

Religion Curriculum Guide

Kindergarten

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| I. Creed – Students will demonstrate understanding of the core of Catholic beliefs. | | | |
| A. Faith – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. recognize all things are gifts of God. |
| | | | 2. appreciate that I am a gift of God. |
| | | | 3. trust God as we trust our parents. |
| B. Scripture – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. retell the story of creation. |
| | | | 2. retell the story of the Birth and Baptism of Jesus. |
| | | | 3. know that the Bible teaches us to care for others and live for God's love. |
| | | | 4. recognize that Jesus taught about the Kingdom of God |
| C. Doctrine/Dogma – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. explain that God is the Creator of all. |
| | | | 2. know Jesus is human. |
| | | | 3. know Jesus is the Son of God. |
| | | | 4. understand Jesus is a good friend. |
| | | | 5. remember Mary and Joseph were Jesus' parents on earth. |
| D. Church and Community – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. experience the liturgy as public prayer. |
| | | | 2. show reverence and respect during liturgies. |
| | | | 3. recognize the church building as a sacred place where the people of God gather. |
| | | | 4. describe the Church as the People of God. |
| | | | 5. demonstrate reverence for the Bible |
| | | | 6. celebrate the liturgical seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter. |
| E. Creation – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. recognize the beauty of God's creation. |
| | | | 2. understand that all of God's creation needs care. |

Religion Curriculum Guide

Kindergarten cont.

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| II. Sacraments – Students will learn the importance of sacraments in their life. | | | |
| A. Baptism – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. recall that Baptism is becoming a member of the Church. |
| | | | 2. appreciate that Baptism gives us new life. |
| | | | 3. describe the rite of Baptism. |
| | | | 4. understand that we learn about God through Jesus. |

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| III. Christian Living | | | |
| A. Discipleship – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. observe people in our community who serve God in many ways. |
| | | | 2. know that we are called to be Jesus’ friends, the Disciples. |
| B. Human Dignity – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. accept and appreciate ourselves as unique. |
| | | | 2. know we are special children of God. |
| | | | 3. learn and understand we are loveable. |
| C. Human Interaction/Sexuality – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. know our bodies are a gift from God by: |
| | | | a. loving our families, |
| | | | b. loving our neighbors, |
| | | | c. sharing with others, |
| | | | d. caring for ourselves and other people. |
| | | | 2. demonstrate self-control. |
| | | | 3. show respect for all life. |
| D. Social Justice – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. understand that Jesus shows concern for everyone |
| | | | 2. demonstrate concern for all people, especially those in need. |
| E. Service – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. recognize that helping our family and friends is serving God. |
| | | | 2. participate in a school, classroom, parish or community service project. |
| F. Moral Conscience – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. show our love to God by how we act toward others. |
| | | | 2. explain the difference between an accident and doing something on purpose. |
| | | | 3. forgive others as God forgives us. |
| | | | 4. act like Jesus did. |
| | | | 5. understand the importance of following the example of the Saints |
| G. Vocation – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. be introduced to the concept of God’s calling us. |
| | | | 2. discuss that we are called to a vocation. |

Religion Curriculum Guide

Kindergarten cont.

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| IV. Prayer | | | |
| A. Liturgy – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. be encouraged to participate in liturgy as a form of prayer. |
| | | | 2. discuss and be encouraged to participate in and understand liturgy as a prayer form throughout life. |
| B. Prayer and Spirituality – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. realize God loves us unconditionally. |
| | | | 2. thank God through prayer for the gift of our lives. |
| | | | 3. be introduced to traditional Catholic prayers and begin to memorize, recite, and pray: |
| | | | a. Sign of the Cross |
| | | | b. Doxology (Glory Be to the Father) |
| | | | c. Angel of God |
| | | | d. Prayer Before and After Meals |
| | | | e. Our Father |
| | | | f. Hail Mary |
| | | | g. Morning and Evening Prayer |
| | | | 4. be introduced to the Rosary. |
| | | | 5. be introduced to the Stations of the Cross. |
| | | | 6. identify and demonstrate a variety of prayer forms: |
| | | | a. Memorized |
| | | | b. Silent |
| | | | c. Song |
| | | | d. Spontaneous |

Religion Curriculum

First Grade

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| I. Creed – Students will demonstrate understanding of the core of Catholic beliefs. | | | |
| A. Faith – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. know that God loves us and wants us to respond to that love. |
| | | | 2. name God’s greatest gift of love, Jesus. |
| | | | 3. know the Holy Trinity is a communion of love which helps all people grow. |
| | | | 4. celebrate the presence of Jesus among us. |
| B. Scripture – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. know that God speaks to us through the Bible: |
| | | | A. Creation |
| | | | B. Baptism of Jesus |
| | | | C. Annunciation |
| | | | D. The Last Supper |
| | | | E. Crucifixion |
| | | | F. Easter (the Resurrection) |
| C. Doctrine/Dogma – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. know that Jesus died on the cross. |
| | | | 2. explain that Jesus rose from the dead on Easter Sunday to give us new life. |
| | | | 3. know the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of God, was sent by Jesus to be with us always. |
| | | | 4. explain that the Catholic Church is a community of Jesus’ followers beginning with the Apostles. |
| D. Church and Community – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. build community by celebrating the parish Patron Saint’s Feast Day. |
| | | | 2. celebrate the liturgical seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter. |
| | | | 3. celebrate our identity as Catholic Christians. |
| | | | 4. appreciate the sacredness of our Church. |
| | | | 5. know the tabernacle is where the Eucharist is kept after the celebration of Mass. |
| E. Creation – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. recognize creation is a gift from God. |
| | | | 2. demonstrate care for our world and for other people. |

Religion Curriculum Guide

First Grade cont.

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| II. Sacraments – Students will learn the importance of sacraments in their life. | | | | |
| The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. understand that in Baptism we become members of God's family. |
| | | | | 2. know that in our Church we celebrate God's forgiveness. |
| | | | | 3. know Jesus shares himself with us in a sacred meal. |

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| III. Christian Living | | | | |
| A. Discipleship – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. identify Jesus as the Son of God and as their savior, friend, brother and teacher. |
| | | | | 2. learn the Holy Spirit is our helper, our source of strength, peace and joy. |
| | | | | 3. recognize Jesus shows us how to live through prayer, worship and service. |
| B. Human Dignity – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. Care for all people of different cultures and races at every stage of life. |
| C. Human Interaction/Sexuality – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. show love to our family. |
| | | | | 2. demonstrate respect for life by caring for our bodies and by understanding they are a gift from God. |
| | | | | 3. demonstrate respect by using words to express feelings. |
| D. Social Justice – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. show we care for the poor and suffering. |
| | | | | 2. learn we are all one human family. |
| E. Service – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. recognize that helping and loving our parents, teachers and friends is serving God. |
| | | | | 2. participate in school or classroom service projects. |
| F. Moral Conscience – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. know that God made us to be good and holy. |
| | | | | 2. learn that God's laws help us to choose what is right. |
| | | | | 3. identify the difference between sin, an accident, and a mistake. |
| | | | | 4. know we live good lives with the help of the Holy Spirit. |
| | | | | 5. understand the importance of following the example of the Saints. |

Religion Curriculum Guide

First Grade cont.

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| III. Christian Living cont. | | | | |
| G. Vocation – The child will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. recognize that our talents are God’s gifts to serve others. |
| | | | | 2. recognize that we are called to use our gifts to serve others through a vocation. |

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| IV. Prayer | | | | |
| A. Liturgy – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. be encouraged to actively participate in liturgical celebrations. |
| | | | | 2. recognize the different colors of the Church season. |
| B. Prayer and Spirituality – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. know that God always loves us and is always waiting for us. |
| | | | | 2. learn God speaks to us through the Holy Spirit. |
| | | | | 3. understand we answer God and grow in love with Him through listening to the Holy Spirit and to others in our lives and by talking to God. |
| | | | | 4. review and be introduced to traditional Catholic prayers. |
| | | | | a. Sign of the Cross |
| | | | | b. Doxology (Glory Be to the Father) |
| | | | | c. Angel of God |
| | | | | d. Prayer Before and After Meals. |
| | | | | e. Our Father |
| | | | | f. Hail Mary |
| | | | | g. Morning and Evening Prayer |
| | | | | 5. develop an understanding of devotions to Mary (e.g. Rosary, May Crowning, litany, etc.) |
| | | | | 6. be encouraged to participate in Stations of the Cross. |
| | | | | 7. identify and demonstrate a variety of prayer forms: |
| | | | | a. memorized |
| | | | | b. silent |
| | | | | c. song |
| | | | | d. spontaneous |

Religion Curriculum Guide

Second Grade

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| I. Creed – Students will demonstrate understanding of the core of Catholic beliefs. | | | |
| A. Faith – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. define the Blessed Trinity as three persons in one God: God the Father, Jesus Christ the Son and the Holy Spirit. |
| | | | 2. understand that God is present in each of us, in our community, in the Bible and in the sacraments of the Church. |
| B. Scripture – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. demonstrate reverence for the Bible. |
| | | | 2. understand the Bible has two parts: The Old Testament and the New Testament. |
| | | | 3. demonstrate an understanding of the following scripture passages: |
| | | | A. Creation |
| | | | B. Annunciation |
| | | | C. Baptism of Jesus |
| | | | D. The Prodigal Son |
| | | | E. The Good Shepherd |
| | | | F. Last Supper |
| | | | G. Crucifixion |
| | | | H. Easter (Resurrection) |
| | | | I. Ascension |
| | | | J. Pentecost |
| C. Doctrine/Dogma – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. identify that Jesus is the Son God and their Savior, friend, brother, and teacher. |
| | | | 2. explain that Jesus died for us on the cross and rose from the dead on Easter Sunday to bring us new life. |
| | | | 3. understand that the Holy Spirit was sent by Jesus to be our special friend and helper. |
| | | | 4. explain that the Catholic Church is a community of Jesus' followers beginning with the Apostles. |
| D. Church and Community – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. understand that the Catholic Church celebrates its faith through the sacraments. |
| | | | 2. describe the church as the people of God, with each member sharing his/her gifts. |
| | | | 3. recognize that we belong to a parish family. |
| | | | 4. understand that the Church gathers at Mass to celebrate the life of Jesus through prayer and worship. |

Religion Curriculum Guide

Second Grade cont.

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| D. Church and Community cont. – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 5. celebrate the liturgical seasons, including Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter. |
| E. Creation – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. identify God as the creator of all life. |
| | | | 2. recognize we are called to care for all creation. |

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| II. Sacraments – Student will learn the importance of sacraments in their life. | | | |
| The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. Understand that the seven sacraments are celebrations and signs of Jesus' love. |
| | | | 2. know that in Baptism we become children of God and members of the church. |
| | | | 3. know that through the sacrament of reconciliation we tell God we are sorry for our sins and celebrate His forgiveness. |
| | | | 4. learn that the Eucharist is a sacrificial meal first celebrated by Jesus and his disciples at the Last Supper. |
| | | | 5. learn that the Eucharist, the bread and the wine, are changed into the body and blood of Jesus Christ. |
| | | | 6. recognize that we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit in the sacrament of Confirmation. |

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| III. Christian Living | | | |
| A. Discipleship – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. remember that we spread Jesus' love through our actions and words within our family and community. |
| | | | 2. know that we are called to be disciples and to love and serve others. |
| B. Human Dignity – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. understand that we love ourselves as gifts of God. |
| | | | 2. demonstrate respect for others. |
| C. Human Interaction/Sexuality – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. know that each person is a unique creation of God. |
| | | | 2. remember to treat others the way Jesus treated others. |

Religion Curriculum Guide

Second Grade cont.

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| III. Christian Living cont. | | | |
| D. Social Justice – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. appreciate the differences between members of a community. |
| | | | 2. recognize that we share what we have with others. |
| E. Service – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. demonstrate that we follow Jesus by loving and serving others. |
| | | | 2. participate in school, church and community projects. |
| | | | 3. learn that the Eucharist is a sacrament of love and service. |
| F. Moral Conscience – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. understand that we try to make good choices by following the Ten Commandments. |
| | | | 2. recognize that we sin when we choose not to do good. |
| | | | 3. try to follow the example of the Saints who are models for Christian living. |
| G. Vocation- The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. recognize that priests, sisters and brothers are called by God to serve. |
| | | | 2. recognize that married people and single people are also called by God to serve. |

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| IV. Prayer | | | |
| A. Liturgy – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. understand that at Mass we gather together as God's family. |
| | | | 2. recognize that we listen to God's word during the Liturgy of the Word. |
| | | | 3. understand that we receive the body and blood of Christ during the Liturgy of the Eucharist. |
| | | | 4. be encouraged to participate in the words, actions, and music of the Mass. |
| B. Prayer and Spirituality – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. begin to develop a special relationship with God and describe how prayer is essential to doing that. |
| | | | 2. be introduced to the concept of grace and recognize that God's grace strengthens our relationship with Him. |
| | | | 3. understand we respond to God's grace through prayer and kindness to one another. |
| | | | 4. recognize and demonstrate different types of prayer, such as spontaneous prayer, silent prayer, praying the scriptures, and song. |

Religion Curriculum Guide

Second Grade cont.

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| IV. Prayer cont. | | | |
| B. Prayer and Spirituality – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 5. recite and understand the following prayers: |
| | | | a. Sign of the Cross, |
| | | | b. Doxology (Glory be to the Father . . .) |
| | | | c. Morning and Evening Prayers, |
| | | | d. Angel of God |
| | | | e. Prayer Before and After Meals, |
| | | | f. Our Father, |
| | | | g. Hail Mary, |
| | | | h. Act of Contrition. |
| | | | 6. honor Mary with the Rosary, special prayers and holidays. |
| | | | 7. be encouraged to participate in the Stations of the Cross. |

Religion Curriculum Guide

Third Grade

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| I. Creed – Students will demonstrate understanding of the core of Catholic beliefs. | | | |
| A. Faith – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. know that God takes care of us and is always faithful to us. |
| | | | 2. explain why faith requires a response to God’s invitation. |
| | | | 3. define creed as a basic faith statement. |
| B. Scripture – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. know that the Bible is divided into two parts: The Old Testament and the New Testament. |
| | | | 2. know that the Bible is organized by book, chapter and verse. |
| | | | 3. learn that God speaks to us through the Bible. |
| | | | 4. know that we meet Jesus in the Word of God. |
| | | | 1. identify and retell of Jesus’ birth, passion, death and resurrection. |
| C. Doctrine/ Dogma – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. know that Jesus is the Son of God. |
| | | | 2. describe Jesus’ mission as bringing about the Kingdom of God. |
| | | | 3. know God loves always and forever. |
| | | | 4. name the four marks of the Church: one, holy, catholic, and apostolic. |
| | | | 5. know the Trinity is God the Father and Creator, God the Son and Savior, God the Spirit and Helper. |
| | | | 6. know that the Church is universal and made up of diverse cultures. |
| D. Church and Community – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. know the apostles were twelve followers whom Jesus chose to help him begin His church. |
| | | | 2. understand that our Church community includes the pope, clergy, vowed religious, and lay people. |
| | | | 3. know that the Church continues Jesus’ ministries of community, word, worship, and service. |
| | | | 4. discuss the Communion of Saints and understand the Saints as models of Christian living. |
| E. Creation – The child will: | | | |
| | | | 1. recognize life is precious in plants, animals, and persons. |
| | | | 2. understand that as Catholics we accept responsibility for caring for God’s creation. |

Religion Curriculum Guide

Third Grade cont.

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| II. Sacraments – Students will learn the importance of sacraments in their life. | | | | |
| The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. know that we celebrate God’s love in the sacraments. |
| | | | | 2. name and simply explain the sacraments of initiation, which are Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. |
| | | | | 3. name and simply explain the Sacraments of Healing, which are Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick. |
| | | | | 4. name and simply explain the Sacraments of Service, which are Holy Orders and Matrimony. |

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| III. Christian Living | | | | |
| A. Discipleship – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. show evidence of living as a disciple. |
| B. Human Dignity – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. understand that we are all created in the image and likeness of God. |
| | | | | 2. demonstrate respect for all life. |
| C. Human Interaction/Sexuality – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. understand all life is a gift from God which must be respected. |
| | | | | 2. know Jesus tells us to love ourselves and one another through parables. |
| | | | | 3. demonstrate thankfulness for God’s gift of life by caring for ourselves and others. |
| D. Social Justice – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. understand that whatever we do for people in need we do for Jesus. |
| | | | | 2. learn that we share in Jesus’ mission to bring love, justice and hope to the poor and victims of injustice. |
| | | | | 3. describe what to be and act as a peacemaker. |
| | | | | 4. give examples of how to work for justice and peace. |
| E. Service – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. demonstrate an understanding of our calling to share in Jesus’ ministry of love and service. |
| | | | | 2. demonstrate ways in which to serve Jesus through ministries to others. |
| | | | | 3. describe the Spiritual and Corporal Acts of Mercy. |
| | | | | 4. participate in school, parish and community service projects. |

Religion Curriculum Guide

Third Grade cont.

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| III. Christian Living cont. | | | | |
| F. Moral Conscience – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. know the two great commandments. |
| | | | | 2. know the difference between temptation, accident, and sin. |
| | | | | 3. describe how sin hurts the whole community. |
| | | | | 4. develop a deeper understanding of forgiveness and healing. |
| G. Vocation – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. know that vocations are callings to serve God’s people in a special way. |
| | | | | 2. identify various vocations. |

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| IV. Prayer | | | | |
| A. Liturgy – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. be encouraged to fulfill the obligation to participate in the celebration of the Mass. |
| | | | | 2. recognize the parts of the Mass: Liturgy of the Word and Liturgy of the Eucharist. |
| | | | | 3. recognize the seasons of the Liturgical year and their respective colors and symbols. |
| | | | | 4. recognize the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. |
| | | | | 5. understand the church’s requirement to attend and participate in Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation. |
| | | | | 6. celebrate rituals and activities which express our Christian belief: Jesse Tree, Stations of the Cross, Advent Wreath, etc. |
| B. Prayer and Spirituality – The students will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. discern ways to deepen their relationship with God. |
| | | | | 2. begin to recognize God is present in everyone. |
| | | | | 3. learn the following prayers in addition to those learned previously: |
| | | | | a. Hail Holy Queen |
| | | | | b. Prayer of St. Francis |
| | | | | c. Apostles’ Creed |
| | | | | 4. know how to pray the Rosary |
| | | | | 5. know the mysteries of the Rosary (Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious, and Luminous). |
| | | | | 6. understand the role of Mary in the Church. |

Religion Curriculum

Fourth Grade

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| I. Creed – Students will demonstrate understanding of the core of Catholic beliefs. | | | |
| A. Faith – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. understand grace as sharing in God's life. |
| | | | 2. know that God gives grace to help us live good lives. |
| | | | 3. learn we are created in God's image, know that we have the ability to think, to make choices, and to love. |
| B. Scripture – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. understand that the Bible teaches about God's goodness within Us. |
| | | | 2. know that the Bible teaches us about choices and how to live good lives. |
| | | | 3. locate, when given the citation, specific passages in the Bible: the Ten Commandments, the Sermon on the Mount, the Temptation of Christ, The Good Samaritan, etc. |
| | | | 4. demonstrate an understanding of the Ten Commandments |
| C. Doctrine/Dogma – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. know that Jesus suffered and died for our sins. |
| | | | 2. know that God is merciful and loving. |
| | | | 3. know that Jesus came to bring forgiveness for everyone. |
| | | | 4. appreciate the Holy Spirit as helper and guide in making good choices. |
| D. Church and Community – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. understand the Church as a community of worship, witness, and service, which carries on the work and mission of Christ. |
| | | | 2. explain ways in which the people of God (the Church) help one another to live as disciples of Jesus. |
| | | | 3. recognize that the Church has laws that help give order to their lives and to the Christian community. |
| | | | 4. know all members of the Church are members of the Body of Christ. |
| | | | 5. recognize the Church, as the Body of Christ, celebrates the Eucharist. |
| | | | 6. know the Church cares for those in need and works to build a better world. |
| E. Creation – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. know God is the giver of all life and all that God creates is good. |
| | | | 2. recognize all God's creations are to be respected. |
| | | | 3. understand the Christian call to be thankful for the gifts we have been given and to share generously with others. |

Religion Curriculum

Fourth Grade cont.

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| II. Sacraments – Students will learn the importance of sacraments in their life. | | | | |
| The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. know that we celebrate the Eucharist as a sacrament of the Church’s unity, Reconciliation and peace. |
| | | | | 2. know that we celebrate reconciliation as a sacrament of conversion, forgiveness, and love, and that absolution is vital for the forgiveness of mortal sin. |
| | | | | 3. demonstrate an understanding of how to examine one’s conscience. |
| | | | | 4. review the seven sacraments. |

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| III. Christian Living | | | | |
| A. Discipleship – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. understand the Ten Commandments guide us to live God’s life of love. |
| | | | | 2. learn the Beatitudes and know they are a way of life modeled by Christ. |
| | | | | 3. know Jesus is the example of Christian life and love. |
| | | | | 4. understand Mary and the Saints offer us examples of good Christian lives. |
| | | | | 5. learn participation in parish community and strong relationships with our family give us support for living a Christian way of life. |
| B. Human Dignity – The students will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. explain how Jesus’ commandment to “love one another” applies to their own life. |
| | | | | 2. understand we are called to care about people, especially those unable to help themselves. |
| C. Human Interaction/Sexuality – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. know Jesus teaches us about the greatest commandment of all: to love one another. |
| | | | | 2. recognize God cares deeply how we treat ourselves and others. |
| D. Social Justice – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. grow in awareness of justice and fair play. |
| | | | | 2. recognize the need for guidelines and rules. |
| | | | | 3. understand God wants us to fight greed and envy. |
| | | | | 4. learn that the Beatitudes show us how to trust God, forgive and have mercy for others. |

Religion Curriculum

Fourth Grade cont.

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| III. Christian Living cont. | | | | |
| E. Service – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. Explain how service is a way to respond to the Gospel call to love their neighbor. |
| | | | | 2. know the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy are ways of showing our love for Jesus who taught us to care for the poor. |
| | | | | 3. plan, participate in and evaluate a stewardship activity. |
| F. Moral Conscience – the student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. develop an awareness that life requires making good choices. |
| | | | | 2. differentiate between sin as a free choice to turn away from God and mistakes and accidents. |
| | | | | 3. learn the Holy Spirit and the Church help us to choose what is right. |
| | | | | 4. understand that the virtues of faith, hope and love help us to live good lives. |
| | | | | 5. distinguish between mortal (serious) and venial (lesser) sins. |
| | | | | 6. realize that all choices have responsibilities and consequences and are made in the light of Gospel values. |
| G. Vocation – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. know that vocations are callings to serve God’s people in a special way. |
| | | | | 2. identify various vocations. |

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| IV. Prayer | | | | |
| A. Liturgy – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. understand both the privilege and the duty of attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of obligation. |
| | | | | 2. understand the seasons of Lent, Holy Week and Easter, and how and why they are celebrated. |
| | | | | 3. recognize the parts of the Mass. |
| B. Prayer and Spirituality – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. understand the role of Mary as the mother of Jesus and as a model of faith. |
| | | | | 2. learn about saints as models of Christian living. |
| | | | | 3. discuss community members who are models of Christian living. |
| | | | | 4. describe the importance and meaning of different kinds of prayer in our lives. |

Religion Curriculum

Fourth Grade cont.

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| IV. Prayer cont. | | | |
| B. Prayer and Spirituality cont. – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 5. learn and understand the following prayers in addition to those previously learned. |
| | | | a. O My Jesus / Fatima prayer |
| | | | b. Act of Faith, Hope and Love |

Religion Curriculum

Fifth Grade

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| I. Creed – students will demonstrate understanding of the core of Catholic beliefs. | | | | |
| A. Faith – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. continue to develop reflection on the mystery of God’s revelation and the Trinity as revealed through the life of Jesus, scripture and the Creed. |
| | | | | 2. learn that the purpose of a Christian life is to know, love, and serve God and to live forever with Him in heaven. |
| B. Scripture – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. understand the Bible is the inspired word of God. |
| | | | | 2. define the term “testament” as the promise of love God makes with His people. |
| | | | | a. understand God’s covenant with Moses as revealed in the Old Testament. |
| | | | | b. understand the new covenant which comes from Jesus and is written in the New Testament. |
| | | | | 3. locate passages in Scripture. |
| | | | | 4. know the four Gospel writers are Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. |
| C. Doctrine/Dogma – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. know the mystery of the Trinity is at the core of our faith. |
| | | | | 2. know that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is true God and true man. |
| | | | | 3. define the term revelation. |
| | | | | 4. give examples from Scripture of God’s revelation to people through the ages. |
| | | | | 5. explain the meaning of the Communion of Saints. |
| D. Church and Community – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. understand that the Church – one, holy, catholic, and apostolic- is the people of God and is called together by the Holy Spirit. |
| | | | | 2. know that the Church celebrates the presence and actions of Christ in our lives through the seven sacraments. |
| | | | | 3. understand that at Mass we gather as a community to be reconciled, to give thanks, and to celebrate. |
| | | | | 4. know that the Pope is the leader of the Roman Catholic Church throughout the world. |
| | | | | 5. share stories, that demonstrate how to live their faith at home, work, school and when socializing. |
| E. Creation – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. know God created all things for us to enjoy, use, share, care for and respect. |

Religion Curriculum

Fifth Grade cont.

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| II. Sacraments – Students will learn the importance of sacraments in their life. | | | | |
| The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. know the names, meanings, signs and symbols of the seven Sacraments. |
| | | | | 2. understand the Sacraments are special gifts by which we share God's presence. |
| | | | | 3. comprehend Baptism gives new life, cleanses sin, and joins us with the Christian Community. |
| | | | | 4. learn Confirmation strengthens us in the Spirit. |
| | | | | 5. know the Eucharist is a community meal in which Christ is present to us. |
| | | | | 6. understand the Eucharist reenacts Christ's sacrifice. |
| | | | | 7. recognize the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist. |
| | | | | 8. learn the sacrament of Reconciliation is a celebration of God's forgiveness which reunites us with God and the Church. |
| | | | | 9. be encouraged to plan and participate in a penance rite or prayer service of reconciliation. |
| | | | | 10. learn the Sacrament of Anointing the Sick celebrates Christ's healing covenant. |
| | | | | 11. know the Sacrament of Matrimony celebrates the grace filled covenant between man and woman. |
| | | | | 12. understand the Sacrament of Holy Orders celebrates the call to serve God through ordained ministry. |

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| III. Christian Living | | | | |
| A. Discipleship – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. learn ways that all followers of Jesus are called to the ministry of service through Baptism. |
| | | | | 2. identify members of the parish community who set good examples of Christian living. |
| B. Human Dignity – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. know that God created persons of different races and cultures, but all are one in God. |
| C. Human Interaction/Sexuality – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. understand Christians are called by Jesus to give love and respect to others. |
| | | | | 2. learn we are to live as faithful followers of Jesus. |
| | | | | 3. understand that life is precious, and that our own bodies and the bodies of others are sacred. |

Religion Curriculum

Fifth Grade cont.

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| III. Christian Living cont. | | | | |
| C. Human Interaction/Sexuality cont. – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 4. know we need to examine our choices in light of the Christian message. |
| D. Social Justice – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. understand that Jesus reached out to the poor, the lonely and the suffering. |
| | | | | 2. learn Jesus heals others through us. |
| | | | | 3. know that the Church teaches that we must work for a more just and fair world. |
| | | | | 4. demonstrate the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. |
| | | | | 5. explore ways to protect life and promote love for our neighbors. |
| | | | | 6. be introduced to the seven principles of social justice teaching: |
| | | | | a. life and dignity of the human person, |
| | | | | b. call to family, community and participation, |
| | | | | c. rights and responsibilities of all human persons, |
| | | | | d. option for the poor and vulnerable, |
| | | | | e. the dignity and rights of workers, |
| | | | | f. solidarity, |
| | | | | g. care for God's creation. |
| E. Service – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. plan, participate in and evaluate a stewardship activity. |
| | | | | 2. develop personal strategies for providing service to their family and neighbors. |
| | | | | 3. be introduced to the difference between performing the Acts of Mercy and working for transformative justice. |

Religion Curriculum

Fifth Grade cont.

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| III. Christian Living cont. | | | | |
| F. Moral Conscience – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. compare and contrast the Cardinal Virtues and Cardinal Sins. |
| | | | | 2. explain how the Ten Commandments and Beatitudes can be a moral guide. |
| | | | | 3. understand that the Holy Spirit helps us to grow and act in a Christian manner. |
| | | | | 4. know that our conscience helps us know what is right and do what we believe is right. |
| | | | | 5. understand the relationship between thoughts, actions and consequences. |
| | | | | 6. know we are responsible for our own actions. |
| G. Vocation – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. understand that some people are called to vowed religious life and others to married or single life. |
| | | | | 2. be able to distinguish between the ordained and the laity. |
| | | | | 3. explore how people discern what their vocation might be. |

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| IV. Prayer | | | | |
| A. Liturgy – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. understand the serious obligation to attend Sunday Mass and Holy Days of obligation. |
| | | | | 2. understand Sunday as a day of celebration of the resurrection. |
| | | | | 3. recognize the liturgical calendar and explain the seasons of the church year and the symbolism of the liturgical colors. |
| | | | | 4. recognize the meaning and celebration of the liturgies of Holy Week. |
| B. Prayer and Spirituality – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. describe what prayer means to us and discuss why we pray. |
| | | | | 2. discuss the difficulties and temptations in prayer and strategies to overcome them. |
| | | | | 3. experience and identify prayer forms of thanksgiving, praise, forgiveness, and petition. |
| | | | | 4. learn and understand the Nicene Creed in addition to prayers learned previously. |

Religion Curriculum

Sixth Grade

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| I. Creed – Students will demonstrate understanding of the core of Catholic beliefs. | | | |
| A. Faith – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. define grace as God’s life in them. |
| | | | 2. explain that God chose to send Jesus to us for our salvation. |
| | | | 3. continue to reflect on the life of Jesus – his titles, the Paschal Mystery. |
| | | | 4. recognize that God, and God’s goodness prevail over sin and Evil. |
| | | | 5. describe that God forgives them when they offer words and signs of their sorrow and the intent to do better. |
| | | | 6. explain that there are many signs of God’s presence; people, Places, events, and things. |
| | | | 7. explain that faith is a gift from God. |
| B. Scripture – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1 demonstrate reverence for the Bible |
| | | | 2. explain that there are forty-six books in the Old Testament and Twenty-seven books in the New Testament. |
| | | | 3. understand that the experience of God’s people is recorded in The scriptures. |
| | | | 4. understand that the Old Testament contains the roots of our faith and are fulfilled in Jesus. |
| | | | 5. describe Scripture as God’s revelation. |
| | | | 6. demonstrate an understanding of the following passages and locate when given the citation. |
| | | | a. Creation (Genesis 1-2) |
| | | | b. Adam and Eve (Genesis 3) |
| | | | c. Noah and the Flood (Genesis 6-9) |
| | | | d. Abraham and Sarah (Genesis 12, 15, 17, 18) |
| | | | e. Joseph (Genesis 3:40-47) |
| | | | f. Moses |
| | | | g. Ruth and Naomi (Book of Ruth) |
| | | | h. David (1 Samuel 17:2 Samuel 5-7) |
| | | | i. Solomon (1 Kings 5-8) |
| | | | j. Jonah (The Book of Jonah) |
| | | | k. John the Baptist (Mt. 3: 1-12) |
| | | | l. The Good Shepherd (Luke 15:1-7) |
| | | | m. The Annunciation (Luke 1:26-38) |
| | | | n. The Nativity (Luke 2:1-15) |

Religion Curriculum

Sixth Grade cont.

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|--|--|--|--|---|
| I. Creed cont. - Students will demonstrate understanding of the core of Catholic beliefs. | | | | |
| B. Scripture – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | o. the Baptism of Jesus (Mt. 3 13-17) |
| | | | | p. call of the Disciples (Luke. 5:1-11) |
| | | | | q. Feeding the 5000 (Mt. 14:13-21) |
| | | | | r. The Last Supper (Luke. 22: 7-13) |
| | | | | s. Way of the Cross (Luke. 23: 1-10) |
| | | | | t. Resurrection (John 20: 1-10) |
| | | | | u. Emmaus (Luke. 24: 13-35) |
| | | | | v. The Prodigal Son (Luke. 15: 11-32) |
| | | | | w. Pentecost (Acts of the Apostles (2:1-13) |
| | | | | 7. understand the Beatitudes and the Ten Commandments. |
| | | | | 8. describe the Scriptures as a collection of various kinds of literary forms through which God communicates, e.g. , prose, poetry, narrative, myth, etc. |
| | | | | 9. identify covenant as a special loving relationship between God and God's people. |
| C. Doctrine/ Dogma – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. understand the revelation of the Trinity and the three persons of God. |
| | | | | a. God is revealed to us in the Bible, and created us out of Love. |
| | | | | b. Jesus is the Messiah who came to serve and liberate. |
| | | | | c. The Holy Spirit is the breath of life and the fire of love. |
| | | | | d. The mystery of the Holy Trinity was revealed in the person, words, and works of Jesus Christ. |
| | | | | e. The Holy Spirit inspired the authors of the Bible. |
| | | | | f. The Holy Spirit is always present and active in the lives of People. |
| | | | | 2. Reflect on the mystery of the Holy Trinity and it's impact on our understanding of social justice, conscience, the eternal soul, sin and death. |
| D. Church and Community – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. understand the Church was born on the feast of Pentecost. |
| | | | | 2. know the Church is rooted in many signs and symbols of the Old Testament. |

Religion Curriculum

Sixth Grade cont.

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|--|--|--|--|---|
| I. Creed cont. - Students will demonstrate understanding of the core of Catholic beliefs. | | | | |
| D. Church and Community cont. – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 3. understand that God dwells within the Church, the Body of Christ. |
| | | | | 4. be encouraged to share their faith with family members and as a result help build the domestic church. |
| | | | | 5. be encouraged to participate in several parish-organized events that promote social and community interaction. |
| | | | | 6. understand that all people are members of the global family and called to take care of one another. |
| | | | | 7. understand that God’s people are called to continual reform and renewal. |
| E. Creation – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. understand that only sin can destroy God’s good creation. |
| | | | | 2. explain that we are called to overcome evil and be responsible stewards. |

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| II. Sacraments – The students will learn the importance of sacraments in their life. | | | | |
| The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. define the Church’s seven Sacraments and respective symbols. |
| | | | | 2. explain the Sacraments are signs that make God’s grace present to us. |
| | | | | 3. understand that the Eucharist is central to Catholic life as a sign of the reign of God. |
| | | | | 4. define a Sacrament as the celebration of the presence and Action of God in word and symbol celebrated in liturgy. |
| | | | | 5. understand that Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist complete the sacraments of initiation into the Church. |

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| III. Christian Living | | | | |
| A. Discipleship – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. understand that Christians are called to bring the Good News to others. |
| | | | | 2. learn and bring the Good News through words and actions. |
| | | | | 3. recognize that becoming a disciple takes time, work, self-discipline, etc. |

Religion Curriculum

Sixth Grade cont.

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| III. Christian Living cont. | | | |
| A. Discipleship cont. – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 4. understand that goals take time, work, discipline, sacrifice, and planning. |
| B. Human Dignity – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. understand that we are all children of the covenant God made with Abraham and Sarah. |
| | | | 2. learn that varied ethnic cultures make significant contributions to the Church. |
| | | | 3. understand that respect is an attitude that recognizes the Dignity of every human being. |
| C. Human Interaction/Sexuality – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. understand that we are God’s people living the commandments, which are a sign of God’s covenant with us. |
| | | | 2. learn that the scriptures and the Church help guide us in the moral pathways to the reign of God. |
| | | | 3. understand that life is one of the greatest gifts and a great responsibility. |
| | | | 4. understand that human sexuality is a precious gift from God. |
| | | | 5. learn that Christ, the model of chastity, calls every baptized person to lead a chaste life. |
| | | | 6. explain the Church’s teaching regarding purity, chastity, and marriage. |
| D. Social Justice – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. understand that our God is a God of freedom. |
| | | | 2. demonstrate respect and care for all creation. |
| | | | 3. explain the Bible explores the mysteries of life: suffering, injustice, and death. |
| | | | 4. understand the prophets spoke out against injustice and suffering. |
| | | | 5. understand the way to the reign of God is a way of justice and peace. |
| | | | 6. understand that diversity adds richness to family life and to God’s creation. |
| | | | 7. demonstrate the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy |
| | | | 8. review the seven principles of Catholic Social Justice Teaching. |

Religion Curriculum

Sixth Grade cont.

| III. Christian Living cont. | | | | |
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| E. Service – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. understand that Jesus is the center of God’s plan for the world. |
| | | | | 2. explore the root causes of injustice and demonstrate that service and advocacy to people in need is essential for the Christian life. |
| | | | | 3. participate in several service opportunities in the parish/school (involving families when possible). Include the transformative dimension in service projects. Suggestions listed below: |
| | | | | a. cards for appropriate occasions and parish needs |
| | | | | b. food/clothing collection and distribution, |
| | | | | c. recycling/environmental clean up. |
| | | | | d. visiting nursing homes, shut-ins, hospitals, etc. |
| | | | | 4. Study the Seven Principles of Catholic Social Justice Teaching and consider for each the root causes of injustice. Identify acts of charity that can address immediate needs and develop advocacy steps to address the root causes. |
| | | | | 5. For principles 1,2 and 3 perform a charitable act and an advocacy step. |
| F. Moral Conscience – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. understand that we receive wisdom and understanding from God’s spirit to know how to act. |
| | | | | 2. understand that Christians are called to be good stewards of their time, talent and treasure. |
| | | | | 3. explain that sin is knowingly choosing to do wrong and failing to do right. |
| | | | | 4. understand the difference between the “Letter of the Law” and the “Spirit of the Law.” |
| | | | | 5. understand that all people are called to be faithful to God’s love. |
| | | | | 6. investigate a moral decision making process based on Catholic values. |
| | | | | 7. explain that the teachings of Jesus and the Church are necessary to help us make moral decisions and to develop an informed conscience. |

Religion Curriculum

Sixth Grade cont.

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| III. Christian Living cont. | | | |
| G. Vocation – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. understand that each of us is called by God to a special vocation in life based on our individual gifts and that it is our responsibility to share them with others. |
| | | | 2. investigate the ministries available in their parish. |
| | | | 3. identify the needs of both the local community and the world and discuss how people through their vocation can reach out to others. |
| IV. Prayer | | | |
| A. Liturgy – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. be encouraged to participate as members of the Eucharistic liturgical assembly through: signs, symbols, words, actions and music of the liturgy. |
| | | | 2. understand the serious obligation to attend Mass on Sunday and on Holy Days of Obligation. |
| | | | 3. be able to define/describe the following terms in a manner appropriate to their age: |
| | | | a. Blessed Sacrament |
| | | | b. Consecration |
| | | | c. Liturgy |
| | | | d. Liturgy of the Eucharist |
| | | | e. Liturgy of the Word |
| | | | f. Liturgical Year |
| | | | 4. understand the celebration of various liturgical seasons such as Advent, Christmas, Lent, Triduum, Easter, Pentecost, and ordinary time. |
| B. Prayer and Spirituality – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. understand that worship belongs to God alone. |
| | | | 2. understand that the Eucharistic Liturgy is the community's central act of worship. |
| | | | 3. describe prayer, service and self-denial as the three aspects of spiritual life. |
| | | | 4. understand that prayer provides a deepening awareness of God's covenant with us. |
| | | | 5. understand the elements of the Lord's prayer. |
| | | | 6. reflect on Mary as a model of faith, Virgin Mother, and the different devotions to Mary. |

Religion Curriculum

Sixth Grade cont.

| IV. Prayer cont. | | | | |
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| B. Prayer and Spirituality – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 7. pray and understand the meanings of prayers previously learned. |
| | | | | 8. identify and demonstrate a variety of prayer forms guided by the Catholic tradition: |
| | | | | a. memorized |
| | | | | b. meditation |
| | | | | c. silent |
| | | | | d. guided imagery |
| | | | | e. song |
| | | | | f. Rosary |
| | | | | g. spontaneous |
| | | | | h. scripture passage |
| | | | | 9. explore and be encouraged to participate in liturgical prayers of Benediction, Forty Hours, Blessings and devotions of the Stations of the Cross and to Mary. |
| | | | | 10. participate in an age appropriate retreat. |

Religion Curriculum

Seventh Grade

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| I. Creed – Students will demonstrate understanding of the core of Catholic beliefs. | | | |
| A. Faith – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. understand God knows us and calls us by name. |
| | | | 2. recognize God is revealed to us through Jesus. |
| | | | 3. know Christian faith is a personal response to Jesus and requires a personal relationship with Jesus. |
| | | | 4. identify ways people practice faith. |
| | | | 5. identify self as being a unique creation made in God's image. |
| | | | 6. examine how the gifts of faith and grace effect their relationship with God, self, and others. |
| | | | 7. define grace as God's life in them. |
| | | | 8. describe that God forgives them when they offer words and signs of their sorrow and the intent to do better. |
| B. Scripture – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. explore Jesus' public life, conception, annunciation, birth, infancy, hidden life. |
| | | | 2. understand the Bible as an inspired collection of many books of many genres. |
| | | | 3. know Jesus' teachings about God, prayer, justice, peace, service, and moral life. |
| | | | 4. explore Scripture reading as prayer, and use Gospel passages for meditation. |
| | | | 5. locate a given Biblical citation. |
| | | | 6. locate geographical references in the Bible. |
| | | | 7. demonstrate use of cross-references and concordance. |
| | | | 8. understand the Bible as a collection of oral tradition, inspired by God written by people of a particular place and time for a particular people. |
| | | | 9. recognize the Bible as a guide for today. |
| | | | 10. know the divisions of the New Testament. |
| | | | 11. demonstrate reverence for the Bible |
| C. Doctrine/Dogma – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. understand Jesus is fully human and fully divine. |
| | | | 2. learn the scriptural basis for the Trinity (John's Baptism, Pentecost, Fruits of the Spirit). |
| | | | 3. know and explain the Nicene Creed. |
| | | | 4. understand the Paschal Mystery (suffering, death, resurrection, and ascension of Christ.) |

Religion Curriculum

Seventh Grade cont.

D. Church and Community – The student will:

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| | | | | 1. recognize the Church as the People of God and the Body of Christ. |
| | | | | 2. know that through the faith community we come to know God. |
| | | | | 3. understand our beliefs are sound and rooted in Scripture and Tradition. |
| | | | | 4. examine the role of the Holy Spirit as one who guides the Church and its development. |
| | | | | 5. describe the Eucharist as Source and Summit of the Church |
| | | | | 6. explore Vatican II's images of Church |
| | | | | 7. understand the infallibility of the pastors of the Church, the Pope and bishops in union with him can definitively proclaim a doctrine of faith or morals for the belief of the faithful. |
| | | | | 8. research the different Christian traditions and discuss the similarities of these denominations with the Catholic Church. |
| | | | | 9. be introduced to the five major world religions. |
| | | | | 10. be encouraged to become involved in the life, mission, and work of the parish community and family. |
| | | | | 11. recognize the call to be stewards of our church and give time, talent and treasure. |
| | | | | 12. explore the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. |
| | | | | 13. recognize the Church as servant of peace and justice, and as the face of Christ in today's world. |
| | | | | 14. know the precepts of the Church: |
| | | | | a. You shall attend Mass on Sunday and Holy Days of obligation and rest from servile labor. |
| | | | | b. You shall confess your sins at least once a year. |
| | | | | c. You shall receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist at least during the Easter Season. |
| | | | | d. You shall observe the days of fasting and abstinence established by the Church. |
| | | | | e. You shall provide for the needs of the Church. |

E. Creation – The student will:

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| | | | | 1. understand our call to be stewards of the earth. |
| | | | | 2. understand each person is made in God's image. |
| | | | | 3. know that in God's eyes we are all equal regardless of gender, race, socio-economic status, ethnicity, mental or physical challenges, etc. |

Religion Curriculum

Seventh Grade cont.

| II. Sacraments – Students will learn the importance of sacraments in their life. | | | | |
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| The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. understand the origin of the Sacrament of Baptism (Matthew 28:19) |
| | | | | 2. recognize the signs and symbols of the Sacrament of Baptism. |
| | | | | 3. understand the ritual and meaning of Baptism. |
| | | | | 4. understand the origins of Eucharist (Mark 14:22-25): Last Supper: Source and Summit: Doctrine of Transubstantiation. |
| | | | | 5. recognize the signs and symbols of the Sacrament of Eucharist. |
| | | | | 6. understand the ritual meaning of the Sacrament of Eucharist. |
| | | | | 7. learn the origins of the Sacrament of Confirmation. |
| | | | | 8. recognize the signs and symbols of the Sacrament of Confirmation. |
| | | | | 9. understand the ritual meaning of the Sacrament of Confirmation: Easter Vigil (catechumens, candidates), Pentecost:, Fruits of the Spirit, and Gifts of the Spirit. |
| | | | | 10. learn the origins of the Sacrament of Reconciliation (John 20: 19-23) |
| | | | | 11. recognize the signs and symbols of Reconciliation. |
| | | | | 12. understand the ritual meaning and steps of Reconciliation: |
| | | | | a. Examination of Conscience |
| | | | | b. Act of Contrition |
| | | | | c. Confession |
| | | | | d. Absolution (sacramental, for the forgiveness of mortal sin) |
| | | | | e. Penance |
| | | | | 13. learn the origins of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick (James 5:13-15) |
| | | | | 14. recognize the signs and symbols of the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick. |
| | | | | 15. understand and reflect on the ritual and meaning of the Sacrament of Anointing the Sick. |
| | | | | a. discuss the responsibility of Christians to the sick, dying and the aged. |
| | | | | b. understand Viaticum. |
| | | | | 16. learn the origin of the Sacrament of Marriage. |
| | | | | 17. recognize the signs and symbols of the Sacrament of Matrimony. |

Religion Curriculum

Seventh Grade cont.

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| II. Sacraments cont.– Students will learn the importance of sacraments in their life. | | | |
| The student will: | | | |
| | | | 18. understand and reflect upon the ritual and meaning of the Sacrament of Matrimony. |
| | | | 19. learn marriage is a call, a union, and a vocation. |
| | | | 20. understand marriage as a covenant as opposed to a contract. |
| | | | 21. learn the laws of the church regarding marriage. |
| | | | 22. learn the origins of the Sacrament of Holy Orders (Luke 22:14-20). |
| | | | 23. recognize the signs and symbols of the Sacrament of Holy Orders. |
| | | | 24. understand and reflect upon the ritual and meaning of Holy Orders. |
| | | | 25. learn about Order and Secular Priests. |
| | | | 26. understand the common priesthood of the faithful. |

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| III. Christian Living | | | |
| A. Discipleship – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. study scripture passages which describe Jesus’ personal qualities in relationship with others. |
| | | | 2. explore and celebrate the lives of the Blessed Mother, and the Saints in order to expand their understanding of Christian living. |
| | | | 3. compare the fellowship of the first disciples to that of the present day community. |
| B. Human Dignity – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. learn life is sacred from conception to natural death. |
| | | | 2. study and discuss Catholic pro-life doctrine as stating the fundamental rights of every person. |
| | | | 3. understand that pro-life activities are encouraged and fostered by the Church. |
| | | | 4. recall that each individual is created in God’s image and likeness. |
| | | | 5. understand we are called to help the most vulnerable among us. |
| | | | 6. learn injustices are caused by discrimination and prejudice. |

Religion Curriculum

Seventh Grade cont.

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| III. Christian Living cont. | | | | |
| B. Human Dignity cont. – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 7. list ways in which prejudice and stereotyping rob people of their dignity and other fundamental rights. |
| C. Human Interaction/Sexuality – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. demonstrate an understanding of Jesus' greatest commandment to love one another. |
| | | | | 2. learn that Jesus taught us that relationships should be based on a life of service to others. |
| | | | | 3. develop skills for being a friend and for handling peer pressure and specific problems. |
| | | | | 4. learn about the development of special relationships with an emphasis on honesty, love and respect. |
| | | | | 5. learn skills such as listening, self-disclosure, and compromise and that these skills are necessary for communication with adults and peers. |
| | | | | 6. understand sexuality is integral to one's identity. |
| | | | | 7. learn that Catholics have specific sexual moral values. |
| D. Social Justice – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. study and discuss the Seven Principles of Catholic Social Justice Teachings. |
| | | | | 2. explore Jesus as a person of compassion who continues the prophetic tradition of justice from the Hebrew scriptures. |
| | | | | 3. understand Christians are called to conversion to live the vision, values and lifestyle of the reign of God. |
| | | | | 4. research names of persons who work and have worked for social justice (Dorothy Day, Oscar Romero, etc.). |
| E. Service – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. reflect through words and actions an imitation of Christ's life of loving service. |
| | | | | 2. understand that service is action which flows from prayer. |
| | | | | 3. using Social Justice Principles 4,5,6 and 7 perform a charitable act and an advocacy step. |
| | | | | 4. reflect and discuss the service performed. |
| | | | | 5. explain how service can be a career, e.g. (health care providers, police, fire, rescue workers, teachers, priests and lay ministers, etc.). |

Religion Curriculum

Seventh Grade cont.

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| III. Christian Living cont. | | | | |
| F. Moral Conscience – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. understand that as we grow in faith, we build a strong and realistic concept of self with an emphasis on growing autonomy and self-determination. |
| | | | | 2. know that the basis of moral decision making within the Catholic Christian context is formation of conscience, sin and reconciliation. |
| | | | | 3. Reflect/recall the Ten Commandments, The Beatitudes, and Jesus' Law of Love. |
| | | | | 4. Recall the theological and Cardinal virtues and explain how they make us able to make wise choices. |
| | | | | 5. Review the Precepts of the Church. |
| | | | | 6. Define and explain original sin and explore the consequences in his/her life. |
| | | | | 7. Examine the social nature of sin. |
| | | | | 8. Learn a moral decision making process which takes into consideration Jesus' values, Catholic Church teachings, and the impact that our actions have on our self and others. |
| G. Vocation – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. Investigate the Saints as vocational role models. |
| | | | | 2. Explore and discuss the ways the Saints heard and responded to God's call to a vocation. |

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| IV. Prayer | | | | |
| A. Liturgy – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. be introduced to the concept of Liturgical space (apse, narthex, nave, cathedral, font, ambo, altar, and ambry). |
| | | | | 2. understand Liturgy as the public prayer of the Church (gathering, storytelling, meal sharing and sending forth). |
| | | | | 3. be encouraged to participate as members of the Eucharistic liturgical assembly. If possible, prepare and celebrate a parish youth liturgy stressing: |
| | | | | a. signs and symbols of the liturgy |
| | | | | b. words and actions of the liturgy |
| | | | | c. music of the liturgy. |

Religion Curriculum

Seventh Grade cont.

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| IV. Prayer cont. | | | |
| A. Liturgy cont. – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 4. be encouraged to celebrate the Tridium with the parish. |
| B. Prayer and Spirituality – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. reflect on how the Gospel affirms and challenges our thoughts and actions. |
| | | | 2. identify ways in which spiritual life is both a personal and communal response to God's love. |
| | | | 3. be encouraged to participate in liturgical prayers of Benediction, Forty Hours, Blessings, Sacraments, Stations of the Cross and Marian devotions. |
| | | | 4. be encouraged to participate in a variety of prayers forms guided by Catholic tradition: |
| | | | a. meditation |
| | | | b. silence and contemplation |
| | | | c. guided imagery |
| | | | d. Rosary |
| | | | e. spontaneous |
| | | | f. song |
| | | | g. scripture passages |
| | | | h. original written prayers |
| | | | 5. define and describe the following terms in a manner appropriate to age level: |
| | | | a. Catechumen |
| | | | b. Lectionary |
| | | | c. Easter Vigil |
| | | | d. Rite of Christian Initiation. |

Religion Curriculum

Eighth Grade

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| I. Creed – Students will demonstrate understanding of the core of Catholic beliefs. | | | | |
| A. Faith – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. understand that God knows and calls us by name. |
| | | | | 2. know that God is revealed to us through Jesus. |
| | | | | 3. understand that Christian faith is a personal response to Jesus and requires a relationship with Jesus. |
| | | | | 4. examine how the gifts of faith and grace effect their relationships with God, self, and others. (142-175; 1996-2005) |
| | | | | 5. know the purpose of life is to know God in an intimate friendship, love God through loving relationships, and serve God by serving others. |
| B. Scripture – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. understand the Scriptures as a basis for living a Christian life. |
| | | | | 2. understand and explain that the Bible is a collection of many books inspired by God. |
| | | | | a. know the main events of the Old Testament e.g. Creation, Exodus, Passover, Kings, Judges, Prophets. |
| | | | | b. recall and explain the main events of the New Testament including post-resurrection and the early life of the Church. |
| | | | | 3. study scripture passages, which describe Jesus' personal qualities in relation to others. |
| | | | | 4. identify the Gospels as faith testimonies, not as biographical accounts. |
| | | | | 5. discuss the person of Jesus: His values, attitudes, motives as preached through the Reign of God. |
| | | | | 6. discover the key themes of the Good News: God's love, God's forgiveness, prayer, service and salvation, justice and peace, moral life. |
| | | | | 7. demonstrate reverence for the Bible. |
| | | | | 8. demonstrate understanding of these passages and locate when given the citation: |
| | | | | a. Woman at the Well (John 4: 1-42) |
| | | | | b. The Prodigal Son (Luke. 15: 11-32) |
| | | | | c. Woman Caught in Adultery (John 8:1-11) |
| | | | | d. The Transfiguration (Mt. 17: 1-13) |
| | | | | e. The Lilies of the Field (Luke. 6:24-34) |

Religion Curriculum

Eighth Grade cont.

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| I. Creed cont. – Students will demonstrate understanding of the core of Catholic beliefs. | | | | |
| B. Scripture cont. – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | f. The Mustard Seed (Mk. 4:30-32) |
| | | | | g. Sending the Spirit (John 14:23-27) |
| | | | | h. Love your Enemies (Luke. 6:26-42) |
| | | | | i. The Ten Commandments (Ex. 20:1-17) |
| | | | | j. The Beatitudes (Luke. 6:17-23) |
| | | | | k. The Two Great Commandments (Mk. 12: 25-34) |
| | | | | l. Creation (Gen. 1:27) |
| | | | | m. Ministries (Eph. 4:11-16) |
| | | | | n. Against fornication (1 Cor. 18-20) |
| | | | | o. The Good Samaritan (Luke. 10:30-37) |
| | | | | p. Do Justice (Micah 6:8) |
| | | | | q. Cleansing of the Temple (John 2: 13-22) |
| C. Doctrine/Dogma – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. know that Jesus is both fully human and fully divine |
| | | | | 2. summarize the meaning of the Apostles Creed and the Nicene Creed. |
| | | | | 3. be acquainted with the development of the Christian faith throughout history, from the apostolic age until the present, with a focus on the Vatican II Council. |
| | | | | 4. continue to reflect on the mystery of the Holy Trinity in relationship to the dignity of the human being, the immortal soul, and the origin of sin and death. |
| | | | | 5. continue to reflect on the life of Jesus – his titles, the Paschal Mystery. |
| | | | | 6. recognize Mary as the Mother of God and of the Church. |
| | | | | 7. understand Mary as a model of obedience, prayer and the first disciple. |
| | | | | 8. know and recognize the Seven Sorrows of Mary, Immaculate Conception, Assumption, and Patroness of the Americas. |
| | | | | 9. understand Hell as eternal separation from God. |
| | | | | 10. know Heaven is eternal happiness with God. |
| D. Church and Community: The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. compare the fellowship of the first disciples to that of the present day parish community. |
| | | | | 2. explore Vatican II's image of the Church |

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| | | | | Religion Curriculum Eighth Grade cont. |
| | | | | 3. examine the role of the Holy Spirit as the one who guides the Church and its development. |
| | | | | 4. describe the Eucharist as the central action of the Church |
| | | | | 5. research different Christian traditions and discuss the similarities and differences of these denominations with the Catholic Church. |
| | | | | 6. be encouraged to celebrate the Tridium (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday) with the parish community. |
| | | | | 7. if possible, plan and celebrate a communal penance service with an opportunity for sacramental Reconciliation as a source of personal growth. |
| | | | | 8. be encouraged to demonstrate good stewardship through the use of the gifts of time, talent, and treasure. |
| | | | | 9. be encouraged to participate in community building activities with parish youth e.g., icebreakers, simulation games, faith-sharing activities and social gatherings. |
| | | | | 10. be encouraged to participate in community building activities in the parish, e.g., parish festivals, dinners, picnics etc. |
| | | | | 10. participate in a daylong retreat. |
| | | | | 11. be encouraged to participate in youth rallies, ecumenical youth activities, etc. |
| | | | | 12. demonstrate that sharing faith is an essential part of Christian community. |
| E. Creation – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. understand God's call to care for the world and all that is in it by protecting it. |
| | | | | 2. examine the distribution and use of resources in light of the theology of stewardship. |
| II. Sacraments – Students will learn the importance of sacraments in their life. | | | | |
| The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. recognize and understand the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation). |
| | | | | 2. understand the serious obligation to attend Mass on Sunday and on Holy Days of Obligation. |
| | | | | 3. recognize the Sacraments of Healing (Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick). |
| | | | | 4. recognize and understand the Sacraments of Service (Matrimony and Holy Orders) |

Religion Curriculum

Eighth Grade cont.

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| III. Christian Living | | | |
| A. Discipleship – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. examine the ways in which the gifts of faith and grace effect our relationship with God, self, and others. |
| | | | 2. Use reflective skills to name personal gifts and limitations as the basis for personal ministry in the Church and world. |
| B. Human Dignity – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. understand and demonstrate that each person contributes to God’s Kingdom of justice, love and peace. In God’s plan every life has meaning and purpose. |
| | | | 2. study and discuss Catholic pro-life doctrine as stating the fundamental rights of every person. |
| | | | 3. study and discuss Catholic social doctrine related to responsibility for the world (stewardship) and the fundamental dignity of every person. |
| | | | 4. list ways in which prejudice and stereotyping rob people of dignity and other fundamental rights. ex. Homosexuality, poor, illiterate, etc. |
| C. Human Interaction/Sexuality – The student will: | | | |
| | | | 1. recognize sexuality to be a central aspect of one’s self-understanding. |
| | | | 2. identify that sexuality is a crucial factor in one’s relationship with others and that it involves communicating one’s whole being (masculine/feminine) |
| | | | 3. recognize that marriage is the appropriate context for sexual fulfillment and the family is the most basic community. Marriage involves faith, fidelity and procreation. |
| | | | 4. understand and demonstrate that responsible dating behavior can be applied to all relationships. Dating is preparation for marriage and family life. |
| | | | 5. know the Catholic understanding of sexuality and sexual moral values. |
| | | | 6. understand the Church’s clear teaching regarding homosexuality. |
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| | | | | Religion Curriculum Eighth Grade cont. |
| D. Social Justice – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. recall that people are created in God’s image and likeness. |
| | | | | 2. know and demonstrate an appreciation for the Seven Principles of Catholic Social Justice Teaching. |
| E. Service – The student will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. understand how we can make a difference through service to others. |
| | | | | 2. understand we actively witness our faith through service. |
| | | | | 3. select a social justice issue as a theme for the year and become involved in advocacy for that justice concern. |
| | | | | 4. reflect on and discuss the service and advocacy performed. |
| | | | | 5. use reflective skills to name our personal gifts and limitations as the basis for our ministry in the Church and world. |
| | | | | 6. minister to the needs of peers in a manner appropriate to their talents and gifts. |
| | | | | 7. be encouraged to participate in parish programs such as a local food pantry, social concerns and liturgical ministry, etc. |
| | | | | 8. explore service to the missions and/or the needs of the local community, e.g. poor, elderly, ill, disabled, etc. |
| F. Moral Conscience – The students will: | | | | |
| | | | | 1. learn formation of conscience, understanding of sin and the need for reconciliation. |
| | | | | 2. know that to sin is to knowingly choose a wrong action and or fail to do what is right and that there is a social consequence to sin. |
| | | | | 3. understand and discuss the difference between the “Letter of the Law” and the “Spirit of the Law.” |
| | | | | 4. relate conscience, sin, and reconciliation to issues and concerns in their own life. |
| III. Christian Living cont. | | | | |
| F. Moral Conscience – The students will: | | | | |
| | | | | 5. learn a moral decision making process which takes into consideration Jesus’ values, Catholic Church teachings and the impact that our actions have on self and others. |
| | | | | 6. understand the Church’s view on local and national issues such as abortion, death penalty, stem-cell research, etc. |
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Religion Curriculum

Eighth Grade cont.

G. Vocation – The student will:

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| | | | | 1. understand that each of us is called by God to a special vocation in life, and we must be attentive to discern the nature of God's call for each of us. |
| | | | | 2. recognize our individual gifts and the obligation to share them with others. |
| | | | | 3. discuss the possible vocations which match our individual gifts. |
| | | | | 4. evaluate an appropriate vocation for a Christian as a single person, married person, priest, permanent deacon or vowed religious. |
| | | | | 5. understand the special ministry of clergy and religious and the different ways to serve in the Church. |
| | | | | 6. understand the role of the laity in the church. |

IV. Prayer

A. Liturgy – The student will:

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| | | | | 1. be encouraged to participate as members of the Eucharistic liturgical assembly through signs and symbols, the words and actions, and music of the liturgy |
| | | | | 2. if possible, prepare and celebrate a youth/parish liturgy |

B. Prayer and Spirituality – The student will:

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| | | | | 1. explore more clearly the path of our own spiritual life. |
| | | | | 2. discuss how we model Christ-like living for others. |
| | | | | 3. understand various forms of spirituality such as Monastic, Dominican, Franciscan, and Lay. |
| | | | | 4. understand the symbols and signs used in worship; sacred images, icons, singing and music, local customs, Roman rite, etc. |
| | | | | 5. review and be encouraged to participate in liturgical prayers of Benediction, Forty Hours, Blessings, Sacraments, Stations of the Cross, and Marian devotions. |
| | | | | 6. review and be encouraged to participate in a variety of prayer forms guided by Catholic tradition: |
| | | | | a. meditation |
| | | | | b. silence and contemplation |
| | | | | c. guided imagery |
| | | | | d. Rosary |
| | | | | e. spontaneous |
| | | | | f. song |
| | | | | g. scripture passages and reflection. |