wide planning, communication, and articulation between catechists of varying grades and levels of faith formation.

### **Catechist**

In a formal program the catechist is the single most important factor. The teacher of religion is more than one who simply communicates concepts, especially for the young. In order to model what it means to live and share one's faith, a catechist is a fully initiated practicing Catholic certified by the diocese to instruct youth in the formation of their faith.

*"The fundamental tasks of catechists are to proclaim Christ's message, to participate in efforts to develop community, to lead people to worship and prayer, and to motivate them to follow others-" (NCD #213)*

### **Catechesis and Human Development**

At every level of faith formation the whole personality of the learner is to be considered: actions, affective life, and motivation. The methods employed in faith formation are to be in accord with the levels and abilities of the learners. The catechist strives to teach the young person how to examine all of life with a Christian spirit; to seek God's presence in all of creation, including the products of human effort. It is imperative that the catechist demonstrates concretely the Gospel's relevance to the child's everyday life.

### **Assessment**

Through appropriate assessment the catechist is able to determine the degree of success of the class session, the teaching methodology, and the resources used. This will provide the teachers the opportunity to improve the teaching/learning situation. Likewise, awareness of each student's overall faith formation and growth must be a topic of dialogue with parents as catechists support them as primary educators of their children.

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Acting in accordance with the directives of the Catholic Bishops of the United States, a Family Life Program is to be a part of the curriculum in each of our Catholic elementary schools in the Diocese of San Bernardino.

Prior to an initial introduction of a specific Family Life Program, the school parents are to be invited to examine the new curriculum and take part in the evaluation of the materials for the program. Once a program has been implemented, parents new to the school should be informed of the school's program prior to enrolling their child in the school. In addition, the school is to schedule periodic parent education opportunities on the Family Life Program.

A Family Life Program is a part of the larger curriculum of the school and is intended to support/reinforce the basic values of the Religion program in each of the grades. "Family Life" should be seen as a very practical and immediate opportunity to prepare the students to live out their faith on a daily basis in the context of their own family experience.

We are well aware that at times this is perceived as a sex education program. This is definitely one aspect of the program and should be understood as such. It is important that this program is both perceived and implemented as a Catholic values formation program.

Values formation is a continuous challenge. It is most important that adequate time and preparation should be a commitment made by all members of the school community. This is a program that is to be taught throughout the year, not for just one concentrated period, in each of our schools.

The Family Life Program does periodically at various grade levels focus on the physical aspects of sex education. This could be a very sensitive area for some parents as well as students. It is important that the teacher inform the parents prior to the introduction of such specific information that is being made in order to provide them the time to prepare and support the goals of the Family Life Program at home.

Staff development and faculty articulation is to occur in conjunction with any programs and activities that are planned for any part of the school's curriculum. This also holds true for the Family Life Program. An inservice should be provided for the faculty to assist them with the implementation of the Family Life curriculum.

It is important that the teaching of the Family Life curriculum is supported and enhanced by an approved textbook series. If the textbook series that is presently being used doesn't address the curriculum expectations for each of the grades, supplemental materials and inservice is to be provided for the teachers.

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These Diocesan Religion Curriculum Guidelines have a format slightly different from that of the guidelines that have been developed in other curricular areas. The guidelines for each of the academic subjects have a detailed scope and sequence, whereas the religion guidelines are written as a curricular framework of core content. The curricular framework states which expectations (supported by their rationale) are to be addressed at each grade level. The approved religion series chosen by your school will fit into the framework. The scope and sequence are already developed by the publishers of each of the religion series approved for adoption by the Bishops. Now it will be important for you to match these with the expectations offered for each grade level.

This religion framework has been built on the structure of the Catechism of the Catholic Church and integrates into each grade level age appropriate expectations from each of the four parts of the Catechism: Creed, the Sacred Liturgy, the Christian Way of Life, and Christian Prayer. Our Religion Curriculum Guidelines follow their own arrangement for relating materials from the four parts of the Catechism as may be readily seen under the major headings:

Creed (What We Believe)  
Sacraments and Liturgy (How We Celebrate)  
Christian Living (How We Live)  
Prayer (How We Pray)

Fifteen specific "expectations" have been developed within the major headings and are offered for each of the grade levels (Preschool through Grade Eight).

## EXPECTATIONS AND RATIONALES

### CREED (What We Believe)

- #1 The student will demonstrate an understanding of the human need for God based on revelation and faith.

*Rationale: For faith to be living, conscious and active, it is important for students to understand the human desire for God. "With his whole being man gives his assent to God the revealer.11 (cf. Rom. 1:5;16-26)*

*Jesus Christ lives and, with His Father, unceasingly sends forth the Holy Spirit, who abides in believers' hearts as the source of light and love. No one walks in darkness that possess the life-giving Spirit. (NCD #1)*

- #2 The student will demonstrate the ability to read and reflect on Scripture as well as its meaning for life.

*Rationale: Scripture is an important tool of revelation helping Catholics find truth about God and about oneself. According to an ancient tradition, one can distinguish between two senses of Scripture.- the literal and the spiritual, the latter being subdivided into the allegorical, moral, and anagogical senses. The profound concordance of the four senses guarantees all its richness to the living reading of Scripture in the Church. (CCC #115-117)*

*The Bible is not just a book to be read and studied. It contains God's word, which should be the object of our prayerful meditation (NCD #60)*

- #3 The student will demonstrate a basic understanding and appreciation of doctrine and dogma in light of the creed.

*Rationale: Doctrine and dogmas of the Catholic faith, as vehicles of revelation, are essential foundations for life within the Catholic community. (CCC #193)*

*They are formulated to meet particular liturgical needs (e.g., the Apostle Creed), to counteract specific errors (e.g., the Nicene Creed), or simply to express the common beliefs of the Church (e.g., Credo of the People of God). (NCD #45)*

- #4 The student will demonstrate an appreciation of the Trinity as the central mystery of the Christian faith.

*Rationale: The mystery of the Holy Trinity is the central mystery of Christian faith and life. It is the mystery of God... It is therefore the source of all other mysteries of faith, the light that enlightens them. It is the most fundamental and essential teaching in the hierarchy of the truths of faith. (CCC #234)*

*The mystery of the Holy Trinity was revealed in the person, words, and works of Jesus Christ. He revealed His Father as "our" Father and Himself as God's eternal and divine Son. He also made known a third divine person, the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, whom the Father and He, as risen Lord, send to His Church. He calls His disciples to become Gods children through the gift of the Spirit, which He bestows on them. (NCD #83)*

- #5 The student will demonstrate knowledge of the Church as people of God, body of Christ and community of faith.

*communities and is made real as a liturgical, above all a Eucharistic, assembly. She draws her life from the Word and the Body of Christ and so She becomes Christ's Body. (CCC #752)*

*The Church, founded by Christ, had its origin in His death and resurrection. It is the new People of God. It is the work of God's saving love in Christ. The Church is a community of people assembled by God. Catholic life and education must also be concerned with a still wider unity.- the unity of all persons under God. (NCD #93-95)*

- #6 The student will demonstrate a comprehension of community of faith and understand that it is the primary way that we come to know God.

*Rationale: The members of a parish grow in fellowship by coming together to worship God and by making a shared response of faith on occasions of joy and stress. Creating readiness for growth in community through worship and through the events of everyday life is an integral part of the task of Catholic education, which also seeks to build community within its own programs and institutions. (TTJD #25)*

*Under the impulse of the Holy Spirit, the Church from its very beginning has been a community of believers. Community involves a sharing of beliefs, experiences, ideals, and values. Christian community leads one to put aside selfish goals and private interest for the sake of the common good. (NCD #70)*

- #7 The student will demonstrate a basic understanding of the history of the Church.

*Rationale: This "family of God" is gradually formed and takes shape during the stages of human history, in keeping with the Father's plan. In fact, already present in figure at the beginning of the world, this Church was prepared in marvelous fashion in the history of the people of Israel and the old alliance. (CCC #759)*

### **SACRAMENTS/LITURGY (How We Celebrate)**

- #8 The student will demonstrate an understanding of sacraments as important moments in life of the community with an emphasis on the centrality of the Eucharist.

*Rationale: The Eucharist is a memorial of the Lord's passion, death, and resurrection. This holy sacrifice is both a commemoration of a past event and a celebration of it here and now. Through, with, and in the Church, Christ's sacrifice on the cross and the victory of His resurrection become present in every celebration. (NCD#120)*

*The purpose of the sacraments is to sanctify people, to build up the Body of Christ and, finally, to give worship to God. (CCC #1123)*

- #9 The student will understand and be able to participate fully in liturgical celebrations.

*Rationale: The Church celebrates Christ's life, death, resurrection in its liturgy; it proclaims its faith in His presence in the Church, in His word, in the sacramental celebrations, it gives praise and thanks, asks for the things it needs, and strengthens itself to carry out its commission to give witness and service. (NCD #112)*

*In as much as they are creatures, these perceptible realities can become means of expressing the action of God who sanctifies people, and the action of people who offer worship to God. The same is true of signs and symbols taken from the social life of people: washing and anointing, breaking bread and*



## CHRISTIAN LIVING (How We Live)

- #10 The student will demonstrate knowledge of moral teaching, showing clearly an ability to make good moral decisions and to act in a responsible, Christian manner consistent with Church teachings.

*Rationale: Everyone is obliged to follow this law (to do what is good and avoid what is evil), which makes itself heard in conscience and is fulfilled in the love of God and of neighbor. Living a moral life bears witness to the dignity of the person. (CCC #1706) Catechisms have traditionally emphasized a code of Christian conduct, sometimes summarized under three headings: a sense of personal integrity; social justice and love of neighbor; and accountability to God as a loving Father who is also Lord of all. (NCD #38)*

- #11 The student will demonstrate a clear understanding of the dignity of the human person and community.

*Rationale: Created in the image of the one God and equally endowed with rational souls, all people have the same nature and the same origin. Redeemed by the sacrifice of Christ, all are called to participate in the same divine beatitude: all therefore enjoy an equal dignity. (CCC #1934)*

- #12 The student will demonstrate the ability to exercise responsible stewardship.

*Rationale: "Community" involves a sharing of beliefs, experiences, ideals and values. Christian community leads one to put aside selfish goals and private interest for the sake of a common good. It is based on the willingness of all community members, as good stewards, to accept responsibility, individually and corporately, for the way each lives, uses his or her time, talent, and treasure, and responds to the needs and rights of others. (NCD #70)*

- #13 The student will demonstrate comprehension of the principles of social justice and have the ability to apply them to personal and societal situations

*Rationale: The establishment of justice in personal and social, economic and international relations must show this, without ever forgetting that there are no just structures without people who want to be just. (CCC #2832)*

*Social justice focuses not only on personal relationships but also on institutions, structures, and systems of social organizations (keeping in mind, however, that these are composed of persons), which foster or impede the common good at the local, national and international levels. Social Justice is the concept by which one evaluates the organization and functioning of the political, economic, social and cultural life of society. Positively, the Church's social teaching seeks to apply the gospel command of love to and within social systems, structures, and institutions. (NCD #165)*

- #14 The student will demonstrate Involvement in Christian service to the community in response to the call to discipleship found in the Gospel accounts.

*Rationale: The Church continues the mission of Jesus, prophet, priest, and servant king. Its mission, like His, Is an essential one - to bring about God's kingdom - but this one mission has three aspects: proclaiming and teaching God's word, celebrating the sacred mysteries, and serving the people of the world. Corresponding to the three aspects of the Church's mission and existing to serve it are three ministries: the ministry of the word, the ministry of worship, and the ministry of service. (NCD #30)*

## **PRAYER (How We Pray)**

#15 The student will demonstrate a knowledge of and ability to participate in the Catholic tradition of prayer.

*Rationale: The tradition of Christian prayer is one of the ways in which the tradition of faith takes shape and grows, especially through the contemplation and study of believers who treasure in their hearts the events and words of the economy of salvation and through their profound grasp of the spiritual realities they experience. (CCC #2651)*

*Prayer, for both individuals and communities, means a deepening awareness of covenanted relationship with God, coupled with the effort to live in total harmony with His will. Private prayer permeates the daily life of the Christian and helps the individual to enter into communal or public prayer. (NCD#140)*

### **REFERENCE ABBREVIATIONS**

CCC	Catechism of the Catholic Church
GDC	General Directory for Catechesis
NCD	National Catechetical Directory "Sharing the Light of Faith"
TTJD	To Teach as Jesus Did
RDE	Religious Dimension of Education in a Catholic School

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**FOR RELIGION**  
*Grade Level Emphasis*

Preschool/Kindergarten	God, Creator and Father, loves me.
Grade One	Jesus is the Son of God who tells me about the Father.
Grade Two	Jesus nourishes me and strengthens God's life of grace within me through the Sacraments and Mass.
Grade Three	Jesus continues his life and work through his Church.
Grade Four	I am called to live as Jesus did.
Grade Five	I am called to live a Sacramental life.
Grade Six	God's plan is revealed through salvation history.
Grade Seven	Jesus is the self-revelation of God, the source of salvation, and the focus of the Catholic Faith.
Grade Eight	"The Church, called by God to be holy in all its members, continues to be at work in the world." ( <i>Religious Dimensions of Catholic Education in a Catholic School #77</i> ).

## **PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN**

*Emphasl: God, Creator and Father, loves me.*

### **Expectation #1 (Promoting Knowledge of the Faith)**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of the human need for God based on revelation and faith.

The student will demonstrate:

- awareness of God and the wonders of God's creation which are a gift to us.
- an understanding of how we show love for others; our families, our friends and all children of God.
- an awareness of a loving friendship with Jesus. knowledge about how special people are because God created them with their senses, their feelings, and their ability to think and choose.

### **Expectation #2 (Teaching to Pray)**

The student will demonstrate the ability to be read to and reflect on Scripture as well as its meaning for life.

The student will demonstrate:

- awareness of the Bible as a special book, to be treated with reverence and respect.
- a recognition that the Bible tells us about God's love for us.
- a knowledge that Bible stories tell us about Jesus and can teach us to be kind, loving and helpful.

### **Expectation #3 (Promoting Knowledge of the Faith)**

The student will demonstrate a basic understanding and appreciation of doctrine and dogma in light of the creed.

The student will demonstrate:

- a recognition of God as a loving creator an identification of Jesus as God's Son.
- a knowledge that God made all things because God loves us.
- a knowledge of who Mary and Joseph were.
- a knowledge that Jesus is a good friend, full of tenderness and unconditional love.

### **Expectation #4 (Promoting Knowledge of the Faith)**

The student will demonstrate an appreciation of the Trinity as the central mystery of the Christian faith.

The student will demonstrate:

- a response of gratitude and love for the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- an awareness of a loving friendship with Jesus Christ.

### **Expectation #5 (Education for Community Life)**

The student will demonstrate knowledge of the Church as people of God, body of Christ and community of faith.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge of the faith community.
- a reverence for the house of God.

### **Expectation #6 (Education for Community Life)**

The student will demonstrate a comprehension of community of faith and understand that it is the primary way that we come to know God.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding of Church as a community to which they are called by the love of God and one another through Baptism.

### **Expectation #7 (Promoting Knowledge of the Faith)**

The student will demonstrate a basic understanding of the history of the Church.

The student will demonstrate:

- a basic understanding of the Church as the family of God.

### **Expectation #8 (Liturgical education)**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of sacraments as important moments in life of the community with an emphasis on the centrality of the Eucharist.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge of the Sacrament of Baptism.

**Expectation #9 (Liturgical education)**

The student will understand and be able to participate fully in liturgical celebrations.

The student will demonstrate:

- a participation in prayer, worship and liturgical celebration
- an understanding that in prayer we praise and thank God for all His creation, for our families and our friends

**Expectation #10 (Moral formation)**

The student will demonstrate a knowledge of moral teaching, showing clearly an ability to make good moral decisions and to act in a responsible, Christian manner consistent with Church teachings.

The student will demonstrate:

- an awareness of people who love and care for them to help them understand the love God has for them.
- an awareness of how we respect each person and the property of others.

**Expectation #11 (Education for community life)**

The student will demonstrate a clear understanding of the dignity of the human person and community.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding of how we show love for others; our families, our friends and all children of God.
- a realization we are all children of God and we must respect those children who are different from ourselves.

**Expectation #12 (Missionary Initiation)**

The student will demonstrate the ability to exercise responsible stewardship.

The student will demonstrate:

- an awareness of the beauty of creation and that we have the responsibility to protect and save this gift from God.
- an understanding that each person is called to be a responsible steward of God's creation.

**Expectation #13 (Missionary Initiation)**

The student will demonstrate comprehension of the principles of social justice and have the ability to apply them to personal and societal situations.

The student will demonstrate:

- an awareness of the values of justice and peace by fostering attitudes that focus on sharing with others and by evoking a sense of caring for other people.
- an understanding that God made many different kinds of people but all are made in God's image and likeness

**Expectation #14 (Missionary Initiation)**

The student will demonstrate involvement in Christian service to the community in response to the call to discipleship found in the Gospel accounts.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding of respect for life by showing concern for others and by recognizing that all creation needs to be taken care of by us.
- an awareness that we reach out to others who need our help.
- an appreciation for doing nice things for people in our faith community.

**Expectation #15 (Teaching to Pray)**

The student will demonstrate a knowledge of and ability to participate in the Catholic tradition of prayer.

The student will demonstrate:

- an awareness about prayer and praying.
- an ability for spontaneous prayer.
- a sense of community prayer by praying in a group/attending paraliturgies/liturgies/visiting the church

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1. Names and acts out things God has made.
  2. Shares favorite things which God has made.
  3. Listens/responds to Scripture readings.
  4. Acts out Scripture stories.
  5. Retells Scripture stories in own words, in drawings, or in role-playing.
  6. Responds creatively to lessons taught.
  7. Demonstrates understanding of religious and ACRE vocabulary.
  8. Identifies and shares experiences of using the five senses.
  9. Shares stories about feelings.
  10. Participates in frequent prayer experiences.
  11. Experiences the faith community of the classroom/ school/ parish/ community.
  12. Participates in service opportunities appropriate to age.
  13. Knows and participates in liturgical season activities and celebrations.
  14. Responds orally to a variety of questions.
  15. Knows and recites prayers appropriate to grade level.
  16. Virtus: Lesson 1 Touching Safety Rules
  17. Virtus: Lesson 2 Safe Friends, Safe Adults, and Safe Touches
  18. Virtus: Lesson 7 Internet Safety
  19. Virtus: Lesson 8 Creating and Following Family Rules

### **FAMILY LIFE EXPECTATIONS FOR PRESCHOOL/KINDERGARTEN**

Students will:

1. Recognize that love is a gift from God;
2. Explain that they are loved by God;
3. Identify being loved helps people experience God;
4. Relate that each person is a unique individual;
5. Acknowledge that God loves all families;
6. Declare that people need people;
7. Be able to tell that there is good and bad touch;
8. Work for peace by cooperating with others.

Angels	Special messengers of God
Baptism	The sacrament that welcomes us into the church
Bible	The book that gives us the Word of God
Catholic	Catholic means "universal." A baptized follower of Jesus who belongs to the Catholic Church.
Catholic Church	A family of Christians who pray together and are led by the pope
Christian	A follower of Jesus
Christmas	The celebration of the birth of Jesus
Creation	Everything that God has made
Creator	God the Father
Easter	The feast of Jesus Christ's rising from the dead – also called the Resurrection
Eucharist	The sacrament in which we receive the Body and Blood of Christ
Gospel	Jesus' Good News about God's love for us
Holy Family	Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
Holy Water	A reminder of our baptism into God's family
Jesus Christ	The Son of God
Joseph	Foster-father of Jesus
Mary	Mother of Jesus and the Mother of the Church
Pope	Leader of the Catholic Church
Prayer	Talking with God
Saint	A special person in the Catholic Church who showed us how to follow Jesus

**RELIGION CURRICULUM**  
**GRADE 1**

*Emphasis: Jesus is the Son of God who tells me about the Father*

**Expectation #1 (Promoting Knowledge of the Faith)**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of the human need for God based on revelation and faith.

The student will demonstrate:

- an increased understanding of God as a loving Father, God
- an understanding that all things are gifts from God, an ability to identify ways in which God shows love for us and how we respond.

**Expectation #2 (Teaching to Pray)**

The student will demonstrate the ability to read and reflect on Scripture as well as its meaning for life.

The student will demonstrate:

- a love of the Bible as the "Word of God".
- an understanding that the Bible tells us about God's love for everyone.
- an awareness of the story of Jesus; his birth, death and resurrection.

**Expectation #3 (Promoting Knowledge of the Faith)**

The student will demonstrate a basic understanding and appreciation of doctrine and dogma in light of the creed.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding of Jesus as Son of God and our friend and brother.
- an understanding of the concept of the Holy Spirit as a gift of Jesus and as our promised helper.
- an understanding of the birth of Jesus and the role of Mary and Joseph In Jesus' life.
- an awareness that Jesus is our model and teacher who shows us how to live as Christians.

**Expectation #4 (Promoting Knowledge of the Faith)**

The student will demonstrate an appreciation of the Trinity as the central mystery of the Christian faith.

The student will demonstrate:

- an awareness of the mystery of the Blessed Trinity.
- a growth in his/her understanding of God as Father, Jesus as Son and our brother, and the Holy Spirit as helper

**Expectation #5 (Education for Community Life)**

The student will demonstrate knowledge of the Church as people of God, body of Christ and community of faith.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding of the Church as Community of God.
- an awareness that the Church is for everyone and helps us to be holy.
- a realization of how the Church is a sacred and holy place.

**Expectation #6 (Education for Community Life)**

The student will demonstrate a comprehension of community of faith and understand that it is the primary way that we come to know God.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding of the concept of community and begin to foster a sense of parish community as part of the Church in the world
- an ability to recognize and talk about ways the parish is a community.



**Expectation #7 (Promoting Knowledge of the Faith)**

The student will demonstrate a basic understanding of the history of the Church.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge of the apostles and their role in the history of the Church.

**Expectation #8 (Liturgical Education)**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of sacraments as important moments in the life of the community with an emphasis on the centrality of the Eucharist.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge of the sacrament of Baptism.
- an understanding of the sacraments of Eucharist and Reconciliation.

**Expectation #9 (Liturgical Education)**

The student will understand and be able to participate fully in liturgical celebrations.

The student will demonstrate:

- an ability to participate in the liturgy with the parish community.

**Expectation #10 (Education for Community Life)**

The student will demonstrate a knowledge of moral teaching, showing clearly an ability to make good moral decisions and to act in a responsible, Christian manner consistent with Church teachings.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding of what it means to live as a Christian and a child of God.
- an awareness that we live good lives with the help of the Holy Spirit.

**Expectation #11 (Education for Community Life)**

The student will demonstrate a clear understanding of the dignity of the human person and community.

The student will demonstrate:

- an appreciation for each person as a creation of God deserving of our respect and love.
- an understanding that relationships with others are rooted in the dignity of persons, given by God's grace.

**Expectation #12 (Missionary Initiation)**

The student will demonstrate the ability to exercise responsible stewardship.

The student will demonstrate:

- an awareness that creation is a gift for all generations.
- an appreciation for creation as God's loving gift.
- an awareness of the need to foster a sense of responsibility for care of the earth and its treasures.

**Expectation #13 (Missionary Initiation)**

The student will demonstrate comprehension of the principles of social justice and have the ability to apply them to personal and societal situations.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding of Jesus as model for how God wants us to treat others.
- an understanding of what it means to be a peacemaker.
- an understanding that as Christians we care for the poor and suffering.

**Expectation #14 (Missionary Initiation)**

The student will demonstrate involvement in Christian service to the community in response to the call to discipleship found in the Gospel accounts.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding that we should be helpful and loving to parents, teachers and friends.

- an understanding that students need to practice in action what they have learned about being a caring, loving child Of God

**Expectation #15 (Teaching to Pray)**

The student will demonstrate a knowledge of and ability to participate in the Catholic tradition of prayer.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge that Jesus teaches us how to listen to and talk with God, our Father.
- an awareness that the parish is a special place where we come to know others and pray with them.

**ACTIVITIES/ASSESSMENTS FOR GRADE ONE**

1. Explores the world in order to learn about and appreciate God's creation.
2. Thanks God for His creation and makes up "thank you" prayers.
3. Listens/responds to Scripture readings.
4. Participates in Liturgical/Sacramental celebrations.
5. Participates in daily prayer experiences.
6. Participates in service opportunities.
7. Visits the parish church.
8. Demonstrates knowledge of simple liturgical gestures: genuflecting, making the Sign of the Cross, using holy water.
9. Articulates lessons presented.
10. Asks questions about the Faith.
11. Experiences the faith community in the classroom/school/parish/community.
12. Knows and recites prayers appropriate to grade level.
13. Virtus: Lesson 3 Boundaries
14. Virtus: Lesson 4 Telling Someone You Trust
15. Virtus: Lesson 7: Internet Safety
16. Virtus: Lesson 8: Creating and Following Family Rules

**FAMILY LIFE EXPECTATIONS/GRADE ONE**

Students will:

1. Recognize that all people are loved by God;
2. Realize God loves us even when we fail;
3. Tell how family members help and show their love;
4. Recognize special gifts in family members;
5. Explain when family members need to talk and listen;
6. Relate that God cares for everything He created and we must show care for His creation too;
7. Show how trust is part of friendship;
8. Identify some touch is appropriate and some is not.

**ACRE First Grade Vocabulary**

Advent	The four weeks before Christmas that we prepare to celebrate the coming of Jesus
Angels	Special messengers of God
Apostles	Twelve special leaders chosen by Jesus to help Him build His church
Baptism	The sacrament that welcomes us into the church
Bible	The book that gives us the Word of God
Bishop	A successor of the apostles who is the leader of a diocese

Blessed Trinity	The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit - Three persons in one God
Catholic	Catholic means “universal.” A baptized follower of Jesus who belongs to the Catholic Church.
Catholic Church	A family of Christians who pray together and are led by the pope
Christian	A follower of Jesus
Christmas	The celebration of the birth of Jesus
Church	A special place to gather and pray/the community of believers
Creation	Everything that God has made
Creator	God the Father
Easter	The feast of Jesus Christ’s rising from the dead –also called the Resurrection
Eucharist	The sacrament in which we receive the Body and Blood of Jesus. The word “Eucharist” means thanksgiving.
Gospel	Jesus’ Good News about God’s love for us
Grace	A free gift of God’s own life which gives us peace and strength.
Heaven	A place where we live forever with God
Holy Family	Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
Holy Water	A reminder of our baptism into God’s family
Jesus Christ	The Son of God
Joseph	Foster-father of Jesus
Law of Love	God’s command that we should love God with all of our heart and love others as we love ourselves
Mary	Mother of Jesus and the Mother of the Church
Our Father	The prayer that Jesus taught us
Parish	Our local faith community
Pope	Leader of the Catholic Church all over the world
Priest	Ordained Church leader who helps with the work of the bishops in ministering to God’s people
Prayer	Talking with God
Sacrament	A special sign of God’s love for us
Saint	A special person in the Catholic Church who showed us how to follow Jesus
Savior	Jesus, who brought us God’s mercy and forgiveness
Sign of the Cross	A reminder of our Baptism that calls to mind the three persons of the Blessed Trinity

**RELIGION CURRICULUM**  
**GRADE TWO**

*Emphasis: Jesus nourishes me and strengthens God's life of grace within me through the Sacraments and the Mass.*

**Expectation #1**      **(Promoting Knowledge of the Faith)**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of the human need for God based on revelation and faith.

The student will demonstrate:

- a belief that God is present in each of us, in community, in Scripture and in the sacraments.
- a knowledge of the simple facts of the life of Jesus: He lived with Mary and Joseph as he grew; he began his Church on earth, he came to tell us about God and he came to save all people.
- a knowledge that Jesus returned to his Father in heaven (the Ascension) and sent the Holy Spirit (Pentecost) to be with us always.

**Expectation #2 (Teaching to Pray)**

The student will demonstrate the ability to read and reflect on Scripture as well as its meaning for life.

The student will demonstrate:

- an increased understanding of the Bible as the "Word of God" which we hear and read when we attend Mass.
- a knowledge that the Bible is composed of the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) and the Christian Scriptures (New Testament).
- an awareness that the Bible tells us about God's plan for the world and for each of us who live in it.

**Expectation #3 (Promoting Knowledge of the Faith)**

The student will demonstrate a basic understanding and appreciation of doctrine and dogma in light of the creed.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge of concepts studied in grade one: creation, God's love and gift of Jesus, coming of Holy Spirit, etc.
- an understanding that Jesus died for us on the cross and he rose from the dead three days later
- a knowledge of the concept that Jesus is present within us by the life of grace, in the Church, in his Word, in all Sacraments but in a special and unique way in the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist.

**Expectation #4 (Promoting Knowledge of the Faith)**

The student will demonstrate an appreciation of the Trinity as the central mystery of the Christian faith.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding of the concept of Blessed Trinity as a mystery.
- an understanding that Jesus is God's greatest gift and Jesus gave us the Holy Spirit to act in our lives as our helper.
- a belief that in God there are three Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**Expectation #5 (Education for Community Life)**

The student will demonstrate knowledge of the Church as people of God, body of Christ and community of faith.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge that the church is the people of God.
- an awareness and appreciation of their role as participating members in the weekly celebration of Liturgy
- an understanding that the Catholic Church is a sacramental Church.

**Expectation #6 (Education for Community Life)**

The student will demonstrate a comprehension of community of faith and understand that it is the primary way that we come to know God.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding that we belong to a parish family.
- an understanding that the family gathers at Mass to celebrate the life of Jesus.
- an understanding that as members of the Community of Faith we are responsible for the well-being of each other

**Expectation #7 (Liturgical Education)**

The student will demonstrate a basic understanding of the history of the Church.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge that the history of the Catholic Church is a reflection of the active and continuing presence of God.
- an understanding that our identity as Church develops through history.
- a knowledge that, as part of the history, the Holy Spirit gave the apostles courage to preach about Jesus and to baptize many who became believers in the faith.

**Expectation #8 (Liturgical Education)**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of sacraments as important moments in life of the community with an emphasis on the centrality of the Eucharist.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge of the sacraments of initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.
- an understanding that the sacrament of Baptism is how we are given new life, taken into God's family and become members of God's Church.
- a knowledge of the sacrament of Reconciliation and how God forgives us when we express sorrow for our sins.
- an understanding that the Holy Eucharist was instituted by Jesus at the Last Supper when he changed bread and wine into his Body and Blood.

**Expectation #9 (Liturgical Education)**

The student will understand and be able to participate fully in liturgical celebrations.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding that the Mass (liturgy) is a central celebration of the Church.
- an understanding that the Church gathers at Mass to celebrate the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.
- a knowledge that the Mass is our greatest prayer, is celebrated in a community of faith and recalls God's special love for us.
- a knowledge of the liturgical seasons of the year.

**Expectation #10 (Education for Community Life)**

The student will demonstrate a knowledge of moral teaching, showing clearly an ability to make good moral decisions and to act in a responsible, Christian manner consistent with Church teachings.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding of the concept of sin using the great commandment of love given to us by Jesus.
- an understanding of the ability they have to make decisions (right or wrong) and to discern the difference.

**Expectation #11 (Education for Community Life)**

The student will demonstrate a clear understanding of the dignity of the human person and community.

The student will demonstrate:

- an awareness that we treat others with respect recognizing that everyone is made in the image and likeness of God.
- a belief that at the end of Mass we are sent out to care for and serve others.

**Expectation #12 (Missionary Initiation)**

The student will demonstrate the ability to exercise responsible stewardship.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge that as Christians we accept responsibility for all of God's creation and promise to care for it.
- an understanding that we should try to live as peacemakers following the example of Jesus.

**Expectation #13 (Missionary Initiation)**

The student will demonstrate comprehension of the principles of social justice and have the ability to apply them to personal and societal situations.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding that we must share what we have with others as Jesus did.
- an understanding what it means to be peacemakers.

**Expectation #14 (Missionary Initiation)**

The student will demonstrate involvement in Christian service to the community in response to the call to discipleship found in the Gospel accounts.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding that we serve others as Jesus did throughout his ministry.
- an ability to participate in service projects with class, school and community.

**Expectation #15 (Teaching to Pray)**

The student will demonstrate a knowledge of and ability to participate in the Catholic tradition of prayer.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding of spontaneous prayer.
- a knowledge of an Act of Contrition in preparation for reception of the sacrament of Reconciliation.
- a knowledge of traditional prayers - Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

**Activities/Assessments for Grade Two**

1. Listens and retells stories of Jesus in their own words.
2. Participates in frequent prayer experiences using a variety of formats (formal and spontaneous).
3. Relates learning to real-life experiences.
4. Discusses and raises questions about doctrine.
5. Responds creatively to lessons learned (e.g. role-playing, writing plays, etc.).
6. Actively participates in liturgical/Sacramental celebrations.
7. Examines conscience in light of doctrine.
8. Lives out concept of stewardship in the Church.
9. Explains the meaning of major Feasts in the Church.
10. Demonstrates appropriate behavior and gestures for Mass.
11. Knows signs of the Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Eucharist, and Reconciliation.
12. Knows the name of the current Pope and Bishop.
13. Participates in service opportunities.
14. Expresses gratitude for the gift of God's Son through prayer.
15. Treats others with respect and love.
16. Experiences and contributes to the faith community in the classroom/school/ parish/community.
17. Knows and recites prayers appropriate to grade level.
18. Prays spontaneously in own words.
19. Virtus: Lesson 5 Grooming
20. Virtus: Lesson 6 "No Secrets"
21. Virtus: Lesson 7 Internet Safety
22. Virtus: Lesson 8 Creating and Following Family Rules

**FAMILY LIFE EXPECTATIONS/GRADE TWO**

Students will:

1. Relate how parents share their life with their children as special gifts from God;
2. Tell how to help build good family relationships;
3. Be able to tell how their parents and other family members love them;
4. Explain the human body is a creation and a gift from God;
5. Relate how friends can help friends grow;
6. Recognize some friends are boys and some are girls, and both are equal before God;
7. Identify how responsibility is part of friendship;
8. Participate in learning rules about staying safe including touch.

## ACRE Second Grade Vocabulary

Absolution	The prayer the priest says as God forgives our sins in the Sacrament of Reconciliation
Advent	The four weeks before Christmas that we prepare to celebrate the coming of Jesus
Apostles	Twelve special leaders chosen by Jesus to help Him build His church
Baptism	The sacrament that welcomes us into the church
Bible	The book that gives us the Word of God
Bishop	A successor of the apostles who is the leader of a diocese
Blessed Sacrament	The consecrated bread and wine in which we believe that Jesus is really present
Blessed Trinity	The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit - Three Persons in one God
Catholic	Catholic means "universal." A baptized follower of Jesus who belongs to the Catholic Church.
Catholic Church	The community of Jesus' followers gathered by the Holy Spirit under the leadership of the Pope and Bishops
Christian	A follower of Christ
Christmas	The celebration of the birth of Jesus
Church	A holy place where believers worship and pray/the community of believers
Community	A group of people who share something important together
Confirmation	The sacrament in which we receive the gift of the grace and guidance of the Holy Spirit in a special way. It is one of the three sacraments that welcome us into the Catholic Church.
Consecration	The part of the Mass in which the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Jesus.
Contrition	Sorrow for your sins
Creation	Everything that God has made
Creator	God the Father
Creed	A prayer of our most important Catholic beliefs
Diocese	A community of many parishes that are located near one another
Disciples	People who follow the way Jesus loves and believes.
Easter	The feast of Jesus Christ's rising from the dead – also called the Resurrection.
Eucharist	The sacrament in which we receive the Body and Blood of Jesus; the word "Eucharist" means thanksgiving.
Examination of Conscience	Preparation for the sacrament of Reconciliation in which we ask ourselves how well we are following Jesus' Law of Love
Gospel	Jesus' Good News about God's love for us
Grace	A free gift of God's own life which gives us peace and strength.
Heaven	A place where we live forever with God
Holy Communion	The Body and Blood of Jesus that we receive as bread and wine
Holy Family	Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
Holy Spirit	The third Person of the Trinity, who was sent by Jesus to be our helper and guide
Holy Water	A reminder of our baptism into God's family
Homily	The explanation of the readings at Mass
Jesus Christ	The Son of God, the second person of the Trinity
Joseph	Foster-father of Jesus
Last Supper	Jesus' last meal before he died, where Jesus gave us His Body

	and Blood for the first time
Law of Love	God's command that we should love God with all of our hearts and love others as we love ourselves
Lent	The forty days before Easter that we use to prepare to celebrate Jesus' resurrection
Liturgy	The public worship of the Church
Liturgy of the Eucharist	The second part of the Mass, during which we share the Body and Blood of Jesus
Liturgy of the Word	The first part of the Mass, during which we listen to God's Word
Mary	Mother of Jesus/Mother of God/Mother of the Church
Mass	Our community celebration of Jesus' presence in God's Word and in the Eucharist.
Our Father	The prayer that Jesus taught us
Parable	A story told by Jesus to teach a spiritual lesson
Parish	Our local faith community
Passover	A special Jewish feast that marks how God freed the Hebrew people from slavery in Egypt
Pastor	A priest who leads a parish community
Penance	Prayers or actions to show sorrow for sin
Pope	Leader of the Catholic Church all over the world - the Bishop of Rome
Prayer	Talking with God
Priest	An ordained church leader who helps with the work of the bishops in ministering to God's people
Reconciliation	The sacrament in which we receive forgiveness from God for the sins we have committed
Resurrection	Jesus Christ's rising from the dead – celebrated at Easter
Sacrament	A special sign of God's love for us
Sacraments of Initiation	Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist, the three sacraments which welcome us fully into the Church
Saint	A follower of Jesus who is officially recognized by the Church as a model of Christian behavior
Sin	Choosing to turn away from God
Tabernacle	Sacred container where the Blessed Sacrament is kept
Ten Commandments	Very important laws that God gave us to follow



## RELIGION CURRICULUM GRADE THREE

*Emphasis: Jesus continues his life and work through his Church.*

### **Expectation #1 (Promoting Knowledge of the Faith)**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of the human need for God based on revelation and faith.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding that the Holy Spirit continues to be our helper and guide.
- a growth in relationship with God.
- an understanding that God takes care of us and is always faithful to us.

### **Expectation #2 (Teaching to Pray)**

The student will demonstrate the ability to read and reflect on Scripture as well as its meaning for life.

The student will demonstrate:

- an appreciation and reverence for the richness of the Bible as the Word of God.
- a knowledge about Christian Scriptures (New Testament) that contains the four accounts of the Gospel: Matthew, Mark, Luke, John; Epistles and Acts of the Apostles.
- an awareness that the Christian Scriptures tell us about Jesus and the early days of the Church.

### **Expectation #3 (Promoting Knowledge of the Faith)**

The student will demonstrate a basic understanding and appreciation of doctrine and dogma in light of the creed.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge of the major concepts covered in grades one and two: (i.e., creation, God's love and gift of Jesus, coming of Holy Spirit, role of Mary, etc.).
- an understanding and appreciation of the lives of the Saints.
- a knowledge of the Apostles' Creed as a summary of our faith.
- a knowledge of the Nicene Creed as another way to summarize our faith and how it is part of our liturgical celebration.
- a knowledge of the Beatitudes and the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy

### **Expectation #4 (Promoting Knowledge of the Faith)**

The student will demonstrate an appreciation of the Trinity as the central mystery of the Christian faith.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding that the Trinity is one God in three persons. Jesus is a person who lived historically and now lives in each of us through the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the gift of God the Father and Jesus Christ who enable the life of the Church on earth.
- an understanding that the love of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit have for one another in the Trinity as the model of the love we are to have for one another.

### **Expectation #5 (Education for Community Life)**

The student will demonstrate knowledge of the Church as people of God, body of Christ and community of faith.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge of the four marks of the Church; one, holy, Catholic and apostolic.
- a knowledge of the human structure of the Church: (i.e., Pope, Cardinal, Bishop, Monsignor, Priest, Religious and Laity).
- an understanding of the concept that the role of the Catholic Church is to continue Jesus' ministry of building community, preaching/teaching the Word, worshiping and serving the needs of others.
- an understanding of the twelve Jesus chose to help begin the Church.

**Expectation #6 (Education for Community Life)**

The student will demonstrate a comprehension of community of faith and understand that it is the primary way that we come to know God.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding of "communion of saints".
- an understanding that we strengthen the faith of one another by sharing stories about God and the Church.
- an understanding of a "saint" and the place of Mary in our lives.

**Expectation #7 (Liturgical Education)**

The student will demonstrate a basic understanding of the history of the Church.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge that the first Christians were followers of Jesus and formed the earliest Christian communities and ability to identify key historical moments in the Church.
- a knowledge that the Church was born on Pentecost when Jesus sent the Holy Spirit upon his apostles to enable them to continue his work on earth.
- an understanding of the role of Peter, appointed by Jesus as the first Pope.

**Expectation #8 (Liturgical Education)**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of sacraments as important moments in life of the community with an emphasis on the centrality of the Eucharist.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge that the sacraments of Initiation are Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.
- a belief that the sacraments are signs of God's love for us and through the sacraments we share God's life and love in the community of the Church.
- a knowledge of the Sacrament of Reconciliation and a commitment to regular participation and understanding of the Sacrament of Eucharist and a commitment to attendance at weekly Mass.

**Expectation #9 (Liturgical Education)**

The student will understand and be able to participate fully in liturgical celebrations.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge of the liturgical seasons of the year and how they help to remind us of Jesus' life, death and resurrection.
- an appreciation and reverence for the Catholic traditions of the Mass particularly the reality of Christ's presence in the bread and wine.

**Expectation #10 (Moral Formation)**

The student will demonstrate a knowledge of moral teaching, showing clearly an ability to make good moral decisions and to act in a responsible, Christian manner consistent with Church teachings.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding of the concept of right and wrong and the relationship between choices and consequences.
- an understanding that as disciples of Jesus Christ we learn to act as he did by becoming critical thinkers and decision makers.
- a knowledge of Jesus' Commandment of Love.

**Expectation #11 (Education for Community Life)**

The student will demonstrate a clear understanding of the dignity of the human person and community.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge of the concept that we respect the religious beliefs of others when they are different.
- an understanding that we follow Jesus when we care about people, especially those who are unable to help themselves.

- an understanding that the Church consists of persons whose cultures enrich the experience and traditions of the Church.

**Expectation #12 (Missionary Initiation)**

The student will demonstrate the ability to exercise responsible stewardship.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding that creation is a gift from God for all generations. It is our responsibility to interact with the gift wisely and preserve the gift for the future.

**Expectation #13 (Missionary Initiation)**

The student will demonstrate comprehension of the principles of social justice and have the ability to apply them to personal and societal situations.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge that as Christians we try to live as peacemakers and work for justice.
- an understanding that we share in Jesus' mission to bring a message of love, justice and hope to the poor and victims of injustice.

**Expectation #14 (Missionary Initiation)**

The student will demonstrate involvement in Christian service to the community in response to the call to discipleship found in the Gospel accounts.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding of the concept of mission and missionaries as the Church reaching out to others.
- a knowledge that by virtue of Baptism, every Christian is called to service.
- an ability and willingness to participate in experiences of service to the community.

**Expectation #15 (Teaching to Pray)**

The student will demonstrate a knowledge of and ability to participate in the Catholic tradition of prayer.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding that we show our appreciation for the Word of God by listening and responding to it in our lives.
- an ability to participate in formal prayer and spontaneous prayer as well as prayer alone and in community.
- a knowledge of the Apostles Creed and an understanding of what it states about our beliefs.

**ACTIVITIES/ASSESSMENTS FOR GRADE THREE**

1. Listens/responds to Scripture.
2. Gives evidence of understanding "Faith" words taught in lesson.
3. Researches the lives of the saints.
4. Shows interest in the work of missionaries of the Church.
5. Writes own prayers.
6. Asks/responds to questions about the Faith.
7. Participates in spontaneous prayer.
8. Articulates learning of doctrine and lessons learned.
9. Manifests reverence for the Presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist.
10. Frequents the sacraments.
11. Actively participates in daily prayer experiences.
12. Actively participates in Liturgical and Sacramental celebrations.
13. Relates learning to real-life experiences.
14. Explains each of the seven Sacraments.
15. Treats others with respect and kindness.
16. Acts as a peacemaker in difficult situations.

17. Experiences and contributes to the building of community at home, in the classroom, in the parish, in the community.
18. Participates in service opportunities.
19. Knows and recites prayers appropriate to grade level.
20. Virtus: Lesson 1 Touching Safety Rules
21. Virtus: Lesson 2 Safe Friends, Safe Adults, and Safe Touches
22. Virtus: Lesson 7 Internet Safety
23. Virtus: Lesson 8 Creating and Following Family Rules

### **FAMILY LIFE/GRADE THREE**

Students will:

1. Recognize that each person is created by God with special gifts;
2. Define positive self-worth;
3. Describe human feelings;
4. Examine the human family;
5. Discuss all living organisms;
6. Compare the reproductive cycles of living organisms;
7. Discuss how to care for the human body;
8. Evaluate our environment and its effect on all life.

### **ACRE Third Grade Vocabulary**

Absolution	The prayer the priest says as God forgives our sins in the Sacrament of Reconciliation
Advent	The four weeks before Christmas that we prepare to celebrate the coming of Jesus
Altar	The table on which the Mass is celebrated
Ambo	The lectern or stand where God's Word is read
Amen	A response meaning, "Yes, I believe."
Apostles	Twelve special leaders chosen by Jesus to help Him build His Church.
Assumption	The belief that when Mary's life was finished she was taken body and soul into heaven
Baptism	The sacrament that welcomes us into the church
Bible	The book that gives us the Word of God
Bishop	A successor of the apostles who is the leader of a diocese
Catholic	Catholic means "universal." A baptized follower of Jesus who belongs to the Catholic Church.
Canonization	The process by which a person is officially recognized as a saint by the Church
Christian	A follower of Christ
Church	A holy place where believers worship and pray/the community of believers
Communion of Saints	All of Jesus' followers, living and dead
Community	A group of people who share something important together
Consecration	The part of the Mass in which the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Jesus
Contrition	Sorrow for your sins
Creator	God the Father
Creed	A prayer of our most important Catholic beliefs
Crucifix	A cross with a figure of Jesus on it which reminds us that Jesus suffered and died to save us

Deacon	A man ordained to help the priest
Diocese	A community of many parishes that are located near one another
Easter	The feast of Jesus Christ's rising from the dead – also called the Resurrection
Eucharist	The sacrament in which we receive the Body and Blood of Jesus; the word "Eucharist" means thanksgiving
Evangelists	The writers of the Gospels – Matthew, Mark, Luke and John
Examination of Conscience	Preparation for the sacrament of Reconciliation in which we ask ourselves how well we are following Jesus' Law of Love
Faith	The virtue that enables us to believe in God
Gospel	Jesus' Good News about God's love for us
Grace	A free gift of God's own life which gives us peace and strength.
Heaven	A place where we live forever with God
Holy Communion	The Body and Blood of Jesus that we receive as bread and wine
Holy Orders	The sacrament in which the Church gives a man the role of bishop, priest, or deacon
Holy Family	Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
Holy Spirit	The third person of the Trinity, who was sent by Jesus to be our helper and guide
Holy Water	A reminder of our baptism into God's family
Homily	The explanation of the readings at Mass
Immaculate Conception	The Catholic Church teaching that holds that Mary was free from original sin from the moment she was conceived.
Jesus Christ	The Son of God, the second person of the Trinity
Kingdom of God	God's loving presence in our lives and hearts, proclaimed by Jesus and revealed over time
Laity	All baptized Catholics other than those who have been ordained through Holy Orders
Last Supper	Jesus' last meal before he died, where Jesus gave us His Body and Blood for the first time
Law of Love	God's command that we should love God with all of our hearts and love others as we love ourselves
Lent	The forty days before Easter that we use to prepare to celebrate Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday.
Liturgical Year	Official church calendar of feasts and celebrations
Liturgy	The public worship of the Church
Liturgy of the Eucharist	The second part of the Mass, during which we share the Body and Blood of Jesus
Liturgy of the Word	The first part of the Mass, during which we listen to God's Word
Mary	Mother of God and Mother of the Church
Mass	Our community celebration of Jesus' presence in God's Word and in the Eucharist
Missionary	Someone who spreads Jesus' Good News to others
New Testament	The second part of the Bible that focuses on the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus
Old Testament	The first part of the Bible that tells the story of salvation up to the coming of Jesus
Ordain	To give a man the special role of bishop, priest, or deacon through the sacrament of Holy Orders
Original Sin	The first sin of human beings brought forth by the disobedience of Adam and Eve
Parable	A story told by Jesus to teach a spiritual lesson

Parish	Our local faith community that worships God and serves others.
Passover	A special Jewish feast that marks how God freed the Hebrew people from slavery in Egypt
Pastor	A priest who leads a parish community
Penance	Prayers or actions to show sorrow for sin
Pentecost	The birthday of the Church - the day on which we celebrate the Holy Spirit coming to the disciples
Pope	Leader of the Catholic Church all over the world - the Bishop of Rome
Priest	An ordained Church leader who helps with the work of the bishops
Reconciliation	The sacrament in which we receive forgiveness from God for sins we have committed
Sacrament	A special sign of God's love for us
Sacraments of Initiation	Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist - the three sacraments which welcome us fully into the Church
Saint	A follower of Jesus who is officially recognized by the church as a model of Christian behavior
Sin	Choosing to turn away from God
Tabernacle	Sacred container where the Blessed Sacrament is kept
Ten Commandments	Very important laws that God gave us to follow
Trinity	Three persons in one God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit
Worship	Praise of God publicly expressed in word, action and sign

## **RELIGION CURRICULUM** **GRADE FOUR**

*Emphasis: I am called to live as Jesus did.*

### **Expectation #1 (Promoting Knowledge of the Faith)**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of the human need for God based on revelation and faith.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge of the Kingdom of God by exploring that the Kingdom of God is the saving power of God's life and love in the world.
- an understanding that the Kingdom of God is for everyone and Jesus used parables to tell people how to live for the Kingdom.
- an understanding and appreciation of the power and the gifts of the Holy Spirit in the life of the student.
- an understanding that sin is the greatest obstacle we face in our efforts to love God and neighbor.

### **Expectation #2 (Teaching to Pray)**

The student will demonstrate the ability to read and reflect on Scripture as well as its meaning for life.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge of the difference between the Hebrew and Christian Scripture. an understanding of the concept that the Bible teaches us about choices and how to live good lives.
- an understanding of covenant found in scripture as it is related to the life of the Church, the life of Jesus, and individual lives.

**Expectation #3 (Promoting Knowledge of the Faith)**

The student will demonstrate a basic understanding and appreciation of doctrine and dogma in light of the creed.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge of each of the Ten Commandments. Students will understand these Commandments are our guideposts
- a knowledge of the Beatitudes. Students will understand that they are our way of reaching the Kingdom of God.

**Expectation #4 (Promoting Knowledge of the Faith)**

The student will demonstrate an appreciation of the Trinity as the central mystery of the Christian faith.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge that the Holy Trinity is God in three persons; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- an understanding of the role of the Holy Spirit In our lives as our guide and counselor.

**Expectation #5 (Education for Community Life)**

The student will demonstrate knowledge of the Church as people of God, body of Christ and community of faith.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding that as members of the Church, we learn from others and teach others the way to the reign of God.
- a knowledge of the concept that the Church (Body of Christ), guided by the Holy Spirit, supports us in our response to living for God's Kingdom by teaching God's Commandments and by helping us to form good consciences.
- an understanding that within the Church, we celebrate Eucharist, pray, share the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and try to live according to the Law of Love and the Beatitudes.

**Expectation #6 (Education for Community Life)**

The student will demonstrate a comprehension of community of faith and understand that it is the primary way that we come to know God.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding of the Church as a community of faith, hope, love and forgiveness.
- an understanding of the community as a source of knowledge, nourishment and support for the Christian way of life;
- a worshipping community enriched by the sacraments and the work of the Holy Spirit; the source of God's on-going revelation;
- an understanding that we live the life of Jesus by following the Ten Commandments, the teachings of the Beatitudes, and the Great Commandment of Jesus within the Community of Faith.

**Expectation #7 (Liturgical Education)**

The student will demonstrate a basic understanding of the history of the Church.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding of the Church by learning about the Church.
- a knowledge of the important people in the history of the Church.
- a belief that the Eucharistic celebration (Mass) on Holy Thursday reminds us of the Last Supper.

**Expectation #8 (Liturgical Education)**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of sacraments as important moments in life of the community with an emphasis on the centrality of the Eucharist.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge that the sacraments of initiation are Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.
- a belief that the sacraments are signs of God's love for us and through the sacraments we share God's life and love in the community of the Church
- a knowledge and appreciation of the Sacrament of Reconciliation and how it helps us to seek and give forgiveness and grow in love.

- a belief that we meet and follow Jesus In the celebrations of Sacraments and that they are special gifts of Grace.
- an understanding that the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist is when Jesus shares Himself in a special way and we experience belonging and unity as God's people, and a commitment to weekly attendace at Mass.

**Expectation #9 (Liturgical Education)**

The student will understand and be able to participate fully in liturgical celebrations.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge of the Seasons of the Liturgical year introduced in primary grades.
- an understanding and appreciation for the historical traditions that comprise the components of Mass: Penitential Rite, Gloria, Readings, Gospel, Homily, Profession of Faith, Prayers of Petition, etc.
- an ability to plan liturgies and participate as lectors, gift bearers, etc. an understanding that Mass is the central celebration for all God's people. It is when Jesus gathers all of us in worship and thanksgiving and offers Himself to the Father for us.

**Expectation #10 (Moral Formation)**

The student will demonstrate a knowledge of moral teaching, showing clearly an ability to make good moral decisions and to act in a responsible, Christian manner consistent with Church teachings.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding of how we are created in God's image and likeness having intellect (the power to think) and free will (the power to choose and to love).
- an understanding that the Ten Commandments teach that sin is choosing to turn away from God, harming our relationship to God, ourselves and others.
- a belief that we sin when we disobey God and God's Law, whether by thought, word, action, or omission.
- knowledge of the two types of sin: mortal and venial. (Students need to know that an accident is not a sin.)

**Expectation #11 (Education for Community Life)**

The student will demonstrate a clear understanding of the dignity of the human person and community.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding that the differences in personalities, races, and nationalities are good for the whole of the human family.
- a knowledge of the concept that as Christians we love and respect ourselves, every other person, and life in all its forms.

**Expectation #12 (Missionary Initiation)**

The student will demonstrate the ability to exercise responsible stewardship.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding of how all humankind are stewards of God's gifts.
- an understanding of one's own talents and the need to share in community.
- an understanding of the word and concept, "to tithe".
- an understanding that we exercise stewardship by caring for and sharing the goods of the earth in a just manner.

**Expectation #13 (Missionary Initiation)**

The student will demonstrate comprehension of the principles of social justice and have the ability to apply them to personal and societal situations.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding of how the Beatitudes show us how to trust God, forgive and have mercy for others.
- an understanding that we build up the Kingdom of God by working for peace and justice in the world.
- an ability to explore ways to be more just and peaceful In the classroom, on the playground, in their home and in community.



**Expectation #14 (Missionary Initiation)**

The student will demonstrate involvement in Christian service to the community in response to the call to discipleship found in the Gospel accounts.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge of the concept that the works of mercy help show love for Jesus.
- a knowledge of the concept that we show our love for God by practicing the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.
- a knowledge that by Baptism, every Christian is called to service.
- an ability and willingness to participate in experiences of service to the community.

**Expectation #15 (Teaching to Pray)**

The student will demonstrate a knowledge of and ability to participate in the Catholic tradition of prayer.

The student will demonstrate:

- an ability to recite all formal prayers: Sign of the Cross, Our Father, Hail Mary, Apostles' Creed and the Rosary. Students should be familiar with these prayers.
- a knowledge of how we "examine our conscience" and how the regular practice of it will help to make our lives better and we will grow in holiness.
- an ability to participate in formal prayer and spontaneous prayer as well as prayer alone and in community.

**ACTIVITIES/ASSESSMENTS FOR GRADE FOUR**

1. Listens/responds to Scripture readings.
2. Participates in Liturgical/Sacramental celebrations.
3. Participates in and leads prayer services.
4. Demonstrates knowledge of Liturgical Seasons and Celebrations.
5. Articulates learning of doctrine/lessons presented.
6. Asks questions about the Faith.
7. Understands the meaning of having a good conscience and of making good moral choices.
8. Helps build community in the classroom, in the school, at home, in the parish.
9. Participates in frequent prayer experiences using a variety of formats.
10. Identifies and explains the gifts of the Holy Spirit.
11. Engages in role-playing, writing of plays, poems, songs, etc. related to Scripture stories.
12. Articulates a clear understanding of Church as the Body of Christ.
13. Understands the leadership roles of the Pope and Bishops of the Church.
14. Knows the Rite of Reconciliation and participates appropriately.
15. Responds to scenarios of moral dilemmas using guidelines from the Faith.
16. Knows the stories of the lives of the saints, especially those of the Northwest.
17. Memorizes the Ten Commandments, the Two Greatest Commandments, the Beatitudes, and the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy.
18. Examines concept of stewardship in the Church and one's responsibility within it.
19. Writes own prayers.
20. Observes created world to reinforce learning about God and persons' relationship to Him, participates in Liturgical and Sacramental celebrations.
21. Receives the Sacraments frequently.
22. Knows and recites prayers appropriate grade level.
23. Virtus: Lesson 3: Boundaries
24. Virtus: Lesson 4: Telling Someone You Trust
25. Virtus: Lesson 7: Internet Safety
26. Virtus: Lesson 8: Creating and Following Family Rules

**FAMILY LIFE EXPECTATIONS/GRADE FOUR**

Students will:

1. Illustrate how each person is unique and created in the image of God;
2. Discuss that each person is created to love responsibly and be loved;
3. Assess the importance of family relationships;
4. Identify and appreciate the many stages of the human life cycle;
5. Demonstrate a responsibility to care for their health;
6. Acknowledge that feelings and attractions toward others are a normal part of life;
7. Exercise personal ownership over one's body and the right to say "no";
8. Examine their responsibility to work toward Christian sexual maturity;
9. List ways the AIDS virus can be transmitted;
10. Recognize the risks involved in using unsterile needles;
11. Discuss how one's body can be abused by drugs.

**ACRE Fourth Grade Vocabulary**

Abortion	Ending of a pregnancy that results in the death of an unborn child
Abraham	Father of God's chosen people
Absolution	The prayer the priest says as God forgives our sins in the Sacrament of Reconciliation
Advent	The four weeks before Christmas that we prepare to celebrate the coming of Jesus
Altar	The table on which the Mass is celebrated
Ambo	The lectern or stand where God's word is read
Amen	A response meaning, "Yes, I believe."
Anointing of the Sick	The sacrament that gives God's special blessing to the sick, elderly or dying
Apostles	Twelve special leaders chosen by Jesus to help Him build His Church
Ascension	Jesus' going into heaven
Assumption	Mary being taken up to Heaven, body and soul into heaven
Baptism	The sacrament that welcomes us into the church
Beatitudes	Eight ways God wants us to live. These were given to us by Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount.
Bible	The written Word of God; collection of many books written under God's inspiration. This includes the Old and New Testaments.
Bishop	A successor of the apostles who is the leader of a diocese
Canonization	The process by which a person is officially recognized as a saint by the Church
Catechumenate	A person who wishes to be initiated into the Catholic Church.
Catholic	Catholic means "universal." A baptized follower of Jesus who belongs to the Catholic Church.
Charity	The virtue that enables us to love God, our neighbor, and ourselves
Christian	A follower of Christ
Christmas	The celebration of the birth of Jesus
Communion of Saints	The union of believers, living and dead, who form one body in Christ
Confirmation	The sacrament in which we receive the grace and guidance of the Holy Spirit in a special way. It is one of the three sacraments that welcomes us into the Catholic Church
Conception	The moment when life begins

Conscience	The ability to choose between right and wrong
Consecration	The part of the Mass in which the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Jesus
Corporal Works of Mercy	Seven ways identified by Jesus to care for physical needs of people – Feed the hungry; Give drink to the thirsty; Clothe the naked; Shelter the homeless; Visit the sick; Visit the imprisoned; Bury the dead.
Creation	Everything that God has made
Creator	God the Father
Covenant	A promise God makes with His people in the Old Testament
Creed	Prayer that affirms our belief as Catholics
Crucifix	A cross with a figure of Jesus on it that reminds us that He suffered and died to save us
Deacon	An ordained man who assists the priest in ministering to the faithful
Disciple	A follower of Jesus Christ
Divine	Of, or having to do, with God
Divine Revelation	God's way of making Himself known to us
Easter	The feast of Jesus Christ's rising from the dead – also called the Resurrection
Easter Duty	The Church law that requires us to receive Holy Communion at least once a year during the Easter season
Ecumenical Councils	Legally convened assemblies of Church dignitaries and theological experts to discuss and regulate Church doctrine and discipline
Eucharist	The sacrament in which we receive the Body and Blood of Jesus. "Eucharist" means thanksgiving
Evangelization	Preaching and spreading the Good News of the Gospels
Examination of Conscience	Preparation for the sacrament of Reconciliation in which we ask ourselves how well we are following Jesus' Law of Love
Faith	The gift by which we believe in God and all God has revealed
Four Evangelists	Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John – the Gospel writers
Gifts of the Holy Spirit	The seven special gifts given to us by the Holy Spirit which help us to follow Jesus: wisdom, understanding, knowledge, counsel, fortitude, piety, fear of the Lord
Gospels	The Good News about the life and work of Jesus
Grace	A free gift of God's own life which gives us peace and strength.
Greatest Commandment	Love God with your whole heart and love your neighbor as you love yourself
Heaven	Final reward for living as faithful followers of Jesus Christ
Holy Communion	The Body and Blood of Jesus that we receive in the consecrated bread and wine
Holy Days of Obligation	Special days in the liturgical year when Catholics are obligated to attend Mass - including Sundays
Holy Orders	The sacrament received by those who are called by God to become ordained ministers in the Church.
Holy Family	Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
Holy Spirit	The third person of the Trinity
Holy Thursday	The Lord's Last Supper
Holy Water	A reminder of our baptism into God's family
Homily	The explanation of the readings at Mass
Hope	The virtue that enables us to trust in God
Immaculate	The Catholic Church teaching that holds that Mary was free

Conception	from original sin from the moment she was conceived.
Incarnation	A mystery by which the Son of God became man – Jesus is truly God and truly man.
Intercession/ Petition	Prayer offered for the needs of the community and world around us
Jesus Christ	The Son of God, the second person of the Trinity
Laity	All baptized Catholics other than those who have been ordained
Last Supper	Jesus' last meal before he died, where Jesus gave us His Body and Blood for the first time
Law of Love	God's command that we should love God with all of our hearts and love others as we love ourselves
Lent	The forty days before Easter that we use to prepare to celebrate Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday.
Liturgical Colors	Colors of the seasons of the church; white-Christmas and Easter seasons , green – Ordinary Time, purple – Advent and Lent; red – indicating martyrdom
Liturgical Year	Official Church calendar of feasts and celebrations
Liturgy	The public worship of the Church
Liturgy of the Word	The first part of the Mass, during which we listen to God's Word
Magisterium	The Church office which teaches on matters of faith and morals
Marks of the Church	The four identifying characteristics of the Church – one, holy, Catholic, and apostolic
Martyrs	Saints who died for their faith
Mass	Our community celebration of Jesus' presence through God's Word and the Eucharist; most important act of worship in the Catholic community
Matrimony	The Sacrament of Marriage
Missionary	Someone who spreads Jesus' Good News to others
Mysteries of the Rosary	The events of Mary's and Jesus' life that are reflected upon as we pray the rosary
New Testament	The section of the Bible that contains stories of Jesus Christ, Mary, and the Apostles
Nicene Creed	Essential beliefs of the Catholic faith
Old Testament	The first part of the Bible that tells the story of salvation up to the coming of Jesus
Original Sin	The first sin of human beings brought forth by the disobedience of Adam and Eve.
Our Lady of Guadalupe	Mary - Patron saint of the Americas
Parable	A story told by Jesus to teach a spiritual lesson
Parish	Our local faith community
Paschal Mystery	Jesus' suffering, death, resurrection, and ascension into heaven
Passover	A special Jewish feast that marks how God freed the Hebrew people from slavery in Egypt
Pastor	Head of the parish
Pentecost	The birthday of the Church, the day on which we celebrate the Holy Spirit coming to the disciples
Peter	Jesus' apostle and first pope of the Church
Pope	Leader of the Catholic Church all over the world – the Bishop of Rome

Prayer	Communication with God
Priest	An ordained Church leader who helps with the work of the bishops
Prophet	Someone called by God to speak in His name
Reconciliation	The sacrament in which we receive forgiveness from God for sins we have committed
Religious Life	The vocation in which men and women make the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience and devote their entire life to the ministry of the Catholic Church.
Resurrection	Jesus Christ's rising from death to new life – this happened at Easter
Rosary	A special devotion to Mary in which we recall the mysteries of her Son, Jesus
Sabbath	The day set aside each week for prayer and rest. Christians observe Sunday as the Sabbath
Sacrament	Supernatural sign of God's grace and love for us
Sacramentals	Objects, actions, and blessings that help us grow in holiness
Sacraments of Initiation	Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist - the three sacraments which welcome us fully into the Church
Sacred	Belonging to God
Saint	A follower of Jesus who is officially recognized by the Church as a model of Christian behavior
Sin	Choosing to turn from God and do what we know is wrong; words, utterances, actions, or desires contrary to God's law
Spiritual Works of Mercy	Seven ways identified by Jesus to care for spiritual needs of people – Counsel the doubtful; Instruct the ignorant; Admonish the sinner; Comfort the sorrowful; Forgive injuries; Bear wrongs patiently; Pray for the living and the dead.
Spirituality	A growing, loving relationship with God
Stations of the Cross	Reflections on Jesus Christ's suffering and death
Tabernacle	Sacred container where the Blessed Sacrament is kept
Temptation	Feeling or desire to do something we know is wrong
Ten Commandments	Very important laws God gave us to follow; first three are about loving God and the last seven are about loving others
Theological Virtues	The three virtues that will strengthen our relationship with God – faith, hope and charity
Thomas Aquinas	Saint in the 1200's whose scholastic work, <i>Summa Theologie</i> , organized and clarified thinking on many religious topics
Tradition	Beliefs and practices in the Church that are passed down from one generation to the next under the guidance of the Holy Spirit
Transfiguration	Jesus' appearance is changed, God identifies Him as His Chosen Son
Transubstantiation	Real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist
Triduum	The Easter Triduum is Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday
Trinity	The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit as three persons in one God; central mystery of Christian life
Viaticum	The Eucharist given to someone when they are in danger of death
Virtue	Habit of doing good
Vocation	A call by God to live one's life according to the message of Jesus in the Gospels
Worship	Adoration of God expressed publicly in word, action, and sign

**RELIGION CURRICULUM**  
**GRADE 5**

*Emphasis: I am called to live a sacramental life.*

**Expectation # 1 (Promoting Knowledge of the Faith)**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of the human need for God based on revelation and faith.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding and appreciation of Jesus as the Redeemer of humanity.
- an understanding that Jesus calls us to share, in bringing about the Kingdom of God.
- a knowledge that God teaches and heals through Jesus who is the sacrament of God's presence.
- a knowledge that God is everywhere, especially in the Church and in other people.

**Expectation #2 (Teaching to Pray)**

The student will demonstrate the ability to read and reflect on Scripture as well as its meaning for life.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge that the Bible is the inspired Word of God and that it has two parts; Hebrew (Old Testament) and Christian (New Testament) Scriptures.
- a knowledge of the four accounts of the Gospel that were written by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John to tell about the life of Jesus, both divine and human.
- an understanding that the promises of love and partnership made with Moses and the Hebrew people is a covenant.
- an understanding that we must value the Liturgy of the Word as an important part of the Mass.

**Expectation #3 (Promoting Knowledge of the Faith)**

The student will demonstrate a basic understanding and appreciation of doctrine and dogma in light of the creed.

The student will demonstrate:

- an awareness of the special place of Mary in the Church.
- a knowledge of the Apostles' Creed as a summary of what the Church teaches and believes.

**Expectation #4 (Promoting Knowledge of the Faith)**

The student will demonstrate an appreciation of the Trinity as the central mystery of the Christian faith.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge that there are three Persons in one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- an understanding that God is present to us in Jesus who is the Sacrament of God's presence and who reveals to us the Holy Spirit.

**Expectation #5 (Education for Community Life)**

The student will demonstrate knowledge of the Church as people of God, body of Christ and community of faith.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding of the concept that the Church is the Sacrament of Christ in the world.
- an understanding that the Church celebrates its unity in the Eucharist.
- an understanding that the Church continues Christ's presence on earth and carries on his work.

**Expectation #6 (Education for Community Life)**

The student will demonstrate a comprehension of community of faith and understand that it is the primary way that we come to know God.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding that the Church is a celebrating Community that celebrates the presence and actions of Christ in our lives through the seven sacraments.
- an understanding that it is at Mass that we gather as a community to be reconciled, to give thanks, and to celebrate.

**Expectation #7 (Liturgical Education)**

The student will demonstrate a basic understanding of the history of the Church.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding of the belief that Jesus, sent by the Father, came to save all people and invites everyone into the kingdom
- an understanding that Catholic Christians have distinctive objects, gestures, prayers, and beliefs different from other religions that come from the history and traditions of the Church.

**Expectation #8 (Liturgical Education)**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of sacraments as important moments in life of the community with an emphasis on the centrality of the Eucharist.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge of the seven sacraments and appreciation for them as special gifts by which we share in God's presence.
- an understanding that Eucharist is a community meal in which Christ is truly present to us and reenacts the sacrifice of Jesus' death.
- a knowledge that the Sacraments of Initiation are Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.
- a knowledge about the Sacraments of Healing (Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick) through which we are strengthened as members of the Church.
- a knowledge about the Sacraments of Service (Holy Orders and Matrimony) through which covenants are made with the Church (Holy Orders) and each other (Matrimony).

**Expectation #9 (Liturgical Education)**

The student will understand and be able to participate fully in liturgical celebrations.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge of the liturgical responses.
- an understanding and appreciation of the historical traditions that comprise the components of the Mass: Penitential Rite, Gloria, Readings, Gospel, Homily, Profession of Faith, Prayers of Petition, Eucharistic Prayer, Communion and Dismissal.

**Expectation #10 (Moral Formation)**

The student will demonstrate a knowledge of moral teaching, showing clearly an ability to make good moral decisions and to act in a responsible, Christian manner consistent with Church teachings.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding that the Holy Spirit enables us to grow and act in a Christian manner.
- an understanding that sin is a choice for what we know is wrong and we are responsible for the consequences.
- a knowledge that our conscience helps us to know what is right and to do what we believe is right.
- an understanding of the Ten Commandments: which, along with the Beatitudes and Gospel values given by Jesus Christ, are the basis of Christian Morality with social ramifications.

**Expectation #11 (Education for Community Life)**

The student will demonstrate a clear understanding of the dignity of the human person and community.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding that as Christians we must have an appreciation for racial, ethnic and age differences as we are all one in God.
- an understanding that as Christians we actively work against prejudice and other social sins when we encounter them in any form.

**Expectation #12 (Missionary Initiation)**

The student will demonstrate the ability to exercise responsible stewardship.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge that God continues to create all things for us to enjoy, share, care for and respect.
- an understanding that each person has a God-given talent and must determine how to use it for the benefit of the community.
- an understanding of the concept "to tithe" and their responsibility for it

**Expectation #13 (Missionary Initiation)**

The student will demonstrate comprehension of the principles of social justice and have the ability to apply them to personal and societal situations.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding that people all over the world form one family of God and that we are interdependent people living as a global community.
- an understanding that God created all people equal and that we must help work for a more just and fair world.

**Expectation #14 (Missionary Initiation)**

The student will demonstrate involvement in Christian service to the community in response to the call to discipleship found in the Gospel accounts.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding that as Jesus reached out to the poor, the lonely, and the suffering; we must also reach out to others in the community who are less fortunate.
- an understanding that students need to make themselves available to the parish community for service.

**Expectation #15 (Teaching to Pray)**

The student will demonstrate a knowledge of and ability to participate in the Catholic tradition of prayer

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge of the Stations of the Cross as a devotional tradition of our Church.
- an ability to be comfortable with spontaneous prayer and meditation.
- an appreciation of the Mass as the highest form of worship and prayer.

**ACTIVITIES/ASSESSMENTS FOR GRADE FIVE**

1. Listens/responds to Scripture readings.
2. Participates in frequent prayer experiences using a variety of formats.
3. Responds creatively to lessons taught.
4. Reads lives of the saints.
5. Does journal writing.
6. Discusses and asks questions.
7. Reflects on self and the service rendered to others.
8. Demonstrates knowledge and appreciation of the Scriptures.
9. Relates learning to and thinks critically about real-life situations.
10. Participates in Liturgical services.
11. Initiates prayer services.
12. Prays using different forms of prayer.
13. Raises questions about the Faith in order to understand or learn more.
14. Manifests compassion and concern for others.
15. Reads and explains passages from Scripture.
16. Traces themes in the Bible.
17. Explains symbols of the Sacraments
18. Discusses characteristics of holiness found in people. in the Scriptures and in today's society
19. Acts as a peacemaker in the classroom and on the playground.
20. Discusses the connections between Scripture and one's own life.
21. Writes stories, plays, poems about the Scriptures.
22. Reads the lives of the saints and shares them with classmates.
23. Relates historical events and persons to the time of Jesus and the early Church.
24. Identifies various literary forms used in the Scriptures.
25. Virtus: Lesson 5 Grooming
26. Virtus: Lesson 6 "No Secrets"
27. Virtus: Lesson 7 Internet Safety
28. Virtus: Lesson 8 Creating and Following Family Rules



## **FAMILY LIFE EXPECTATIONS/GRADE FIVE**

Students will:

1. Analyze how each person is unique, created in the image of God
2. Identify the physical traits and talents that come from racial and ethnic background of their parents;
3. Develop an awareness of the important influence environment has on their personal development;
4. Recognize that each person makes choices to use inherited characteristics and environment to develop their own unique self,
5. Explain that all human life in its physical, psychological and spiritual dimensions is fundamentally good;
6. Demonstrate a growth in understanding feelings and in expressing emotions;
7. Evaluate how each person is created to love and to be loved;
8. Demonstrate an understanding of the reproductive systems of the male and female;
9. Recognize the role conscience and self-control must play in directing natural appetites, including the sexual desire;
10. Develop an understanding that the ability to take responsibility in relationships with others is a sign of maturity;
11. Assess the importance of commitment and fidelity in marriage;
12. Distinguish between HIV disease and AIDS;
13. Identify high risk behavior for transmittal of HIV;
14. Develop a sense of respect, compassion and sensitivity for those suffering from serious disease.

### **ACRE 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Vocabulary**

Abortion	Ending of a pregnancy that results in the death of an unborn child
Abraham	Father of God's chosen people
Absolution	The prayer the priest says as God forgives our sins in the Sacrament of Reconciliation
Acts of the Apostles	A book in the New Testament telling of the faith and struggles of the early Church.
Advent	The four weeks before Christmas that we prepare to celebrate the coming of Jesus
Altar	The table on which the Mass is celebrated
Anointing of the Sick	The sacrament that gives God's special blessing to the sick, elderly or dying
Apostles	Twelve special leaders chosen by Jesus to help Him build His Church
Ascension	The moment when Jesus, with His resurrected body, entered heaven
Assumption	The belief that when Mary's life was finished she was taken body and soul into heaven
Beatitudes	Eight guidelines to living well, given to us by Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount
Bible	The written Word of God; collection of many books written under God's inspiration. Includes the Old and New Testaments.
Bishop	A successor of the apostles who is the leader of a diocese
Canonization	The process by which a person is officially recognized as a saint by the Church
Catechumenate	A person who wishes to be initiated into the Catholic Church.
Catholic	Catholic means "universal." A baptized follower of Jesus who belongs to the Catholic Church.
Charity	The virtue that enables us to love God, our neighbor, and ourselves
Christian	A follower of Christ
Christmas	The celebration of the birth of Jesus

Communion of Saints	The union of believers, living and dead, who form one body in Christ
Confirmation	The sacrament in which we receive the grace and guidance of the Holy Spirit in a special way. It is one of the three sacraments of initiation that welcomes us into the Catholic Church.
Conception	The moment when life begins
Conscience	The ability to choose between right and wrong
Consecration	The part of the Mass in which the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Jesus
Corporal Works of Mercy	Seven ways identified by Jesus to care for physical needs of people – Feed the hungry; Give drink to the thirsty; Clothe the naked; Shelter the homeless; Visit the sick; Visit the imprisoned; Bury the dead.
Covenant	A promise God makes with His people
Creed	Prayer that affirms our belief as Catholics
Crucifix	A cross with a figure Jesus that reminds us that He suffered and died to save us.
Deacon	An ordained man who assists the priest in ministering to the faithful
Disciple	A follower of Jesus Christ
Divine	Of, or having to do, with God
Divine Revelation	God's way of making Himself known to us
Easter	The feast of Christ rising from the dead
Easter Duty	The Church law that requires us to receive Holy Communion at least once a year during the Easter season
Ecumenical Councils	Legally convened assemblies of Church dignitaries and theological experts to discuss and regulate Church doctrine and discipline
Eucharist	The sacrament in which we receive the Body and Blood of Jesus. "Eucharist" means thanksgiving.
Evangelization	Preaching and spreading the Good News of the Gospels
Examination of Conscience	Preparation for the sacrament of Reconciliation in which we ask ourselves how well we are following Jesus' Law of Love, the Ten Commandments and the teachings of the Catholic Church
Faith	Gift by which we believe in God and all God has revealed
Four Evangelists	Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John – the Gospel writers
Gifts of the Holy Spirit	The seven special gifts given to us by the Holy Spirit which help us to follow Jesus: wisdom, understanding, knowledge, counsel, fortitude, piety, and fear of the Lord.
Gospels	The Good News about the life and work of Jesus
Grace	A free gift of God's own life which gives us peace and strength.
Greatest Commandment	Love God with your whole heart and love your neighbor as you love yourself
Heaven	Final reward for living as faithful followers of Jesus Christ
Holy Days of Obligation	Special days in the liturgical year when Catholics are obligated to attend Mass – including Sunday.
Holy Family	Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
Holy Orders	The sacrament in which the Church gives someone the role of bishop, priest, or deacon
Holy Spirit	The third person of the Trinity
Holy Thursday	The Lord's Last Supper
Holy Water	A reminder of our baptism into God's family
Homily	The explanation of the readings at Mass
Hope	The virtue that enables us to trust in God

Immaculate Conception	The Catholic Church teaching that holds that Mary was free from original sin from the moment she was conceived.
Incarnation	A mystery by which the Son of God became man – Jesus is truly God and truly man.
Intercession/ Petition	Prayer offered for the needs of the community and world around us
Jesus Christ	The Son of God, the second person of the Trinity
Laity	All baptized Catholics other than those who have been ordained
Last Supper	Jesus' last meal before he died, where Jesus gave us His Body and Blood for the first time
Law of Love	God's command that we should love God with all of our hearts and love others as we love ourselves
Lent	The forty days before Easter that we use to prepare to celebrate Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday.
Liturgical Colors	Colors of the seasons of the church; white-Christmas and Easter seasons , green – Ordinary Time, purple – Advent and Lent, red – indicating martyrdom
Liturgical Year	Official Church calendar celebrating the mysteries of Jesus Christ's life throughout the year
Liturgy	The public worship of the Church
Liturgy of the Word	The first part of the Mass, during which we listen to God's Word
Magisterium	Church office which teaches on matters of faith and morals
Marks of the Church	The four identifying characteristics of the church – one, holy, Catholic, and apostolic
Martyrs	A person who dies for his/her faith
Mass	Our community celebration of Jesus' presence in God's Word and in the Eucharist; most important act of worship in the Catholic community
Matrimony	The Sacrament of Marriage
Missionary	Someone who spreads Jesus' Good News to others
Mysteries of the Rosary	The events of Mary's and Jesus' life that are reflected upon as we pray the rosary
New Testament	The section of the Bible that contains stories of Jesus Christ, Mary, and the Apostles
Nicene Creed	Essential beliefs of the Catholic faith
Old Testament	The first part of the Bible that tells the story of salvation up to the coming of Jesus
Original Sin	The first sin of human beings brought forth by the disobedience of Adam and Eve.
Our Lady of Guadalupe	Mary - Patron saint of the Americas
Parable	A story told by Jesus to teach a spiritual lesson
Paschal Mystery	Jesus' suffering, death, resurrection, and ascension into heaven.
Passover	A special Jewish feast that marks how God freed the Jewish people from slavery in Egypt
Pastor	Head of the parish
Pentecost	The birthday of the Church - the day on which we celebrate the Holy Spirit coming to the disciples
Peter	Jesus' apostle and first pope of the Church
Pope	Leader of the Catholic Church all over the world, Bishop of Rome
Prayer	Communication with God
Priest	An ordained Church leader who helps with the work of the bishops

Prophet	Someone called by God to speak in His name
Reconciliation	The sacrament in which we receive forgiveness from God for sins we have committed
Religious Life	The vocation in which men and women take the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience and devote their entire life to the ministry of the Catholic Church
Resurrection	Jesus Christ's rising from death to new life – this happened at Easter
Rosary	A special devotion to Mary in which we recall the mysteries of her Son, Jesus
Sabbath	The day set aside each week for prayer and rest. Christians observe Sunday as the Sabbath
Sacrament	Supernatural sign of God's grace and love for us
Sacramentals	Objects, actions, and blessings that help us grow in holiness
Sacraments of Initiation	Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist - the three sacraments which welcome us fully into the Church
Sacred	Belonging to God
Saint	A follower of Jesus who is officially recognized by the Church as a model of Christian behavior
Sin	Choosing to turn from God and do what we know is wrong; words, utterances, actions, or desires contrary to God's law
Spiritual Works of Mercy	Seven ways identified by Jesus to care for spiritual needs of people – Counsel the doubtful; Instruct the ignorant; Admonish the sinner; Comfort the sorrowful; Forgive injuries; Bear wrongs patiently; Pray for the living and the dead.
Spirituality	A growing, loving relationship with God
Stations of the Cross	Reflections on Jesus Christ's suffering and death
Tabernacle	Sacred container where the Blessed Sacrament is kept
Temptation	Feeling or desire to do something we know is wrong
Ten Commandments	Very important laws God gave us to follow; first three are about loving God and the last seven are about loving others
Theological Virtues	The three virtues that will strengthen our relationship with God – faith, hope and charity
Thomas Aquinas	Saint in the 1200's whose scholastic work, <i>Summa Theologie</i> , organized and clarified thinking on many religious topics
Tradition	Beliefs and practices in the Church that are passed down from one generation to the next under the guidance of the Holy Spirit
Transfiguration	The occasion when Jesus took Peter, James, and John to the mountain and they experienced a miraculous change in His appearance
Transubstantiation	The mystery of the changing of bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ. Real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.
Triduum	The Easter Triduum is Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday
Trinity	The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit as three persons in one God; central mystery of Christian life
Viaticum	The Eucharist given to someone when they are in danger of death
Virtue	Habit of doing good
Vocation	A call by God to live one's life according to the message of Jesus in the Gospels
Worship	Adoration of God expressed publicly in word, action, and sign

## RELIGION CURRICULUM GRADE SIX

*Emphasis: God's plan is revealed through salvation history.*

### **Expectation #1 (Promoting Knowledge of the Faith)**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of the human need for God based on revelation and faith.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding that the Bible is the Word of God, which tells the story of God's people, of the events of their lives and of God's loving concern in helping them.
- a knowledge that the Bible tells us we are called to be God's chosen ones and understanding that faith is a gift from God.

### **Expectation #2 (Teaching to Pray)**

The student will demonstrate the ability to read and reflect on Scripture as well as its meaning for life.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge of the principle that the authors of the Bible used many different literary forms to convey God's messages (e.g., historical accounts, parables, poetry, letters, allegories, and proverbs).
- a knowledge of major figures in the development of God's relationship with the chosen people: Abraham, Isaac, Sarah, Rebecca, Jacob, Joseph, Deborah, Moses, Esther, Judith, Solomon, Samuel, Saul, David, etc.
- a knowledge that the central saving event of the Hebrew Scripture (Old Testament) is the Exodus and that it is in this event that God revealed that they are God's chosen people.
- a knowledge that the Hebrew Scriptures are fulfilled in Jesus Christ as revealed in the Christian Scriptures (New Testament).
- an understanding that the Christian Scriptures begin with the coming of Jesus Christ into the world and provide an account of the saving actions of Jesus, his life, death, and resurrection and reveal the early days of the Church.

### **Expectation #3 (Promoting Knowledge of the Faith)**

The student will demonstrate a basic understanding and appreciation of doctrine and dogma in light of the creed.

The student will demonstrate:

- a basic understanding of God's revelation through Scripture and Tradition and how God continues to speak to us today.
- an understanding that the creation stories in the Bible are not factual accounts but are intended to teach important truths of our faith; there is only one God, all of creation was made by God who is good and loving, human beings are created by God in God's image and likeness with intellect and free will.

### **Expectation #4 (Promoting Knowledge of the Faith)**

The student will demonstrate an appreciation of the Trinity as the central mystery of the Christian faith.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding that God is revealed to us in the Bible and the mystery of the Holy Trinity was revealed in the person, words and work of Jesus Christ.
- a belief that the Holy Spirit is always present and active in the lives of people.

### **Expectation #5 (Education for Community Life)**

The student will demonstrate knowledge of the Church as people of God, body of Christ and community of faith.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge that the Church was born on Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descended on Mary and the Apostles.
- a knowledge that the Church is a sign of God's presence in the world today through the saving actions of Jesus Christ. These are expressed both in the Sacraments and in the faith and good works of the community.
- a knowledge that the Church is identified by four marks: one, holy, catholic and apostolic.

### **Expectation #6 (Education for Community Life)**

The student will demonstrate a comprehension of community of faith and understand that it is the primary way that we come to know God.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge that the early Church was a community of the followers of Jesus.
- a knowledge that the Church today remains as a community of God's people.
- a knowledge that the Holy Spirit is always at work in the Church guiding its members and helping them to live and love as Jesus did.
- an understanding of the concept of ecumenism.

### **Expectation #7 (Liturgical Education)**

The student will demonstrate a basic understanding of the history of the Church.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge that throughout the Church's history there have been periods of needed reform .
- a knowledge that Rome historically became and remains the governing center of the Church.
- a knowledge that there have been many saints in the Church throughout the ages and many holy people are living among us today.

### **Expectation #8 (Liturgical Education)**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of sacraments as important moments in life of the community with an emphasis on the centrality of the Eucharist.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding that Sacramental actions of the Church originated in Jewish rituals; laying on of hands, anointing with oil, purifying with water, sharing a meal.
- a knowledge of the seven Sacraments, their signs and symbols and how they make God's grace present.
- a knowledge of the major feast days of the Church which provide opportunities for celebration.

### **Expectation #9 (Liturgical Education)**

The student will understand and be able to participate fully in liturgical celebrations.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge that the Liturgy is the most important act of worship. and prayer in the Catholic community.
- a knowledge of the liturgical responses for a better participation at Mass.
- a knowledge that the liturgical seasons help us live our faith as Christians.

### **Expectation #10 (Moral Formation)**

The student will demonstrate a knowledge of moral teaching, showing clearly an ability to make good moral decisions and to act in a responsible, Christian manner consistent with Church teachings.

The student will demonstrate:

- an ability to discuss moral dilemmas and the consequences of one's actions.
- a knowledge of the Ten Commandments and Beatitudes and how they can help us to evaluate our lives.
- an understanding of the meaning of freedom and how to exercise our freedom responsibly.

### **Expectation #11 (Education for Community Life)**

The student will demonstrate a clear understanding of the dignity of the human person and community.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding that Christians must respect life and the basic human rights of all people.
- a knowledge that we are all children of the covenant God made with Abraham and Sarah.
- an appreciation that the varied ethnic cultures make significant contributions to the Church.

### **Expectation #12 (Missionary Initiation)**

The student will demonstrate the ability to exercise responsible stewardship.

The student will demonstrate:

- an appreciation and respect for the integrity of all God's creation and that only sin can destroy it.
- an understanding that we use our personal gifts and talents from God for the good of others and as responsible stewards for making the world a better place within which to live.

**Expectation #13 (Missionary Initiation)**

The student will demonstrate comprehension of the principles of social justice and have the ability to apply them to personal and societal situations.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge and understanding that our God is a God of freedom and the way to the reign of God is the way of justice and peace.
- a knowledge that the prophets in the Bible spoke out against injustice and suffering and God calls us to be prophets in our day.
- an ability to find non-violent ways to resolve conflicts in their daily lives.

**Expectation #14 (Missionary Initiation)**

The student will demonstrate involvement in Christian service to the community in response to the call to discipleship found in the Gospel accounts.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding that Christians must reach out and serve their community.
- an understanding that Christians need to work in partnership with God in order to be channels of God's grace to others.

**Expectation #15 (Teaching to Pray)**

The student will demonstrate a knowledge of and ability to participate in the Catholic tradition of prayer.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding that we turn to God in prayer and ask for strength to be good Christians.
- a knowledge that the Psalms are prayers Jesus prayed while on earth and remain an important part of our Catholic worship today.
- an understanding that God speaks to our hearts when we are quiet.

**ACTIVITIES/ASSESSMENTS FOR GRADE SIX**

1. Listens/responds to Scripture readings.
2. Participates in Liturgical/Sacramental celebrations.
3. Readily locates books of the Bible.
4. Identifies books as Old Testament or New Testament.
5. Understands and explains symbols used in the Old and New Testaments.
6. Retells in own words the stories of the Bible.
7. Identifies different literary forms used in the Bible.
8. Names in context important Biblical figures and historical events.
9. Identifies and explains ways in which God continues to work through people and events today.
10. Knows and explains the four marks of the Catholic Church.
11. Reads and retells stories of the lives of the saints.
12. Discusses and raises questions pertaining to the Faith.
13. Responds creatively to lessons taught.
14. Identifies and explains the Sacraments of the Church.
15. Traces selected themes in the Bible.
16. Identifies key figures found in the Old and New Testaments.
17. Reads and explains passages from Scripture.
18. Locates Hebrew passages which appear to point to Jesus.
19. Compares the Synoptic Gospels.
20. Discusses holiness found in contemporary people (e.g., Our Holy Father, Mother Teresa, Maximillian Kolbe, Edith Stein, etc.)
21. Participates in parish and community activities.
22. Volunteers participation in service activities.
23. Learns the history of the parish to which he/she belongs.
24. Explores the meaning of "solidarity with the poor."
25. Explains and appreciates the Judeo-Christian heritage.

26. Discusses connections between God's Word and one's own life.
27. Acts as a peacemaker in the classroom, school, and on the playground.
28. Manifests compassion and concern for others.
29. Virtus: Lesson 1 Touching Safety Rules
30. Virtus: Lesson 2 Safe Friends, Safe Adults, and Safe Touches
31. Virtus: Lesson 7 Internet Safety
31. Virtus: Lesson 8 Creating and Following Family Rules

**FAMILY LIFE EXPECTATIONS**  
**GRADE SIX**

Students will:

1. Evaluate how their families' ethnic, social, and religious customs have shaped them;
2. Identify the physical traits and characteristics they have inherited;
3. Appraise the impact of environment on their personal development;
4. Assess the importance of self-knowledge and self-esteem in achieving goals of lasting value;
5. Demonstrate ways in which they can use their skills and talents for the good of others;
6. Demonstrate the importance of respect and good manners in all relationships;
7. Recognize the elderly members of society as important contributors of wisdom and experience;
8. Explore the nature of aging and the Christian meaning of death and new life;
9. Recognize that the gift of human life begins at the moment of conception;
10. Describe how the sacrament of Baptism celebrates birth into the family of God;
11. Demonstrate responsibility with respect to the use of money;
12. Demonstrate ways in which they can be givers of love and care in their own relationships;
13. Describe how AIDS can be transmitted and prevented;
14. Explain how love and sexuality are expressed responsibly according to Church teaching;
15. Give an explanation of God's unconditional love, especially related to treatment of persons with AIDS and other serious illnesses.

**ACRE 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Vocabulary**

Abba	Means "Father" in Aramaic
Abraham	Father of God's chosen people
Ark of the Covenant	The special box that contained the tablets with the Ten Commandments
Ascension	The feast that celebrates the time when Jesus was taken into Heaven
Beatitudes	Eight ways God wants us to live our life, given to us by Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount
Canon Law	The law of the Catholic Church
Canonization	The process by which a person is officially recognized as a saint by the Church
Capital Sins	The seven deadly or most feared sins- pride, covetousness, lust, anger, gluttony, envy, and sloth
Cardinal Virtues	Spiritual habits that support us in our relationships with others – prudence, justice, temperance, and fortitude
Catacombs	Underground sacred place of the early Christians
Catechumenate	A person who wishes to be initiated into the Catholic Church. Period of preparation for those desiring to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.
Catholic	A baptized follower of Jesus who belongs to the Catholic Church. Catholic means "universal."
Central Christian Mystery	Refer to "Trinity"



Chosen People	God's special friends, descendants of the ancient Hebrews
Christ	Name derived from a Greek word meaning "anointed one"
Christian Scriptures/New Testament	The second part of the Bible that focuses on the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, and the early Christian Church.
Communion of Saints	The union of believers, living and dead, who form on body in Christ
Conclave	The closed room or hall specially set aside and prepared for the cardinals when electing a pope; also the assembly of the cardinals for the canonical execution of this purpose
Concordat	An agreement between the Church and a government allowing the Church to exist in a country
Confirmation	The sacrament in which we receive the gift of grace and guidance of the Holy Spirit in a special way. It is one of the three sacraments of initiation of the Catholic Church.
Conscience	The ability to choose between right and wrong
Corporal Works of Mercy	Seven ways identified by Jesus to care for physical needs of people – Feed the hungry; Give drink to the thirsty; Clothe the naked; Shelter the homeless; Visit the sick; Visit the imprisoned; Bury the dead.
Covenant	The promise of God made with Moses and God's people in the Old Testament
Crusade	The attempts to free Palestine from the Muslims by force
Doctrine	An official statement of belief by the Church
Ecumenical Councils	Legally convened assemblies of Church dignitaries and theological experts to discuss and regulate Church doctrine and discipline
Ecumenism	The movement toward unity among all Christians
Epistles	Letters written to communities in the early church explaining Christian beliefs – these are found in the New Testament.
Evangelists	The writers of the Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John
Evangelize	To preach the Good News of Jesus
Exodus	The Hebrews escape from slavery in Egypt which is recorded in the Old Testament in the Book of Exodus
Genesis	The first book of the Bible which contains an account of creation
Gentile	A non-Jewish person
Grace	Sharing in the Divine Life
Hebrew	Ancient people who were selected by God to be the "chosen people"
Hebrew Scriptures/ Old Testament	The first part of the Bible that tells about God's relationship with the Hebrews, up to the time of the coming of Jesus.
Heresy	A denial or contradiction of a truth of the Catholic Church
Incarnation	A mystery by which the Son of God became man – Jesus is truly God and truly man.
Inspiration	The guidance of the Holy Spirit that the writers of scripture received
Israelites	The name given to the Hebrew people descended from Jacob
Jew	Descendant of the ancient Hebrews
Laity	All baptized Catholics other than those who have been ordained
Last Supper	Jesus' last meal before He died; at the Last Supper, Jesus gave us His Body and Blood for the first time.
Life Everlasting	Life without end
Magisterium	Church office which teaches on matters of faith and morals
Marks of the Church	The four identifying characteristics of the Church – one, holy,

	Catholic, and apostolic
Martyr	A person who dies for his/her faith
Meditation	Prayerful reflection
Messiah	Anointed by God, Jesus was the Messiah promised in the Old
Ministry	A way to serve others
Miracle	Something that seems to defy the laws of nature and suggests divine intervention
Morality	The rightness or wrongness of an action
Mystical Body	An image used to describe all those who are part of Christ's Church
Myth	A story used to explain some mystery or custom
Occasion of Sin	Any person, place, or thing that could lead you to sin
Parable	A story told by Jesus to teach a spiritual lesson
Paschal Mystery	Jesus' suffering, death, resurrection, and ascension
Passover	A special Jewish feast that marks God's deliverance of the Hebrew people from Egypt
Pentateuch	The first five books of the Bible – the Jewish Law
Pentecost	The birthday of the Church, the day on which we celebrate the Holy Spirit coming to the disciples
Prayer	Communication with God
Prophet	Someone called by God to speak in His name
Psalms	Collection of songs/prayers found in the Old Testament, Book of Psalms
Resurrection	Jesus Christ's rising from death to new life – this happened at Easter
Revelation	God making Himself known to man
Ritual	A formal religious ceremony
Sacrament	Supernatural sign of God's grace and love for us
Sacramentals	Objects, actions, and blessings that help us grow in holiness
Sacraments of Initiation	Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist, the three sacraments which welcome us fully into the Church
Schism	A split or separation in the Church coming from a refusal to obey lawful authority of the Church.
Scripture	The Word of God
Seder Meal	The meal celebrating the Passover
Sin	Choosing to turn from God and do what we know is wrong; words, utterances, actions, or desires contrary to God's law
Spiritual Works of Mercy	Seven ways identified by Jesus to care for spiritual needs of people – Counsel the doubtful; Instruct the ignorant; Admonish the sinner; Comfort the sorrowful; Forgive injuries; Bear wrongs patiently; Pray for the living and the dead.
Spirituality	A growing, loving relationship with God
Stewardship	Living in gratitude -Showing a deeper respect and protection for the gifts God has given to us
Temptation	Feeling or desire to do something we know is wrong
Theological Virtues	The three virtues that will strengthen our relationship with God – faith, hope and charity
Theology	The study of God
Thomas Aquinas	Saint in the 1200's whose scholastic work, <i>Summa Theologie</i> , organized and clarified thinking on many religious topics
Torah	The first five books of the Bible, also called the Pentateuch – the Jewish Law
Tradition	Beliefs and practices in the Church that are passed down from one generation to the next under the guidance of the Holy Spirit

Transfiguration	The occasion when Jesus took Peter, James, and John to the mountain and they experienced a miraculous change in His appearance
Transubstantiation	The mystery of the changing of bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ. Real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.
Trinity	The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit as three persons in one God; central mystery of Christian life
Virtue	Habit of doing good
Way of the Cross	Traditional Christian practice of reflecting on the suffering and death of Jesus
Worship	Adoration of God expressed publicly in word, action, and sign
Yahweh	"I am who am" - the name of God found in the Old Testament

## **RELIGION CURRICULUM** **GRADE SEVEN**

*Emphasis: Jesus is the self-revelation of God, the source of salvation, and the focus of the Catholic Faith.*

### **Expectation #1 (Promoting Knowledge of the Faith)**

The student will demonstrate an understanding that "Natural desire for happiness has been placed in the human heart by God in order to draw man to the One who alone can fill it" (CCC2 #1718)

The student will demonstrate:

- an awareness that a personal faith commitment to Jesus requires the development of a deeper and more mature relationship.
- an understanding that in order to grow in our love for others we should forgive anyone who may hurt us in any way.

### **Expectation #2 (Teaching to Pray)**

The student will demonstrate the ability to read and reflect on Scripture as well as its meaning for life.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding of the Bible as a book with many different literary styles and meanings all written under God's inspiration
- an understanding that Jesus teaches about God, prayer, justice and peace, service and moral life in the New Testament.
- an awareness that Scripture teaches is about the person of Jesus and what following Jesus and living the Good News means
- an ability to transfer ideas, lessons from Scripture to daily life.
- an ability to use Scripture for prayer and liturgy.

### **Expectation #3 (Promoting Knowledge of the Faith)**

The student will demonstrate a basic understanding and appreciation of doctrine and dogma in light of the creed.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge of the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds and ability to explain them.
- an understanding that Jesus' life, death, resurrection and sending of the Spirit is called the Paschal Mystery.
- an awareness of the Kingdom of God and ability to discuss how to assist in its growth.
- an awareness and appreciation of how Jesus calls us to discipleship and relationship with him and with others.
- a knowledge of the Ten Commandments and Beatitudes.

### **Expectation #4 (Promoting Knowledge of the Faith)**

The student will demonstrate an appreciation of the Trinity as the central mystery of the Christian faith.

The student will demonstrate:

- an awareness that Jesus is the second person of the Trinity and is fully human and fully divine.
- a knowledge that the Trinity is the Father, Son and the Spirit and is considered a mystery.
- a knowledge that God entered into the world at one time and at one place through Jesus who became human to save us.

**Expectation #5 (Education for Community Life)**

The student will demonstrate knowledge of the Church as people of God, body of Christ and community of faith.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge of the "universal" Church and the relationship of the "local" Church to it.
- a knowledge that our beliefs are sound and rooted in tradition and our Church is one, holy, Catholic and apostolic
- an awareness that the Church is the people of God and the People of God are the Body of Christ.

**Expectation #6 (Education for Community Life)**

The student will demonstrate a comprehension of community of faith and understand that it is the primary way that we come to know God.

The student will demonstrate:

- an awareness that we come to know God through the faith community.
- an understanding that all members of the community are involved in the life, mission and work of the parish community and family.

**Expectation #7 (Liturgical Education)**

The student will demonstrate a basic understanding of the history of the Church.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge of the major historical events of the Church.
- a knowledge of major changes within the Church and why they happened.
- an understanding of the role of Prophets and Saints in the history of the Church.

**Expectation #8 (Liturgical Education)**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of sacraments as important moments in life of the community with an emphasis on the centrality of the Eucharist.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding that Eucharist celebrates the eternal presence of the risen Christ.
- a knowledge of the three categories of the seven sacraments and the ability to name and explain the sacraments.
- an appreciation of the place sacraments have in our Christian life and the ability to celebrate Reconciliation and Eucharist fruitfully.

**Expectation #9 (Liturgical Education)**

The student will understand and be able to participate fully in liturgical celebrations.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding of the two major parts of the Mass: Liturgy of the Word and Liturgy of the Eucharist.
- an understanding that the liturgical seasons help us to learn and live our faith more fully as Catholic Christians.
- an appreciation that each time we participate in the Mass and share in the body and Blood of Christ, we celebrate the new covenant and are in communion with God and one another.
- an ability to actively participate at Mass, within the framework of their ability, i.e., altar server, lector, choir, etc.

**Expectation #10 (Moral Formation)**

The student will demonstrate a knowledge of moral teaching, showing clearly an ability to make good moral decisions and to act in a responsible, Christian manner consistent with Church teachings.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding that we make good moral decisions by reflection, talking to others who can help us, and praying to the Holy Spirit for guidance and strength.
- an ability to respond to moral dilemmas using the life of Jesus and the Church's teachings as reference.
- an awareness of how the Ten Commandments, Jesus' Great Commandment of Love, the Beatitudes and the Christian values found in Scripture are all helpful guides to be used in the process of making good moral decisions.
- a realization that conscience formation is an on-going life-long process.

**Expectation #11 (Education for Community Life)**

The student will demonstrate a clear understanding of the dignity of the human person and community.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding of the social teachings of the Church and an ability to recognize situations of injustice in society.
- an awareness that we are called to join our fellow Christians in the struggle against all that diminishes quality of life or the dignity of the human person.
- a knowledge that we are called to live out the attitudes, values and ideals of Jesus which are in conflict to the values of today's world.
- an awareness and respect for those people who profess their faiths.

### **Expectation #12 (Missionary Initiation)**

The student will demonstrate the ability to exercise responsible stewardship.

The student will demonstrate:

- an ability to explain Gospel basis for stewardship in the Church an ability to identify and practice one's stewardship responsibility within the Church.
- an ability to identify and practice one's stewardship responsibility within the Church.

### **Expectation #13 (Missionary Initiation)**

The student will demonstrate comprehension of the principles of social justice and have the ability to apply them to personal and societal situations.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding of what it means to be a peacemaker and a prophet like Jesus.
- an awareness that we respond as we can to social problems and injustices in the world such as hunger, poverty, war/peace, inequality, discrimination, and environmental issues.
- an awareness of contemporary threats to life, Catholic Christian values and family structures.

### **Expectation #14 (Missionary Initiation)**

The student will demonstrate involvement in Christian service to the community in response to the call to discipleship found in the Gospel accounts.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding that service is an essential element of discipleship.
- an understanding that service is action rooted in and flowing from prayer.
- an ability to initiate and perform service projects at home, in school, in the neighborhood, and in the parish.

### **Expectation #15 (Teaching to Pray)**

The student will demonstrate a knowledge of and ability to participate in the Catholic tradition of prayer.

The student will demonstrate:

- an appreciation of all forms of prayer. formal, informal, reflective, meditative, communal and spontaneous.
- an ability to compose prayers for specific events, celebrations and paraliturgies.
- an understanding that we develop our relationship with God through personal prayer.
- an appreciation of prayer as central in a Catholic Christian life, particularly in celebration of the liturgy.

## **ACTIVITIES/ASSESSMENTS FOR GRADE SEVEN**

1. Prayerfully reads the Bible.
2. Recognizes and speaks about finding Jesus in the ordinary events of everyday life.
3. Serves others and reflects on that service in light of Jesus, the Servant of all.
4. Locates specific events in the Bible.
5. Understands and uses terminology from the Old and New Testaments.
6. Explains Church symbols.
7. Knows important events and people in Church history and time periods in which these appear.
8. Articulates specific characteristics of a disciple of Jesus.
9. Explains Gospel basis for service to others.
10. Identifies signs and symbols used in the Sacraments.
11. Responds to moral dilemmas using the life of Jesus and the Church's teachings as references.

12. Leads prayers at assemblies.
13. Participates in Liturgical/Sacramental celebrations.
14. Responds creatively to lessons taught.
15. Knows the composition and purposes of an "Ecumenical Council."
16. Reads lives of the saints, Scripture, textbooks, etc. to learn about and grow in the Faith.
17. Looks for holiness in contemporary persons.
18. Traces themes in the Bible.
19. Identifies and practices one's stewardship responsibility within the Church.
20. Relates what is learned about the Faith to real life situations.
21. Sees connections between the Church, the Body of Christ, and the communion of saints.
22. Respects Jewish roots of the Christian tradition.
23. Virtus: Lesson 3 Boundaries
24. Virtus: Lesson 4 Telling Someone You Trust
25. Virtus: Lesson 7 Internet Safety
26. Virtus: Lesson 8 Creating and Following Family Rules

### **FAMILY LIFE EXPECTATIONS/GRADE SEVEN**

Students will:

1. Acknowledge the family as the person's first community;
2. Recognize that through communication all family members develop in mind, body, and spirit;
3. Understand that life within the Catholic Christian family is the responsibility of each member,
4. Demonstrate a growth in understanding feelings, in making choices, and in expressing emotions;
5. Recognize that care of one's body as part of the care of the whole person is very important;
6. Acknowledge that feelings are a natural part of development;
7. Recognize that self understanding and self appreciation are factors in Christian maturity;
8. Identify that a healthy sense of self is necessary for developing interpersonal relationships and love;
9. Recognize life and all that supports and contributes it in the context of their community
10. Develop an understanding of the value of human life regardless of function, role, productivity or social status;
11. Respond to issues that may affect the quality of human life;
12. Demonstrate an understanding of the role of sexuality in life;
13. Recognize a developing person needs to learn healthy attitudes towards sexuality;
14. Develop an understanding of and respect for the reproductive function of the human body;
15. Recognize that this understanding must be isolated from the context of full personhood and family life;
16. Understand the basic teachings of the Church with regard to sexual morality;
17. Demonstrate a deep respect for differences among people;
18. Recognize that effective interpersonal relationships are based an understanding, giving, and receiving;
19. Specify the type of tests for AIDS;
20. Describe the body's immune system and its destruction by the AIDS virus;
21. Understand that a spirit of cooperation and mutual benefit is important for a healthy society.

#### **ACRE 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Vocabulary**

Abba	Means "Father" in Aramaic
Abraham	Father of God's chosen people
Ark of the Covenant	The special box that contained the tablets with the Ten Commandments
Ascension	The feast that celebrates the time when Jesus was taken into Heaven
Beatitudes	Eight ways God wants us to live our life, given to us by Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount

Canon Law	The law of the Catholic Church
Canonization	The process by which a person is officially recognized as a saint by the Church
Capital Sins	The seven deadly or most feared sins- pride, covetousness, lust, anger, gluttony, envy, and sloth
Cardinal Virtues	Spiritual habits that support us in our relationships with others – prudence, justice, temperance, and fortitude
Catacombs	Underground sacred place of the early Christians
Catechumenate	A person who wishes to be initiated into the Catholic Church. Period of preparation for those desiring to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.
Catholic	A baptized follower of Jesus who belongs to the Catholic church. Catholic means “universal.”
Central Christian Mystery	Refer to “Trinity”
Chosen People	God’s special friends, descendants of the ancient Hebrews
Christ	Name derived from a Greek word meaning “anointed one”
Christian Scriptures/New Testament	The second part of the Bible that focuses on the life, death and resurrection of Jesus
Communion of Saints	The union of believers, living and dead, who form one body in Christ
Conclave	The closed room or hall specially set aside and prepared for the cardinals when electing a pope; also the assembly of the cardinals for the canonical execution of this purpose
Concordat	An agreement between the Church and a government allowing the Church to exist in a country
Confirmation	The sacrament in which we receive the gift of grace and guidance of the Holy Spirit in a special way. It is one of the three sacraments that welcome us into the Catholic church
Conscience	The ability to choose between right and wrong
Corporal Works of Mercy	Seven ways identified by Jesus to care for physical needs of people – Feed the hungry; Give drink to the thirsty; Clothe the naked; Shelter the homeless; Visit the sick; Visit the imprisoned; Bury the dead.
Covenant	The promise of God made with Moses and God’s people in the Old Testament
Crusade	The attempts to free Palestine from the Muslims by force
Doctrine	An official statement of belief by the Church
Ecumenical Councils	Legally convened assemblies of Church dignitaries and theological experts to discuss and regulate Church doctrine and discipline
Ecumenism	The movement toward unity among all Christians
Epistles	Letters written to communities in the early church explaining Christian beliefs. These letters are found in the New Testament
Evangelists	The writers of the Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John
Evangelize	To preach the Good News of Jesus
Exodus	The Hebrews escape from slavery in Egypt which is recorded in the Old Testament, in the Book of Exodus
Genesis	The first book of the Bible which contains an account of creation
Gentile	A non-Jewish person
Grace	Sharing in the Divine Life
Hebrew	Ancient people who were selected by God to be the “chosen people”
Hebrew Scriptures/	The first part of the Bible that tells about God’s relationship

Old Testament	with the Hebrews up to the coming of Jesus
Heresy	A denial or contradiction of a truth of the Catholic Church
Incarnation	A mystery by which the Son of God became man – Jesus is truly God and truly man.
Inspiration	The guidance of the Holy Spirit that the writers of scripture received
Israelites	The name given to the Hebrew people descended from Jacob
Jew	Descendant of the ancient Hebrews
Laity	All baptized Catholics other than those who have been ordained
Last Supper	Jesus' last meal before He died; at the Last Supper, Jesus gave us His Body and Blood for the first time
Life Everlasting	Life without end
Magisterium	Church office which teaches on matters of faith and morals
Marks of the Church	The four identifying characteristics of the Church – one, holy, Catholic, and apostolic
Martyr	A person who dies for his/her faith
Meditation	Prayerful reflection
Messiah	Anointed by God, Jesus was the Messiah promised in the Old Testament
Ministry	A way to serve others
Miracle	Something that seems to defy the laws of nature and suggests divine intervention
Morality	The rightness or wrongness of an action
Mystical Body	An image to describe all those who are part of Christ's Church
Myth	A story used to explain some mystery or custom
Occasion of Sin	Any person, place, or thing that could lead you to sin
Parable	A story told by Jesus to teach a spiritual lesson
Paschal Mystery	Jesus' suffering, death, resurrection, and ascension
Passover	A special Jewish feast that marks God's deliverance of the Jewish people from Egypt
Pentateuch	The first five books of the Bible – the Jewish Law
Pentecost	The birthday of the Church, the day on which we celebrate the Holy Spirit coming to the disciples
Prayer	Communication with God
Prophet	Someone called by God to speak in His name
Psalms	Collection of songs/prayers found in the Old Testament, Book of Psalms.
Resurrection	Jesus Christ's rising from death to new life – this happened at Easter
Revelation	God making himself known to man
Ritual	A formal religious ceremony
Sacrament	Supernatural sign of God's grace and love for us
Sacramentals	Objects, actions, and blessings that help us grow in holiness
Sacraments of Initiation	Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist, the three sacraments of initiation which welcome us fully into the Church
Schism	A split or separation in the Church coming from a refusal to obey lawful authority
Scripture	The Word of God
Seder meal	The meal celebrating the Passover
Sin	Choosing to turn from God and do what we know is wrong; words, utterances, actions, or desires contrary to God's law
Spiritual Works of Mercy	Seven ways identified by Jesus to care for spiritual needs of people – Counsel the doubtful; Instruct the ignorant; Admonish the sinner; Comfort the sorrowful; Forgive injuries; Bear wrongs patiently; Pray for the living and the dead.



Spirituality	A growing, loving relationship with God
Stewardship	Living in gratitude -Showing a deeper respect and protection for the gifts God has given to us.
Temptation	Feeling or desire to do something we know is wrong
Theological Virtues	The three virtues that will strengthen our relationship with God – faith, hope and charity
Theology	The study of God
Thomas Aquinas	Saint in the 1200's whose scholastic work, <i>Summa Theologie</i> , organized and clarified thinking on many religious topics
Torah	The first five books of the Bible, also called the Pentateuch – the Jewish Law
Tradition	Beliefs and practices in the Church that are passed down from one generation to the next under the guidance of the Holy Spirit
Transfiguration	The occasion when Jesus took Peter, James, and John to the mountain and they experienced a miraculous change in His appearance
Transubstantiation	The mystery of the changing of bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ
Trinity	The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit as three persons in one God; central mystery of Christian life
Virtue	Habit of doing good.
Way of the Cross	Traditional Christian practice of reflecting on the suffering and death of Jesus – also known as the Stations of the Cross
Worship	Adoration of God expressed publicly in word, action, and sign
Yahweh	"I am who am" - the name of God from the Old Testament

**RELIGION CURRICULUM**  
**GRADE EIGHT**

*Emphasis: "Me Church, called by God to be holy in all its members, continues to be at work in the world"*  
(RDCE #77)

**Expectation #1 (Promoting Knowledge of the Faith)**

The student will demonstrate an understanding that "Natural desire for happiness has been placed in the human heart by God in order to draw man to the One who alone can fill it." (CCC2 #1718).

The student will demonstrate:

- a personal synthesis of knowledge and faith.
- an understanding that God calls each of us by name.
- an ability to articulate and examine reasons for believing in God as a member of the Catholic faith community.

**Expectation #2 (Teaching to Pray)**

The student will demonstrate the ability to read and reflect on Scripture as well as its meaning for life.

The student will demonstrate:

- an ability to use historical/critical methods of interpretation of the Bible.
- an ability to use Scripture for prayer and liturgy
- an ability to transfer ideas from Scripture to daily life.
- an ability to use Scripture for prayer and liturgy

**Expectation #3 (Promoting Knowledge of the Faith)**

The student will demonstrate a basic understanding and appreciation of doctrine and dogma In light of the creed.

The student will demonstrate:

- an ability to discuss and relate Church teachings to current experiences.
- a knowledge of the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes.
- an understanding of the new covenant as revealed by Jesus Christ and how we are called to respond.
- a knowledge of the creeds and ability to articulate how they express Christian beliefs.

**Expectation #4 (Promoting Knowledge of the Faith)**

The student will demonstrate an appreciation of the Trinity as the central mystery of the Christian faith.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge that Pentecost Sunday is the celebration of the Holy Spirit's coming to the disciples.
- an appreciation of the mystery of the Trinity and how God came into the world to save us.
- an awareness of the work of the Holy Spirit as our guide to reform and renew by helping the Church adapt creatively to the needs of the times
- awareness that the Holy Spirit unifies, reconciles, helps and guides the Christian community.

**Expectation #5 (Education for Community Life)**

The student will demonstrate knowledge of the Church as people of God, body of Christ and community of faith.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge that the Church is both human and divine and that the mistakes of some do not change the true nature of the Church as Jesus gave it.
- an appreciation that the Tradition of the Catholic Church has powerfully influenced the practice of the Faith.
- a knowledge of the four marks of the Church and an ability to discuss the meanings of each.
- an understanding of the hierarchical structure of the Church.

**Expectation #6 (Education for Community Life)**

The student will demonstrate a comprehension of community of faith and understand that it is the primary way that we come to know God.

The student will demonstrate:

- an awareness that it is the faith community that helps us to know God.

- an appreciation of the need for active participation in one's community.
- an ability to identify skills needed to build a faith community and discuss how to use those skills.

**Expectation #7 (Liturgical Education)**

The student will demonstrate a basic understanding of the history of the Church.

The student will demonstrate:

- an ability to name and discuss the major historical events of the Church.
- an awareness that Scripture reveals an early Church struggling for survival.
- an understanding that knowledge of history of the Church is essential to a proper understanding of the faith.
- a knowledge of and appreciation for the distinct history of the Church in the United States.

**Expectation #8 (Liturgical Education)**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of sacraments as important moments in life of the community with an emphasis on the centrality of the Eucharist.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding that the Sacraments are special signs within the life of the Church.
- an understanding that the Sacraments are actions of the Risen Christ acting through his Church to love, heal, and call us to change.
- a knowledge that the Eucharist was instituted by Christ, is an actual experience of the Last Supper and the symbol of the reign of God.
- an ability to trace the historical development of the Sacraments.

**Expectation #9 (Liturgical Education)**

The student will understand and be able to participate fully in liturgical celebrations.

The student will demonstrate:

- a knowledge that the Eucharist is the central celebration of the Church and that it developed over time.
- an ability to name, explain and celebrate the Seasons of the Liturgical Year.
- an appreciation that participation in Mass is the highest form of prayer and worship.

**Expectation #10 (Moral Formation)**

The student will demonstrate a knowledge of moral teaching, showing clearly an ability to make good moral decisions and to act in a responsible, Christian manner consistent with Church teachings.

The student will demonstrate:

- an appreciation that moral values come from the teachings of Jesus.
- an understanding that Catholic moral decision making is based on conscience, sin and reconciliation.
- an awareness of the communal aspect of sin.
- an ability to reflect on moral dilemmas and weigh moral response options and consequences.

**Expectation #11 (Education for Community Life)**

The student will demonstrate a clear understanding of the dignity of the human person and community.

The student will demonstrate:

- an ability to recognize and discuss problems and effects of prejudice and bias.
- an awareness that as Christians we respect human life in all stages of development and strive to improve the quality of life for others.
- an ability to identify the varied cultures, and the contributions they make within the Church including spirituality, traditions, popular devotions, world views and ethics.
- an ability to observe culture in light of Catholic values.

**Expectation #12 (Missionary Initiation)**

The student will demonstrate the ability to exercise responsible stewardship.

The student will demonstrate:

- an awareness that members of the Catholic community support the Church financially.

- an understanding that as Christians we examine the distribution and use of resources in light of the theology of stewardship.

**Expectation #13 (Missionary Initiation)**

The student will demonstrate comprehension of the principles of social justice and have the ability to apply them to personal and societal situations.

The student will demonstrate:

- an ability to analyze and discuss current public policy on social issues using the Church's social teaching as the criteria.
- an understanding that there is a continued need to dialogue with all faiths to bring about justice and peace.
- an ability to compare American cultural values with the Church's social teaching.

**Expectation #14 (Missionary Initiation)**

The student will demonstrate involvement in Christian service to the community in response to the call to discipleship found in the Gospel accounts.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding that our God-given gifts and talents are to be used in the service of others.
- an ability to initiate and perform service projects for the community.
- an understanding that all members of the faith community are called by Baptism to bring Jesus and the Church to others.
- an awareness of the Gospel portrayals of Jesus as a person of service.

**Expectation #15 (Teaching to Pray)**

The student will demonstrate a knowledge of and ability to participate in the Catholic tradition of prayer.

The student will demonstrate:

- an understanding of the need for conscious participation in liturgy and other prayer experiences.
- an ability to locate and use a variety of liturgy planning resources for liturgies and other prayer experiences
- an ability to recite and explain the traditional prayers of the Church.
- an ability to articulate the practical role of prayer in sustaining a God-centered life.
- an ability to experience various prayer forms and to understand the value of personal prayer.

**ACTIVITIES/ASSESSMENTS FOR GRADE EIGHT**

1. Participates in frequent prayer experiences using different formats.
2. Actively participates in meaningful service opportunities.
3. Discusses what one has learned and asks insightful questions.
4. Participates in Liturgical/Sacramental celebrations.
5. Examines concept of stewardship within the Church and exercises one's responsibility in this regard.
6. Actively participates in one's parish community.
7. Leads and initiates prayer services.
8. Assists in parish, neighborhood, and civic organizations.
9. Demonstrates familiarity with Church documents.
10. Analyzes and discusses current public policy on social issues using the Church's social teaching as the criteria.
11. Demonstrates familiarity with Church history and is able to place events and important figures on a time line.
12. Is able to talk about the history of the Church in the West, particularly in California.
13. Discusses lives of the saints and missionary activities of the Church.
14. Identifies the four marks of the Church and is able to discuss the meaning of each.
15. Recognizes and discusses problems and effects of prejudice and bias.
16. Participates in service opportunities to the poor and marginalized and reflects on one's participation.
17. Reads and retells stories of the lives of the saints.
18. Role-plays stories from the Bible.

19. Writes own prayers.
20. Creates a time line for Church history and discusses major events or important people.
21. Expresses Faith through prayer, worship, action.
22. Searches out how people of other cultures express their worship of God.
23. Virtus: Lesson 5 Grooming
24. Virtus: Lesson 6 “No Secrets”
25. Virtus: Lesson 7 Internet Safety
26. Virtus: Lesson 8 Creating and Following Family Rules

## **FAMILY LIFE EXPECTATIONS/GRADE EIGHT**

Students will:

1. Identify their present stage of development in order that they may react positively and maintain a positive sense of self,
2. Describe the real meaning of being an adult responsible to oneself;
3. Recognize the harm of stereotyping in relationships and in personal development;
4. Describe changing relationships with members of the other gender at this stage of development;
5. Define and evaluate the role of dating at the junior high level and later,
6. Label and discuss the biology of human reproduction;
7. Explain the Catholic Church's teaching regarding family planning and birth control;
8. Recognize that faithfulness to Jesus' teaching regarding chastity does not require special or extraordinary skills; it is within the capabilities of each person;
9. Assess the impact of substance abuse on yourself and relationships with others;
10. Explain the Church's teachings on the Sacrament of Matrimony;
11. Summarize the Church's teachings on divorce and annulment;
12. Recall that every person has the right to care, comfort, and consolation when living or dying with AIDS;
13. Recognize the responsibility of the living to care respectfully for the remains of the dead;
14. Outline the potential stages of HIV infection;
15. Identify the signs and symptoms of HIV infection;
16. Demonstrate and appreciate the importance of loving unselfishly and responsibly;
17. Recognize and appreciate that sexual activity and sexual intercourse have meaning and purpose only within a marriage commitment;
18. Explain the AIDS virus, though communicable, is not transmitted through a student's everyday activities or casual contact;
19. Evaluate the morality of drug abuse and the risks involved in any use of unsterilized needles;
20. Identify ways the AIDS virus (HIV) is both transmitted and prevented;
21. Clarify why every person suffering from AIDS has the right to care, comfort and consolation.

### **ACRE 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Vocabulary**

Abba	Means “Father” in Aramaic
Abraham	Father of God's chosen people
Ark of the Covenant	The special box that contained the tablets with the Ten Commandments
Ascension	The feast that celebrates the time when Jesus was taken into Heaven
Beatitudes	Eight ways God wants us to live our life, given to us by Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount
Canon Law	The law of the Catholic Church
Canonization	The process by which a person is officially recognized as a saint by the Church
Capital Sins	The seven deadly or most feared sins- pride, covetousness, lust, anger, gluttony, envy, and sloth

Cardinal Virtues	Spiritual habits that support us in our relationships with others – prudence, justice, temperance, and fortitude
Catacombs	Underground sacred place of the early Christians
Catechumenate	Period of preparation for those desiring to receive the Sacrament of Baptism
Catholic	A baptized follower of Jesus who belongs to the Catholic church. Catholic means “universal.”
Central Christian Mystery	Refer to “Trinity”
Chosen People	God’s special friends, descendants of the ancient Hebrews
Christ	Name derived from a Greek word meaning “anointed one”
Christian Scriptures/New Testament	The second part of the Bible that focuses on the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, and the early Christian church.
Communion of Saints	The union of believers, living and dead, who form one body in Christ
Conclave	The closed room or hall specially set aside and prepared for the cardinals when electing a pope; also the assembly of the cardinals for the canonical execution of this purpose
Concordat	An agreement between the Church and a government allowing the Church to exist in a country
Confirmation	The sacrament in which we receive the gift of grace and guidance of the Holy Spirit in a special way. It is one of the three sacraments that welcome us into the Catholic church
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Corporal Works of Mercy	Seven ways identified by Jesus to care for physical needs of people – Feed the hungry; Give drink to the thirsty; Clothe the naked; Shelter the homeless; Visit the sick; Visit the imprisoned; Bury the dead.
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Crusade	The attempts to free Palestine from the Muslims by force
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Inspiration	The guidance of the Holy Spirit that the writers of scripture received
Israelites	The name given to the Hebrew people descended from Jacob

Jew	Descendant of the ancient Hebrews
Laity	All baptized Catholics other than those who have been ordained
Last Supper	Jesus' last meal before He died. At the Last Supper, Jesus gave us His Body and Blood for the first time.
Life Everlasting	Life without end
Magisterium	Church office which teaches on matters of faith and morals
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Meditation	Prayerful reflection
Messiah	Anointed by God, Jesus was the Messiah promised in the Old Testament
Ministry	A way to serve others
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Morality	The rightness or wrongness of an action
Mystical Body	An image to describe all those who are part of Christ's Church
Myth	A story used to explain some mystery or custom
Occasion of Sin	Any person, place, or thing that could lead you to sin
Parable	A story used to teach a spiritual lesson
Paschal Mystery	Jesus' suffering, death, resurrection, and ascension
Passover	A special Jewish feast that marks God's deliverance of the Hebrew people from Egypt
Pentateuch	The first five books of the Bible – the Jewish law
Pentecost	The birthday of the church, the day on which we celebrate the Holy Spirit coming to the disciples
Prayer	Communication with God
Prophet	Someone called by God to speak in His name
Psalms	Collection of songs/prayers found in the Old Testament, Book of Psalms
Resurrection	Jesus Christ's rising from death to new life – this happened at Easter
Revelation	God making himself known to man
Ritual	A formal religious ceremony
Sacrament	Supernatural sign of God's grace and love for us
Sacramentals	Objects, actions, and blessings that help us grow in faith and holiness
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Scripture	The Word of God
Seder meal	The meal celebrating the Passover
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Spirituality	Growing, loving relationship with God
Stewardship	Living in gratitude -Showing a deeper respect for the gifts God has given to us.
Temptation	Feeling or desire to do something we know is wrong
Theological Virtues	The three virtues that will strengthen our relationship with God – faith, hope and charity
Theology	The study of God

Thomas Aquinas	Saint in the 1200's whose scholastic work, <i>Summa Theologie</i> , organized and clarified thinking on many religious topics
Tradition	Beliefs and practices in the Church that are passed down from one generation to the next under the guidance of the Holy Spirit
Transfiguration	The occasion when Jesus took Peter, James, and John to the mountain and they experienced a miraculous change in His appearance
Transubstantiation	The mystery of the changing of bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ
Trinity	The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit as three persons in one God; central mystery of Christian life
Virtue	Habit or pattern of doing good
Way of the Cross	Traditional Christian practice of reflecting on the suffering and death of Jesus
Worship	Adoration of God expressed publicly in word, action, and sign
Yahweh	"I am who am" - the name of God from the Old Testament

### **Words that are in original Glossary but not in ACRE vocabulary**

Adam: The first human created by God as told in Genesis of the Old Testament

AIDS: Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome caused by (HIV) Human Immunodeficiency Virus which weakens the immune system.

All Saints: The day the Church honors all who have died and who share full union with God. (Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>)

All souls: The day the Church remembers and prays for all the dead. (Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>)

Anointed One: (Christus) A name for Jesus which means chosen by God to lead people to eternal life.

Apocalypse: The book of the New Testament written by John which describes his revelation and the future of the Church.

Apostles Creed: A summary of what Catholics believe.

Apostolic Age: Founded on the teaching of the Apostles from the time of Jesus' Ascension to the death of the last Apostle, approx. 330-100.

Book of Revelation: The last book of the New Testament written to give a message of hope and strength during times of persecution and suffering.

Catholic Open to the whole world: One of the four marks of the Church

Chastity: The virtue of living one's sexuality in a manner to one's state of life by which a person choose to express and/or stay in control of one's sexual desires according to one's vocation

Church Fathers: Great Christian teachers of the first eight centuries.

Confession: Telling our sins to the priest in Sacrament of Reconciliation or Forgiveness.

Council: A meeting of bishops for the purpose of deciding or discussing something. Pope John XXIII call Vatican Council II so the bishops of the Church council discuss was for the Church to be more faithful to Jesus.

Dark Ages: A phrase used to describe the period of history in Europe from approximately 476 to 1,000. It was filled with great turmoil and uncertainty caused by the collapse of the Roman Empire.

David: A great king sent by God to rule the children of Abraham. He was a shepherd, a soldier, and a songwriter.

Divine Grace: A gift of favor from God; God's own life shared with us: God's love truly given to us.

Divine Nature: Pertaining to God

Easter Vigil: The most important of all the Church's celebrations. It honors Christ's Resurrection-His victory over death. It is celebrated on Holy Saturday, the day before Easter Sunday.

Encyclical: A papal letter on a specific subject addressed to the bishops of the Church

Epiphany: The manifestation of Jesus when the Magi came to see Jesus after he was born.



Forgiveness: To pardon oneself, or another person, without imposing guilt or retribution

Freedom: God gives us the free will to choose between right and wrong.

Fruits of the Holy Spirit: The Fruits of the Holy Spirit are the virtues developed in us by the Holy Spirit. They are charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, chastity, faithfulness, modesty, and self-control.

Good Friday: The day Jesus died for all people.

Guardian Angel: A spiritual being created by God who serves as our guide and protector.

Hell: The state of deliberate and final separation from God

Hierarchy: A word of Greek origins meaning those with responsibility and authority over social, spiritual, and religious matters. Deacons, priests, and bishops are members of the hierarchy. However, the term has come to be used to designate the College of Bishops in communion with the Bishop of Rome.

Holy Saturday: see Easter Vigil

Infallibility: The gift (or charism) given to the church by Christ whereby it is protected from error in matters of faith and morals. It can be exercised by a pope or by an ecumenical council teaching in union with Him.

Isaiah: A prophet of the Old Testament who told about the Savior promised by God

Israel: The northern tribes of the Israelites

Jeremiah: A prophet of God.

Jerusalem: The city sacred to Jews, Christians, and Muslims

John the Baptist: A relative of Jesus and a famous preacher of God and His Word who called people to make ready the way of the Lord.

John the Evangelist: One of the 12 apostles who wrote the Fourth Gospel and other books of the New Testament.

Judgment: General judgment that will occur after Christ's second coming.

Justice: Loving all our neighbors and treating everyone fairly.

Literary forms: Different types of writing used by the human authors of the Bible to express their faith in God

Love: Love is a virtue that enables us to love God, our neighbor, and ourselves.

Moses: The leader of God's chosen people who led them from slavery to freedom and to whom God gave the Ten Commandments.

Mount Sinai: The place where the Lord made an everlasting covenant with the Jewish people.

Nativity: Refers to the birth of Jesus which is celebrated December 25<sup>th</sup>

Ordinary Time: The thirty-three or thirty-four weeks of the year in which we celebrate all that Jesus has taught us. Green is the liturgical color of Ordinary Time.

Paraclete: A title for the Holy Spirit which means "special helper".

Paschal Candle: A large candle symbolizing Christ as the light of the world which is used on Holy Saturday, throughout the Easter season, during Baptism, and at funerals.

Paul: Author of the earliest New Testament writings. A missionary in the early Church, Paul has greatly influenced Christianity in the transition from Judaism to Christianity.

Peace: Order and harmony within a person, between people, groups, nations, or with God.

Preaching/Evangelization: Announcing the good news.

Precepts of the Church: Laws of the Church which list specific duties expected of Catholics.

Priesthood: State of being a priest

Proclaim: To bring God's message to the people in a way that praises and glorifies God.

Prodigal Son: Refers to the parable which teaches forgiveness.

Providence of God: coming from God's design.

Purgatory: The state after death in which holy souls are made free from the effects of sin before entering heaven.

Redemption: The restoration of the human race to friendship with God through Jesus' life and death on the cross.

Reformation: The great division that occurred in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century between Protestants and Catholic Christians.

Religious Orders: A group of men or women who live together and have a certain set of rules for following Jesus.

Religious Vows: Promises made by consecrated people to live their lives in a special way usually by promising poverty, chastity, and obedience.

Salvation: The freeing of people from sin and its effects, in and through Jesus Christ.

Samaritan: Someone from Samaria, the land north of Jerusalem.

Shepherd: A person who takes care of sheep. A person who cares about people and protects them. Another name for "Pastor".

STD's: Sexually Transmitted Diseases

Universal: Catholic worldwide community of faith that welcomes all people.

Vicar of Christ: A title for the Pope.

Virgin: Name for Mary, Mother of Jesus; designates a woman who has not had intercourse

## **RESOURCES**

*By Their Fruits You Shall Know Them. K-12 Religious Education Outcomes for Catholic Schools.* National Catholic Educational Association. 1995.

*Catechism of the Catholic Church.* United States Catholic Conference. 1994.

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Module 04: Service Learning, Bill Grace

Module 05: Prayer and Liturgy Integration, Pat Bartle

Module 06: Social Justice, James and Kathleen McGinnis Assessment: Judith Ford

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The above resources are just a few of many that have been published. We know that each school has other resources that are available.

**ECCLESIAL DOCUMENTS**

	<b>Roman Documents</b>	<b>Synod Documents</b>	<b>United States</b>
1971	<i>General Catechetical Directory (GCD-71)</i>		
1972			<i>To Teach As Jesus Did (TTJD)</i>
1973			<i>Basic Teaching for Catholic Religious Education (BT)</i>
1975		<i>On Evangelization in the Modern World (EN)</i>	
1978			<i>Sharing the Light of Faith (NCD)</i>
1979		<i>On Catechesis in Our Time (CT)</i>	
1981		<i>The Christian Family in the Modern World (FC)</i>	
1986			<i>The Challenge of Adolescent Catechesis (CAC)</i> <i>Serving Life and Faith: Adult Religious Education and the American Catholic Community (SLF)</i>
1988	<i>Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)</i> <i>The Religious Dimension Of Education in a Catholic School (RDE)</i>		
1990	<i>Adult Catechesis in the Christian Community (ACCC)</i>		<i>Guidelines for Doctrinally Sound Catechetical Material (GDSCM)</i>
1992			<i>Go and Make Disciples: A National Plan and Strategy for Catholic Evangelization in the United States (GMD)</i>
1993	<i>Guide for Catechists (GC)</i>		
1994	<i>The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC)</i>		
1997	<i>General Directory for Catechesis (GDC)</i>		

## **RELIGION PUBLISHERS**

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